

Serving the highly skilled men and women in Michigan's building trades unions

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## **Better guidance** for jobless benefits

LANSING - There's a bit of clean up on Aisle 3 at the troubled Michigan Unemployment Agency, as Gov. Gretchen Whitmer signed into law a bipartisan bill to benefit part-time workers who received pandemic jobless benefits.

Senate Bill 445, signed into law Feb. 28, amends the Michigan Employment Security Act to allow certain unemployed workers eligible for federal Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) to receive benefits even though they were available only for part-time work. Previously, PUA claimants were required to be able and available for full-time work.

"Senate Bill 445," said the bill's sponsor, state Sen. Jeff Irwin, "turns off the 'able and available' requirement for federal unemployment claims filed during the pandemic. Part-time workers and those who could not work full-time will not have to pay back the benefits they received and/or may be eligible to claim benefits that were denied.

Before the law's passage, iobless workers who filled out the state's form for benefits who answered "no" to "able and available" were (often improperly) disqualified from benefits. Others who answered the confusing question for full-time work and received benefits were later determined that they were not eligible for benefits, and re-



SETTING 3/8-INCH tapered glass at the former Book Depository Building in Detroit is a crew of Glaziers and Glassworkers Local 357 members employed by EGD Glass and Door. On the lifts are Tyler Burnett, David Gross, Brad Skurski and Alex Rhodes. Below are foreman Max Hoisington and Dana Dozier. The EGD crew will be busy in the coming months, installing more than 300 new windows in the building. Barton Malow is managing the project.

# Ford brings new chapter to abandoned book depository

## **By Marty Mulcahy**

Editor DETROIT - The 18-story Michigan Central train station that Ford Motor Co. is cur-

the attention these days, as hun- habilitation of the long-empty, dreds of construction workers are three-story, square-shaped on site, rehabilitating the centuryold depot.

But just east of the former rently redeveloping into a part train station, connected by a tunof a "walkable mobility inno- nel, is an important part of the vation district" gets most of Michigan Central project: the re-

Albert Kahn-designed structure that was formerly the Detroit Public Schools Book Depository (aka the Roosevelt Warehouse), and prior to that,



# Labor welcomes Biden's new and improved rules for prevailing wage

By Marty Mulcahy Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Just in time for the start of \$1.2 trillion in U.S. infrastructure spending, the national's prevailing wage rules are getting some workerfriendly updates.

Since it was established in 1931, the federal Davis-Bacon Act has assured the payment of local prevailing wages for workers on federally funded construction projects.

The law, a constant target of conservatives, amazingly has never been overturned in the last nine decades, and has served as a bulwark to uphold worker wages and provide locally bidding contractors on federal projects the opportunity to win contracts without the ability to cut pay levels.

ecutive action via the U.S. Depart-

# 'Over time, this would mean higher wages for workers'

ment of Labor, which should put more money in workers' pockets.

With billions of dollars in Infrastructure Act money starting to go out for bid, the new proposal from DOL's Wage and Hour Division would require more frequent recording updates to the prevailing wage - no small consideration when the average U.S. construction workers' wage increased a whopping 6.0 percent in the past year. Some prevailing wage rates are many years old if they exist at all.

The new rule would also The latest focus on the law change the way prevailing wages from the Biden Administration are calculated, basing them on took place with a March 11 ex- wages paid to at least 30 percent (Continued on Page 4)

# **Construction up**, employment climbs, and pay hikes soar

By Marty Mulcahy Editor

U.S. construction employment and project starts are up. Wages are too, big time.

The federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reported on March 4 that the U.S. construction industry saw jobs increase

struggling to gain traction in the face of high material prices and worker shortages. The conflict in Ukraine will continue to put upward pressure on costs, making the sector's recovery more tenuous in 2022."

Employment rose at all types construction firms in February

ceived overpayment letters.

For a better explanation, go to www.senatedems.com/irwin and click on the "Unemployment Assistance" tab. The site has a form that can be filled out and submitted if your claim was denied, if you had your unemployment benefits halted or if you had your eligibility re-determined because of the "able and available" requirement.

The change would affect PUA claims filed after March 1 2020, for those who had issues due to only being available for part-time work. The PUA program ended in September 2021. New guidance from the federal government is helping to clear the confusion.

## Equal Pay Day is no day to celebrate

March 15, 2022 was Equal Pay Day for American women, who on average had to work that additional two-and-a-half months beyond Dec. 31, 2021 in order to earn as much as the average male did in the 12 months of last year.

"Women received 22.1 percent less on average than men in 2021- and for women of color, the gap is even wider," said the AFL-CIO. "The gender wage gap in the United States has barely budged over the past three decades. There's no single answer to fixing this. To close the wage gap, we need actionable policy changes such as raising the minimum wage, passing equitable paid leave and protecting every worker's right to organize.'

Of course, working in a collective bargaining tends to take care of the equal pay issues.

## Quotable

"I am sick and tired of war. Its glory is all moonshine. It is only those who have neither fired a shot nor heard the shrieks and groans of the wounded who cry aloud for blood, for vengeance, for desolation. War is hell."

–William Tecumseh Sherman (1820-1891)

**REPLACING A LIMESTONE sill at the former Book Depository Building in Detroit is Dale** Kosenko of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2. He's employed by Leidel and Hart. Completed in 1925, the building has been empty for decades, but was originally erected as Detroit's main post office and was built in close proximity to the Michigan Central train station. Ford Motor Co. is rehabilitating both buildings.

# **Our government makes counting** strikes complicated, and inaccurate

By Marty Mulcahy Editor

Labor Statistics may have a strike notoriously tracks labor actions, problem on its hands.

No, not among its own workers, but in the way their striking worker statistics are kept.

pages in the U.S. in 2021. But The The U.S. Bureau of Labor of *Payday Report*, a newsletter that counted 587. A bit of a discrepancy, certainly.

"The difference in strike totals should be troubling for labor system that only recognizes work In February, as we reported observers," the report said, "and in our last issue, the BLS said it's hardly the first time the differ-

there were 16 major work stop- ence in strikes has been so stark." In 2020, while the BLS counted only eight major work stoppages using their tracker, Payday Report's Strike Tracker

showed 1,200 walkouts. "The BLS uses an outdated stoppages at employers with (Continued on Page 4)

by 60,000 between January and February – a very healthy gain for a single month in the dead of winter. And during that single month it represented an employment gain of nearly one-third of the industry's entire year-long rise of 163,000 jobs from January 2021 to January 2022.

Moreover, total U.S. construction starts rose 9 percent in February to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1.013 trillion, according to Dodge Construction Network. Total U.S. construction starts – buoyed by three massive manufacturing projects – were 14 percent higher in the first two months of 2022 than in the same period of 2021.

"The manufacturing sector has been an important success story for construction since the pandemic began," said Richard Branch, chief economist for Dodge Construction Network. "Domestic producers are expected to seek more control over their supply chains in the future, so that aspect of construction should continue to flourish.

"However, as evident in February's data, other sectors are

(Continued on Page 4)

# Industry seems to be shrugging off higher material prices

The American consumer is feeling the pain at the gas pump and at grocery stores - the 7.5 percent overall inflation rate for goods and services is the highest in decades.

Also feeling the pain are owners who want to build things. The cost of some construction industry materials took a bit of a break early last fall, but are now on a renewed path upward, with the cost of a melange of building materials seeing price hikes that are inducing cringes for construction project estimators.

Construction material prices jumped 17.5 percent year-overyear from 2020 to 2021. Then, through the 12 months leading up to January 2022, the index for that category rose another 20.3 percent. But with an otherwise

(Continued on Page 4)

# Two welders exemplify women in construction week

GRAND RAPIDS - Held every year in March since 1998, Women in Construction, or WIC Week, celebrates, educates and promotes the role of women in the construction industry. To mark the occasion, two apprentices are sharing their experiences as welders and as women in Andy J. Egan Co.'s fabrication shop.

Both Brianna Lampe and Brianna Conway are first-year apprentices through the Local 174 Plumbers & Pipefitters. Nicknamed "Bri 1" by her colleagues, Lampe joined Egan in September of 2020, while Conway - or "Bri 2" - was hired just two months later.

Each had a couple of years of work experience in nonunion welding roles before their apprenticeships, but different training paths up to that point. "I was always a hands-on, artsy person," says Lampe. Her dad, a professor at Grand Rapids Community College, encouraged her to enroll there, where she earned her Welding Technology Associates Degree.

Conway's interest in construction began in high school, where she regularly took drafting courses, along with Kent Community Technical Center's Mechatronics program. "I got really good grades in those classes," says Conway, "so my teacher encouraged me to apply for welding in college, even though I had no experience in it." At Ferris State University, she was discouraged that all of her classmates seemed to know how to weld already. She left the program after a year, completing her welding certification at Merrill Institute in Alma, Mich., instead.

Regardless of where they were learning, the courses that Conway and Lampe took all had one thing in common - they were usually the only women in their classes. Neither found the male-to-female ratios discouraging, however, and Lampe found it motivating. "When someone tells me I can't do something because I'm a woman, I push myself really hard.

Like their classroom experiences, Conway and Lampe are the only women in an otherwise all-male fabrication shop. Instead of feeling intimidated, Conway says her colleagues are warm and welcoming, like working with a bunch of older brothers. 'Within a day of working here, it felt like a family," she says, "the guys here have your back and are always looking out for you."

#### (Continued on Page 14)

WE CAN DO IT! Shown channeling Rosie the Riveter in the workplace, Both Brianna Lampe and Brianna Conway are doing some nice work as first-year apprentices through Plumbers, Pipe Fitters and Service Trades Local 174, and employed by Andy J. Egan Co. Photo courtesy Andy J. Egan Co.



# Viewpoints

# **Refreshing prevailing wage**

Building trades union leaders lauded the Biden administration's plans to revise and update the rules implementing the Davis-Bacon Act, improving enforcement and expanding its reach. The Labor Department said the changes could raise the pay for at least 1.2 million U.S. construction workers.

The rewrite, announced March 11, is open for comments for 60 days before the Labor Department's Wage and Hour Division, which administers the law, analyzes them and then issues final rules. Davis-Bacon and the rules cover at least 1.2 million workers right now and at least \$217 billion worth of federally funded construction per year. Both numbers could rise.

And hundreds of thousands of more workers will be covered, assuming the rules are adopted, as federally funded construction – of everything from bridges to subways to airports to bus terminals - swings upwards thanks to the \$1.2 trillion, fiveyear infrastructure law Biden pushed through Congress last year.

The act's purpose is "to protect local wage standards by preventing contractors from basing their bids on wages lower than those prevailing in the area," Wage and Hour said in its official publication of the proposed rules.

In so many words, that cuts cut-rate construction contractors out of federal bidding, a key goal for the building trades. Those contractors are anti-union and also often exploit undocumented people who seek and work in construction jobs. The Biden rewrite of the rules, the first since 1981-82, "will modernize and strengthen prevailing wage laws to protect thousands of workers on federal construction projects from rampant wage theft," AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler, an Electrical Worker, responded

In the intervening 40 years, she said "wage theft continues to cheat thousands of construction workers every year on projects funded by taxpayer dollars."

In its proposed Davis-Bacon rule, DOL backed that assertion with numbers. "In the last decade, enforcement efforts resulted in the recovery of more than \$213 million in back wages for over 84,000 workers. But the department also encountered significant enforcement challenges. Among the most critical is omission of Davis-Bacon contract clauses from contracts that are clearly covered" by the law.

Laborers President Terry O'Sullivan hit many of the same points, adding DOL's proposed Davis-Bacon rules will also increase enforcement against cut-rate contractors. So did Operating Engineers President James Callahan,

The rules "include debarment for contractors that cheat workers and anti-retaliation rules to protect whistle-blowers," Callahan noted. Until now, DOL noted, debarment - and its threat - has been used mostly against individual lower-level bosses and subcontractors. "Thousands of workers are cheated every year on projects funded through taxpayer dollars," Callahan added. "In 2017 alone, nearly 8,000 workers were cheated out of their wages" and Labor Department enforcement got them almost \$30 million in back wages."

DOL also wants a level playing field, meaning contractors who obey the Davis-Bacon Act should be part of its enforcement. Congress increased Wage and Hour's dollars by a \$5 million increase (2 percent), to \$251 million for all its enforcement in the fiscal year ending Sept. 30. It stays at 170 workers.

In the intervening years, Wage and Hour, quoting studies by both the Labor Department's own inspector general and the nonpartisan Government Accountability Office, identified several big problems with the current system for determining prevailing wages.

Enforcement has been spotty and often laggard. DOL cited one particular case that got so tied up in the courts that a final ruling on whether the contractor underpaid the workers took eight years. Another big problem DOL identified is the wage survey system used to set Davis-Bacon prevailing wages. Based on surveys of contractors county by county – or area by area – it flies in the face of the law's intent, DOL said. Surveys were supposed to be "the methodology of last resort," it explained.

That survey system replaced the prior Davis-Bacon wage basis, based on wages paid by at least 30 percent of area contractors – unless union wages were the bigger share of Davis-Bacon wages in a particular area. And buried within the proposal is a one-word change designed to tackle another big problem that cuts pay: Bosses' misclassification of workers as "independent contractors," unprotected by any labor laws, including Davis-Bacon. Right now, Wage and Hour said, Davis-Bacon rules discuss "employment" only affecting workers who are on a payroll, with deductions for workers' comp, unemployment insurance and Medicare and Social Security payroll taxes. Independent contractors aren't on payrolls like that and contractors don't have to pay the taxes. Wage and Hour would expand the definition of "employed" workers to them, to ensure they are on payrolls, at least under Davis-Bacon and its wage surveys and determinations. Mark Gruenberg, Press Associates News Service

# New chapter for old book depository

(Continued from Page 1) the city's main post office.

Barton Malow is managing the project, which involves extensive rehabilitation of exterior masonry and a gutting of the interior. Ford says the 500,000square-foot building, completed in 1925, will offer mixed-use space for tenants.

Gensler, the project's architect explains: "Through the respectful revitalization of the old Book Depository, a previously abandoned historic building in Detroit's Corktown neighborhood, Gensler will support Ford's efforts to re-imagine the Michigan Central Station development.

"Designed as an innovation nexus that acts as a central node for gathering and idea exchange, the building will host office tenants on large floor plates with best-in-class shared amenities, including a rooftop lounge and bar spaces as well as a library and boardroom for formal gatherings. The building will offer this nextgeneration tenant experience while also engaging the ground floor as a connective intersection within the overall development, serving as a boulevard for the community, industry partners, and the neighborhood.<sup>3</sup>

Ford Motor Co. purchased the former book depository in 2018 and added it to renovation plans at the 30-acre Michigan Central site on the western edge of downtown in the city's Corktown neighborhood.

The building was originally used by the U.S. Post Service until it moved to Fort Street for a larger new facility" in 1959, says the Corktown Historical Society. Incoming and outgoing mail from trains was moved to and from the post office via a short walk through a connecting tunnel. "Detroit Public Schools used the building as a book repository until a large fire broke out on March 4, 1987.'

Built of reinforced concrete, the structure was indeed "fireproof" as intended, and survived the fire that resulted in the school district abandoning the building. The property was sold to the Maroun family's Detroit International Bridge Co., which obtained a demolition permit in 2001, but never acted on it.

Lily Diego, the design director for Gensler Detroit, said in a Ford video the building sits in an approachable area on the street grid adjacent to the former train station. Likewise, inside the rehabilitated building there will be "interior intersections" that will connect with a "main boulevard" to allow the free flow of people and ideas. She said the squat book depository and soaring

train station, originally built to complement each other, "were always meant to be a couple" in Ford's modern-day plan for the project

Ford said "the art of simple structure is on full display at the Book Depository, with its large floorplates, 20-foot ceilings, abundant windows, and signature Kahn 'martini columns,' which flute out like martini

glasses at the foot and caps. Those columns were a signature 'only-in-Detroit' feature of industrial design at the time, not found in other cities. But they're not just visually striking. They also give the building maximum support with minimum use of space."

And to build it all, Kahn used a material combination that was innovative at the time: reinforced concrete, which he hoped would render the building fireproof. It did.

"This Albert Kahn designed building has gorgeous architectural artifacts," Diego said. "The beautiful martini-capped columns, just the robustness of that square structure in itself. When we were going through the building, we were trying to find these aspects that we could salvage and have as part of the interiors.'



THE THREE-STORY former Book Depository Building, at left, is a critical part of the Ford Motor Co,'s plans to redevelop the campus of the former Michigan Central Station, at right, into a new mobility hub for the automaker in Detroit. The 500,000-square-foot building will offer tenant space with wide open Photo credit: Ford Motor Co. floor plans.



HERE IS A RENDERING of the renovated space inside the former Book Depository, with a central skylight and structural "martini" columns that were a prevalent feature of architect Albert Kahn's industrial buildings. The new "Gensler-designed Book Depository," says Archinect, "will be a mixeduse space that capitalizes on the building's expansive floorplates, 20-foot ceilings, large windows, and inherent aesthetic features. It will include co-working space, hands-on labs, and innovation studios for tenants to create, learn and collaborate." Rendering by Gensler architects

"Consider the postage stamp: its usefulness consists in the ability to stick to one thing till it gets there.

– Josh Billings (1818 - 1885)

"Reality is that which refuses to go away when I stop believing in it." -Phillip K. Dick

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# Where inflation comes from

#### **By Jim Hightower**

Last July, several GOP senators combined their five-watt intellects to charge that inflation was rising because of the "insane tax and spending spree of President Biden and the Democrats."

Never mind that the "insane" spending is for such sensible, productive, and enormously popular national needs as childcare and jobless benefits, Mitch McConnell's rabidly partisan flock saw the



chance to politicize the public's legitimate worries about rising prices. You poor consumers are made to pay more for basics, they squawked, because of "Socialist Joe's" investments in grassroots people! Follow the ricocheting pinball of the GOP's logic:

ONE, they say that helping hard-hit families induces them to refuse to go to work; TWO, this creates blockages in the global supply chain; THREE this causes shortages of everything;

FOUR, this "forces" corporate bosses to raise all prices; which, FIVE, slams the middle class and poor; so SIX, lazy workers cause inflation.

Whew! Rube Goldberg couldn't have dreamed up a more fantastical diagram to deflect attention from what's really happening, namely that instead of an inflation problem, we have a corporate greed problem.

Of course, the greedmeisters insist that their pursuit of excess corporate profit has not driven any price surges. In our economy of free market competition, they snap, prices are established by the Law of Supply and Demand. It's the magic of the marketplace, they explain.

But magicians don't do magic, they perform illusions. And the illusion of free market competition implodes when it hits the reality that our economy doesn't remotely resemble a competitive marketplace. For some 40 years, corporate-directed government policies have intentionally promoted mega-mergers and green-lighted anticompetitive business tactics.

Thus, in short order and with practically no public awareness, much less discussion, America has been transformed into Monopoly Nation – letting the few gouge the many. That's where inflation comes from

(via www.otherwords.org)



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'Great ideas need landing gear as well as wings." -C.D. Jackson

"Anyone who says businessmen deal in facts, not fiction, has never read old five-year projections.'

-Malcom Forbes (1919)-1990

"Consistency is contrary to nature, contrary to life. The only completely consistent people are dead.'

-Aldous Huxley (1894 -1963)

"Sometimes being pushed to the wall gives you the momentum necessary to get over it!" -Peter de Jager

"We do not inherit this land from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children.' Haida Indian saying

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# BUILDING MICHIGAN: The Clinton-Kalamazoo Canal **HISTORY IN THE MAKING** By Marty Mulcahy

Michigan has a formidable history of engineering and construction accomplishments.

We have built two underwater vehicular tunnels and two underwater train tunnels, we erected the mighty Mackinac Bridge, we built the first mile of paved concrete road, we built and rebuilt the Soo Locks, and we installed some of the most brutish engines in the world to pull iron ore from the ground in the Upper Peninsula.

On the other hand, we tried canal building.

You can't win them all.

The relatively short-lived effort to build a canal to move goods by creating a navigable. east-west Lower Peninsula waterway that would eventually connect Lake Michigan and points west, with Lake St. Clair and points east, was intended to spare farmers, loggers and cartage companies all the extra time and effort it took to ship goods and people up, down and around the Straits of Mackinac.

Given the success of the Erie Canal in New York state, Michigan's canal builders couldn't exactly be faulted for trying to replicate that waterborne conduit of commerce. But a combination of factors - especially the construction of railroads – meant Michigan's canal effort didn't nearly live up to the promise of its boosters. At all.

Today, there isn't much more to show for their work, except for the existence of a number of water-filled ditches and some masonry structures.

"The former Territory of Michigan became a state in January 1837," says the Clinton and Kalamazoo Canal Society. "Almost immediately the new state Legislature passed acts to improve internal transportation like building canals, turnpikes and railroads. It borrowed \$5 million for this purpose. One of the first improvement projects was the Clinton and Kalamazoo Canal which would cut across approximately 216 miles of Lower Michigan and connect Lake St. Clair with Lake Michigan. Ships



ONE OF THE SEGMENTS of the Clinton and Kalamazoo Canal can be seen today in River Bends Park in Shelby Township. Many sections of the canal have been filled in by residential and commerical Photo credit: construction.

from Detroit and the eastern Great Lakes wouldn't have to make the long journey up and around the Lower Peninsula to get to western cities like Milwaukee and Chicago."

The aforementioned Erie Canal was the model for Michigan and other states. It was completed in 1825 after eight years of work, and spanned 363 miles. **Connecting New York City with** the eastern end of Lake Erie, it was the largest canal in the world, including eighty-three canal locks and rising and dropping 675 feet in elevation.

It was a successful water route (and remains in limited use today), until the first railroad which soon became the overwhelming mode of preference for moving people and goods over land - was constructed in New York State in 1831.

"At age 26, Michigan's first governor and 'Boy Wonder,' Stevens T. Mason, was determined to get the state off to a fast start," wrote Burton Folsom in a paper for the Mackinac Center for Public Policy. "To him, that meant an activist government, which would build and own railroads and canals to promote economic growth. With his encouragement, Michigan's first constitution required the state to get into the highly controversial business of what was then commonly called 'internal improve-

Shelby Twp. Parks and Recreation ments.' Mason and his allies were so confident state projects would flourish that they risked millions in tax dollars and put the state deeply into debt to make it all happen.

"Among the first projects was a canal that was to begin in **Clinton Township near Detroit** and move 216 miles west to Kalamazoo. This Clinton-Kalamazoo Canal began with high hopes and much fanfare."

It was hardly the only canal in the country. The Michigan canal "was a product of the canal fever following the opening of the Eric Canal," said the American Canal Society, which indexes all the nation's canal efforts.

According to the Clinton and Kalamazoo Canal Society, on July 20, 1838, there was a grand celebration marking the start of the project, including businessmen and local and state dignitaries. Gov. Mason turned the first shovel full of dirt near Cass Avenue in Mount Clemens, where the entrance of the canal would connect to Lake St. Clair. The canal was expected to cost \$2.5 million, and an initial \$40,000 loan was obtained by the Morris Canal and Banking Co.

A history provided by Shelby Twp. Parks and Recreation Department said the Clinton River would be used as part of the waterway from the long-lost town of Belvidere to Mount Clemens,



#### THE PROPOSED CANAL route, shown in pink, along the bottom of the Michigan mitten.

and then to the village of Frederick (within Clinton Twp.) where the major digging was to begin. From there the canal would proceed through the townships of Clinton and Sterling, to Utica, and on through Shelby Township to **Rochester and Pontiac** 

The canal would then cross southern Michigan, through Howell, Hastings, and finally to the Kalamazoo River. In all, the canal was to span 216 miles, and using the Kalamazoo River in Allegan County, make the connection to the mouth of Lake Michigan at Singapore, now a ghost town near Saugatuck.

"The digging was contracted in one-mile segments and the woods were soon filled with men laboring with picks, shovels, and wheelbarrows digging the canal and placing dirt alongside the ditch for a towpath," said the Shelby Tpwnship history. "Locks were built and an aqueduct was constructed to carry the canal over the Clinton River." Building a canal prior to

steam shovels or other mechanical means was incred-

ibly laborious - and slow. We didn't find records of the dimensions of the Clinton-Kalamazoo Canal, but the Eric Canal's was four feet deep and 40 feet wide. It would be enough water to float a laden barge or boat passing in either direction and allow beasts of burden to tow the watercraft from the sides of the canal. Owners of the watercraft would pay tolls for use of the canal.

"Only the eastern that was lightly used," said the American Canal

Society. "This section contained 17 oak locks and one aqueduct and rose 200 feet."

"Unfortunately, the Clinton and Kalamazoo canal project was doomed from the start," said the **Clinton and Kalamazoo Canal** Society. "In 1837, there was a national financial panic that caused an economic depression across the nation that lasted about six years. The main financial institution that was based in New York that backed the canal went bankrupt during this sixyear depression.

"By 1841 the Clinton and Kalamazoo canal project began to run out of money. Workers weren't getting paid and sections of the canal were left half-finished. Two years later construction of the canal stopped altogether at Rochester.

"All in all, just under \$400,000 had been spent to build the 16 miles of canal between **Rochester and Frederick before** the project ran out of money."

The Morris Canal and Banking Co. went bankrupt in 1843. With no funds to pay laborers, the workers "drifted off into the wilderness. Before doing so, they pilfered anything they could carry and inflicted serious damage to the canal," the Shelby Twp account said.

An 1846 committee report to the Legislature described the canal as a failure. Revenues from canal tolls were negligible. With the increasing popularity of the railroads, no further work was done on the canal, and title passed to the Utica Milling Co., which used a portion of the canal as a millrace. By keeping the canal open, they were able to use the water power for grinding farm produce for more than a century.

Added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1972, the route of the canal in various places has been marked by signs and historic markers in Rochester Hills, Shelby Township, Utica and Clinton Twp. The remains of an aqueduct built over the Clinton River can still be seen in Yates Park in Rochester Hills.



16 miles from the A SECTION OF THE CANAL looking west toward Hayes Road in Clinton Clinton River at Mount Township, date unknown, likely early last century. Modern development have Clemens to Rochester, buried most of the original canal works. A towpath, at right, would allow for MI were completed and horses, oxen or mules to drag barges and other low-draft watercraft through the canal. Photo credit: Clinton Twp. Historical Commission

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#### March 25, 2022

# Safety first for Boilermakers Local 169

A BIG ROUND OF APPLAUSE for Boilermakers Local 169, whose members this year earned the top John F. Erickson NACBE Safety Award. Each year the National Association of Construction Boilermaker Employers recognizes local lodges for their members' dedication to making and keeping their workplaces safe. They name one nationwide winner and one winner from each of the remaining U.S. sections. The awards are determined by the lowest injury rates followed by the highest percentage of Boilermaker man-hours worked for NACBE contractors participating in the NACBE safety index. Local 169 Business Manager/ Secretary-Treasure Bob Hutsell, at right, accepts the award on behalf of Local Lodge 169. Also in the photo (l-r) are NACBE Executive Director Ron Traxler, **Boilermakers International President Newton B. Jones and Boilermakers IVP-Great Lakes** Larry McManamon. The award

**Construction Sector Operations** conference which convened in person for the first time since 2020 in Marco Island, Fla. Feb. 28 through March 3. Statistics

was announced during the 2022 from 35 NACBE contractor organizations included good news of 2021 incident rates, which were down from previous years. Lost-time injury rates went from 0.32 in 2020 to 0.28 last year,

and 28 locals recorded zero compensable injury rates in 2021 compared to 26 locals in 2020. **OSHA** recordable rates were down to about half in 2021, at .59, from 1 in 2020.

where the media, would-be strik-

ers and labor union organizers

and others "failed to understand

a BLS average of 17 work stop-

conducts its own research on

walkouts, said nearly 60,000

workers were involved in work

stoppages over pay in 2021 — a

demand that drove its count of

160 work stoppages (again, note

the BLS officially only recorded

16 total stoppages last year). "As

a result," Cornell researchers said,

"wages skyrocketed as employers

scramble to hire and workers make

it clear that labor shortages are

more of a wage shortage, as they

The labor-backed Economic

leave low-wage roles en masse."

pages beginning the year.

Since 2000, there have been

Cornell University, which

worker outrage."





# Local 169 Boilermakers

Boilermakers Local 169

ALLEN PARK - The next Union meeting will be on Friday, April 15th, 2022, at 8:00 pm in Area 4, at the Pipefitters Hall, located at 2601 North 30th Street, Escanaba, Michigan, 49829.



BOB Union Hall ac-HUTSELL cepts, Visa, Mastercard, and Discover.

Payments can be made both at the Union Hall and over the phone

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

**Retirees:** Retiree luncheons have resumed.

The Area One Retiree luncheon is held on the first Wednesday of every month at 11 a.m. at the Brown Derby Bar,

Hoodies have been restocked and are available in sizes ranging from medium through 3XL. Cost is \$40.00. Payments can be made with cash, check or credit. If you live out of the area and would like to order one, please call the hall. Additional shipping charges will be added. Baseball caps are also available. Varsity jackets are available by special order. Please contact the Union Hall for details.

Our two week apprenticeship training session will be this August. The Commonarc test will follow. Apprentices should plan accordingly. Apprentices will be notified of times and dates

Due to continued demand, the Boilermakers Local 169 Welding Committee will be holding a stainless steel and Inconel weld certification test with B&G Processing. All carbon steel, certified tube welders are encouraged to participate. Boilermaker signatory contractors are seeing an increased demand for these welding skills as we continue working in emerging industries.

As our industry changes, we must continue to develop the skills that make us the best choice for our owners and contractors, just as we have done for over 125 years. Further details will be forthcoming. Harold Hutsell, father of Business Manager, Robert Hutsell and grandfather to Daniel Webster and Douglas Webster passed away on March 16, 2022. Our condolences go out to his whole family at this difficult time.

# **Counting strikes is** complicated, inaccurate helps create an environment

(Continued from Page 1) 1.000 or more workers and where actions must last at least one shift during the week, Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays," said the reporting done for the Payday Report by Mike Elk. "Thanks to an era of subcontracting and outsourcing to temp agencies and automation reducing the number of manufacturing workers needed to run a plant, most workers are now employed in workplaces with less than a few hundred people.

"However, the BLS still relies on using a tracking model first developed 40 years ago in 1982 when steel mills and auto plants regularly employed thousands of people in this country. As a result, we believe the BLS undercounted the number of walkouts and strikes by more than 500 this year."

One of the results of the undercount is the lack of media attention on strike actions. Strike waves, like those in 2018 and 2019, when 485,200 and 425,500 workers, respectively, walked off the job, would likely have received more attention if they had better bounced the statistical needle.

For example, extensive teacher strikes in 2018 that began in West Virginia and spread to Oklahoma, Arizona, North Caro-

# **Construction up**, employment climbs, and pay hikes soar

#### (Continued from Page 1)

Nonresidential construction contractors added 29,400 employees, and starts in that sector jumped 32 percent. That included 19,900 more employees among specialty trade contractors, 7,300 at heavy and civil engineering construction firms, and 2,200 working for general building contractors. Employment in residential construction rose by 31,000 workers, although project starts in that category fell 3 percent for the month.

"All segments of construction added workers in February," said Ken Simonson, chief economist of the Associated General Contractors. "However, filling positions remains a struggle, as pay is rising even faster in other sectors.'

Meanwhile, the number of unemployed job-seekers with construction experience shrank by 26 percent over the past year to 677,000 in February 2022. Simonson said the decline is further evidence that the industry will have a hard time filling positions with experienced workers

Correspondingly, pay hikes are strong: average hourly earnings for "production and non-supervisory employees"- largely, hourly craft workers, in the case of construction - increased 6.0 percent from February 2021 to last month. That was the steepest 12-month increase since December 1982.

In the overall economy, workers' wallets are also sitting pretty: The BLS reported that average hourly earnings in the U.S. construction industry rose 5.1 percent in the 12 months after January 2021 also the steepest 12-month increase in the past 40 years. Most years, pay hikes are in the 2-3 percent range. Federal numbers show that the U.S. construction industry average of \$33.80 per hour exceeded the private sector average by nearly 7 percent.

In Michigan, from January 2021 to January 2022, the state saw a 3.6 percent rise in construction jobs, with a total industry employment of 179,000 jobs, according to the state Department of Technology, Management and Budget. And Michigan is one of 29 states that now employ more construction workers (+1,700) than prior to the pandemic in February 2020.

The state reported on March 10 that the overall jobless rate in Michigan dropped two-tenths of a percent to 4.9 percent in January. Michigan's jobless rate remains nearly 1 percent above the national unemployment rate of 4 percent, although Gov. Gretchen Whitmer pointed out that unemployment in Michigan is "decreasing faster than almost every other state. Job growth has continued steadily for nine months straight, and wages and home values are going up," she said

The AGC said "it is clear the industry will need to hire hundreds of thousands of additional workers in each of the next several years to complete projects that will be funded by the recently enacted Bipartisan Infrastructure Law."

"The February jobs report showed further signs of workers stepping back into the jobs market and making it somewhat easier for businesses to hire," said Sarah House, a senior economist with Wells Fargo Securities. Construction was among what Wells Fargo calls a few "major standout sectors for job growth in February."

Reflecting the optimism in the industry, the Dodge Data and Analytics' Momentum Index increased 4 percent in February to 158.2 (2000=100) from the prior month. The monthly report, issued most recently on March 4, is a measure of the initial report for nonresidential building projects in planning. The index rebounded from three consecutive monthly declines, but followed a followed a 14-year high in October 2021.

Feb 2022 [6.0%]

GC Year-over-year, January 1982 - February 2022, seasonally adjusted **Construction** wages Production and Nonsupervisory on the rise 7% Employees



Policy Institute concurred, saying the official "BLS data did not capture actions taken by many workers who walked off the job to demand fair pay and safe working conditions during the pandemic."

\$52.35 in accordance with the International Brother-

Beginning

February 1<sup>st</sup>,

2022, union

dues will be

hood of Boiler-

makers Consti-

tution. The



10661 West Jefferson, River Rouge, Mi.

The Area Four retirees' lunches have also resumed. They are on the first Tuesday of the month at 11am in Rapid River at Jack's Restaurant 7898 S. Main Street, Rapid River, MI. Area four retirees also meet in Marquette on the second Tuesday of the month at 11am at Crossroads Bar on the corner of County Rd 553

lina, and Kentucky, but didn't fit into the official numbers of the BLS because individually their employers didn't have more than 1,000 workers. And so it is today, when strikes are happening at individual Starbucks, McDonald's and Burger King outlets, and the various "Fight for \$15" walkouts at numerous businesses.

The undercount in labor actions, says the Payday Report,



# Industry seems to shrug off higher material prices

(Continued from Page 1) strong economy, the industry is, to a great extent, disregarding the higher prices, and projects are

getting built anyway. "The cost and availability of construction materials will continue to be a challenge for the industry in 2022, but we do

prices for many of these commodities," said Patrick Ryan, executive vice president, Americas, for Linesight, a global construction industry consultant. "However, with a surge in infrastructure projects and demand for residential units, we expect

see moderation and declines in construction activity to see continued growth in the coming years.

A wide range of higher prices for inputs have contributed to the jump in the cost index. The price index for steel mill products soared 112.7 percent during the 12 months prior to January 2022.

Also higher during those 12 months: diesel fuel (+56.5 percent); plastic construction products (+35.0 percent); aluminum mill shapes (+32.7 percent); architectural coatings like paint (+24.3 percent); lumber and plywood (+21.1 percent); roofing asphalt products (+19.8 percent), and in-

sulation (+19.2 percent).

So that the common homeowner can relate to the higher prices, a single 2x4x8 length of common framing lumber at Home Depot will set you back \$8.25.

"February's increase in the Dodge Momentum Index (up 4 percent) suggests that the construction sector continues to

weather the storm of higher material prices and labor scarcity," Dodge said, "and is looking past the pandemic's unique issues for projects like schools and offices. As the pipeline of projects awaiting groundbreaking fills, a more even and pronounced recovery in construction starts will take hold."

# Labor welcomes new prevailing wage rules

#### (Continued from Page 1)

of local workers. Under a still-in-place Reagan-era regulations from the 1980s, wages are currently only considered "prevailing" when they are paid to more than half of workers in a given area. Spreading out the sample size tends to reduce the average wage; now plans call for that size to be narrowed, which should result in wages rising.

North America's Building Trades Unions President Sean McGarvey said NABTU "commends the Biden Administration for today's proposal to bring the Davis-Bacon Act's 41-year-old regulations into the 21st Century. The Davis-Bacon wage floor prevents cut-throat bidding practices from driving down local area labor standards on more than \$200 billion in federal and federally assisted projects that annually employ over 1.2 million U.S. construction workers.'

The announcement starts a 60-day period for interested parties to submit comments on the proposal to the Department of Labor before a final rule is issued. The DOL said its proposal "seeks to speed up prevailing wage updates, creating several efficiencies in the current system and ensuring prevailing wage rates keep up with actual wages. Over time, this would mean higher wages for workers."

DOL Wage and Hour Acting Administrator Jessica Looman said in a statement that the proposed changes are tied to the Biden administration's broader investments in infrastructure projects. "This comprehensive regulatory review is necessary to ensure employers on federally funded or assisted construction projects pay fair wages to the workers who build our roads, bridges, federal buildings and energy infrastructure," she said.

The proposed regulatory changes specifically call for several pro-worker updates to the federal rules, including "periodically updating prevailing wage rates to address out-of-date wage determina-"issuing supplemental rates for key job classifications when no tion." survey data exists," "updating the regulatory language to better reflect modern construction practices," and "strengthening worker protections and enforcement, including debarment and anti-retaliation."

Over the years the application and enforcement of the Davis-

Bacon Act has been subject to the whims of various presidential administrations, with Republican presidents sometimes suspending the act to allow for cheaper reconstruction after a natural catastrophe, for example, and Democrat presidents reinstating it.

Rep. Virginia Foxx of North Carolina, the top Republican on the House Committee on Education and Labor, issued the following statement: "Despite what the Biden Administration touts, this proposal will do nothing to create good jobs or improve infrastructure investments. Instead, the rule will drastically increase the cost of federal construction – thereby slowing American growth. Prevailing wage rates, determined by a completely unscientific wage survey process, are notoriously inaccurate, unfairly favor unions, and levy huge costs on American taxpayers."

The anti-union Associated Builders and Contractors group also hates Biden's update. While acknowledging the Davis Bacon Act needs updates, and is "in dire need of modernization and clarity," they called the proposal "more pork for special interests." Ben Brubeck, ABC vice president of regulatory, labor and state affairs, said "it is even worse public policy catering to special interests embedded in the Biden administration that benefit from the broken status quo."

Numerous academic studies have determined that employing a prevailing wage rule is a major benefit to workers that does not increase costs to taxpayers. Instead, the studies have shown that having the law in place improves worker training, safety and productivity, while providing contractors a uniform bidding environment and a better opportunity for employee retention in a field that very much needs workers.

"Federal dollars should be used to create good jobs in local communities all across our country," said U.S. Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh, a Laborers union member and former secretary-treasurer of the Boston Building and Construction Trades Council. "These proposed regulations are good for workers, good for building highquality infrastructure and for ensuring we have a strong construction industry, as we rebuild America."

# Just joking

A guy marries a rich woman, and a week after their honeymoon they are having dinner at a nice restaurant. A handsome young man walks up to the table, plants a kiss on the woman's cheek, winks at her and says, "see you later, babe" before walking away. The husband is livid.

"Who the hell was that, and what did he mean about seeing you later?"

'That's just my boyfriend, I've known him for years. His name is Joe.

"You have a boyfriend on the side, and he has the nerve to walk up to us in public? This is unforgivable. I want a divorce!" the husband said.

"Honey, he means nothing to me. Just a bit of harmless fun. I love you and I want us to live a long life together."

'Not after the way you humiliated me tonight.

"Look, I'll make sure that he doesn't do anything like that again."

"You mean you're going to see him again?"

The woman didn't hesitate. "Why yes, of course!"

"Divorce!" the man seethed.

"You need to think this through," the wife said, taking his hand. "We have a pre-nup. If we divorce, you'll be back in your little apartment. No taking the private jet to Augusta for the Masters Tournament. No more beach house, no more cruises on the yacht. You'll never see the inside of a restaurant like this again."

The husband is quiet for a while, and he thinks things over. He finally looks up and says, "isn't that your friend Stella from the club? Who's she with? It isn't her husband."

"That's Stella's boyfriend," the wife responded. "I think his name is Carl, or Carey, or something like that."

The man paused again after taking a bite of his salad. Well, I guess ours is better looking!"





Painters DC 1M WARREN - Dear Members, DC1M WEBSITE: www.iupatdc1michigan.org DC1M FACEBOOK: www. facebook.com/iupat1m DC 1M UNION CARDS\*



Any questions regarding a lost, damaged Union card, or if you have dues inquiries or have not received a card please contact the DC1M offices at: Warren Office: (586)552-4474

ROBERT extension 100 GONZALEZ Freeland Office:

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

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

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

#### GET INVOLVEDAND PAR-TICIPATE IN YOUR UNION! **OUT OF WORK/BACK TO**

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

Warren office# is 586-552-4474 or Freeland office# is 989-695-6888.

New job starts should be reported to the Union office, please do so

Get involved. Work smart. Work safe.



WARREN-Our next scheduled union meeting will be held on Monday, April 4, 2022 at 6pm. This will be a special-called, carded meeting. We will be vot-

## **Michigan Painters District Council**

District Council 1M Business Manager: Robert Gonzalez

Meeting date: 2nd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m., with the Executive Board meeting at 6 p.m. Place: 14587 Barber Ave, Warren MI 48088 & 419 S. Washington Ave, Lansing MI 48933

## Local Union 312

Business Rep: Tim Schwerin Meeting date: 2nd Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. Place: 1473 N. 30th St., Galesburg, MI 49053

### Local Union 514

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

## Local Union 826

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

### Local Union 845

Business Rep - Fred Frederickson Meeting date: 1st Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. Place: 419 S. Washington Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933

## Local Union 1052

Business Rep – Jake Fluty Meeting date: The Fourth Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m Place: 3115 Joyce St., Burton MI 48529

## Local Union 1803

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

#### Local Union 2352

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

#### Local Union 2353

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





# **Cement Masons** & Plasterers

BAC Local 2

MEETINGS

METRO DETROIT CHAP-

**ANN ARBOR CHAPTER:** 

Dexter-

Chelsea Rd.,

Dexter, MI

**CHAPTER:** 

Wednesday,

April 06 at

FLINT

PM,

W.

48130

7:30

1701

PAUL Genesee St.,

DUNFORD Lapeer, MI 48446

Thursday, April 14 at 6 PM, 11847

Shaver Rd., Schoolcraft, MI 49087

Monday, April 11, 2022 at 6 PM,

3321 Remy Dr., Lansing, MI 48906

SEMI-ANNUAL: Saturday, April

23 at 10 AM, 119 S Front St.,

Marquette 49855. Lunch to follow.

Tuesday, April 26, 2022 at 7:00

PM, 1300 W. Thomas St., Bay

**TER:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022

at 7:00 PM, 1231 Hastings Street,

**UPRETIREE LUNCHEON** 

WHEN: Friday, April 22,

WHERE: Vierling Sampling

WHO: Retired members

**DEATHS REPORTED.** Our

sincere condolences to the fam-

ily and friends of Brother James

Bushey (Plasterer) who passed

away on March 14, 2022. Brother

Bushey had been a member for

the family and friends of Brother

Harry Eberline (Bricklayer) who

passed away on Jan. 17, 2022.

Brother Eberline had been a mem-

the family and friends of Brother

Jack Holbrook (Bricklayer, Ce-

ment Mason & Gunite Specialist)

who passed away on March 06,

Our sincere condolences to

Our sincere condolences to

Room, 119 S. Front Street,

Traverse City, MI 49686

Marquette, MI 49855

City, MI 48706

2022; Noon

ONLY

72 years.

ber for 71 years.

KALAMAZOO CHAPTER:

LANSING CHAPTER:

**MARQUETTE CHAPTER** 

**SAGINAW CHAPTER:** 

TRAVERSE CITY CHAP-

TER: CANCELLED due to staff

attending the Legislative Confer-

Tuesday, April 05 at 6:00 PM, 8225

ence in Washington DC.

Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' Local 514

DETROIT - The next membership meeting is scheduled for April 19, 2022 at 7 p.m. We will practice social distancing for everybody's safety. Masks will be required.

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

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

#### Membership gold cards-**Congratulations!**

Vincent Broughton-25 Years Jason Blattert-25 Years Derek Demers-25 Years Julian Lewis-25 Years Derek Radjenovich-25 Years Victor Ward-25 Years Mark Reich-30 Years

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

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

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

Attention all Apprentices now you will need to go to the website: www.micement plasterertraining.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.

OPCMIA Local 5141



& Refractory Worker) who passed away on Feb. 27, 2022. WARREN/LANSING-Brother Shinnaberry had been a **APRIL 2022 CHAPTER** member for 5 years.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Brother Donald Theut (Bricklayer & Stone Mason) who passed away on Dec. 04, 2021. Brother Theut had been a member for 55 years.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Brother Fioravante Zanchetta (Bricklayer) who passed away on March 13, 2022. Brother Zanchetta had been a member for 53 years.

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

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

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

A SPEEDY RECOVERY. A speedy recovery is wished to all those who have been sick or injured. Let's keep them all in our thoughts and prayers.

**\*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

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

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WARREN & LANSING TRAINING CENTERS. 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.michigan bricklayers.org to view the Apprenticeship and Training website and register for future 2022 online training classes.

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

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

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

**BAC 2 MI TEXTING PRO-**GRAM. We have been communicating by text message more frequently with our membership lately. We encourage our members to sign up to receive our text messages by

- texting 2MI to 877877

You'll receive a confirmation text asking for your member number (IU#) - Respond with your six-digit IU number and you will receive Local 2 Text Messages going forward!

ing on nominated candidates for Local 357 officers. Please attend!

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

–Business Rep- Don Stepp

"The only reason some people get lost in thought is because it's unfamiliar territory.

– Paul Fix

## Sign, Pictorial & Display Local 591

Sign Pictorial & Display 591

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

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

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

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

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

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

"Arms are instruments of ill omen.... When one is compelled to use them, it is best to do so without relish. There is no glory in victory, and to glorify it despite this is to exult in the killing of men. . . . When great numbers of people are killed, one should weep over them with sorrow. When victorious in war, one should observe mourning rites." -Lao-Tzu (604 BC - 531 BC)

"We should be eternally vigilant against attempts to check the expression of opinions that we loathe."

-Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. (1841 - 1935)

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

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

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

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

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

**IMPORTANT NOTICE** FOR PLASTERERS AND DE-TROIT COMMERCIAL CE-MENT MASONS: You can track your annuity fund status at the Wells Fargo website. You may do so by logging on to: www.retirement.wellsfargo.com or call (866) 640-5138, you can also call the fund office at (248) 645-6550 with any related questions.

PLASTERERS AND CE-MENT MASONS It is your responsibility to fill out reciprocity (Continued next column) 2022. Brother Holbrook had been a member for 55 years

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Brother Gordon Jaeger (Cement Mason) who passed away on Oct. 15, 2021. Brother Jaeger had been a member for 60 years.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Brother Roy Lepper (Bricklayer) who passed away on Feb. 24, 2022. Brother Lepper had been a member for 72 years.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Brother Michael Lombardi (Bricklayer) who passed away on Feb. 14, 2022. Brother Lombardi had been a member for 44 years.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Brother Gerald Marcaccini (Tile Laver) who passed away on Dec. 27, 2021. Brother Marcaccini had been a member for 52 years.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Brother Kenneth Nielsen (Bricklayer) who passed away on Feb. 01, 2022. Brother Nielsen had been a member for 50 years.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Brother William Prince (Cement Mason) who passed away on Feb. 08, 2022. Brother Prince had been a member for 57 years.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Brother Fulvio Ragnone (Bricklayer) who passed away on Nov. 23, 2021. Brother Ragnone had been a member for 57 years.

Our sincere condolences to

# **Cement Masons 514**

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.

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

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

TMT RTI CLASSES. To register visit https://www. michiganbricklayers.org and click Calendar. Classes are filled on a first registered first served basis and will be held on the following Saturdays from 7:00am - 3:30pm: Apr: 2nd, 23rd & 30th May: 14th & 28th Jun: 4th & 11th

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

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

**APPRENTICE WORK** SHEETS. Turning in monthly the family and friends of Brother work sheets is a requirement of Henry Shinnaberry Jr (Bricklayer your apprenticeship. Apprentice

> "My problem lies in reconciling my gross habits with my net income.

-Errol Flynn (1909 - 1959)

"No matter how much the cats fight, there always seem to be plenty of kittens.' -Abraham Lincoln (1809 -

1865)

"Talk low, talk slow, and don't say too much.' - John Wayne (1907 - 1979)

PENSION AND HEALTH **INSURANCE INFORMATION** 

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

Michigan BAC Pension Fund (Outstate) - (800) 531-2244 Metro Detroit Bricklayers Pension & Vacation Fund - (248) 813-9800

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

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

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

"Silent gratitude isn't much use to anyone.'

-G.B. Stern

"Getting caught is the mother of invention. -Robert Byrne

"All you need in this life is ignorance and confidence -- and then success is sure.

-Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)

"The test of our progress is not whether we add to the abundance of those who have much. *It is whether we provide enough* to those who have little."

-Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1882-1945)

"The will to believe is perhaps the most powerful, but certainly the most dangerous human attribute."

– John P. Grier



Plumbers, Pipe Fitters and HVAC Service

FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for **Tues**day April 12, 2022 at 7:00pm. and has been designated a special called meeting for wage allocation.

**Scholarship Applications** for the 2022-2023 school year are now available online at our website UALOCAL370.ORG. The applicant must be a son or daughter of a member in good standing of UA Local Union 370. Complete lists of qualifications and applications are also available at Local 370 Hall. Applications are due by May 15, 2022.

**Condolences** to the family and friends of Brother Jim Belill. Jim passed away February 13, 2022. Jim was 56 years old and a 22 year member of Local 370. Rest in Peace Brother.

The May Membership meeting will take place on **Tuesday, May 3, 2022** at 7:00pm at UA Local 370 assembly hall, 2151 W. Thompson Rd Fenton, MI and has been designated a **SPECIAL CALLED MEET-ING** for the purpose of **NOMINATIONS** for the following officers and trustees: Please note this meeting is scheduled for the First Tuesday in May per Local 370 By-Laws. All Positions are 3 year terms and inaugurate in July 2022.

(1) Business Manager/Financial Secretary/Treasurer

(1) President

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

**Per section 121 of the U.A. Constitution:** No member shall be eligible to be nominated for office in any local union unless he shall be a journeyman member and shall have been a member of the united association and the local union in good standing for at least a period of two (2) years immediately prior to the election. Any journeyman member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of two (2) years immediately prior to the date of the election shall not be eligible to be nominated for office in any local union.

**Per section 124a of the U.A. Constitution:** "No member shall vote at any election of any description unless he has been a member in good standing in the local union where the vote is being taken for a period of one (1) year immediately prior to the date of election. Any member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of one (1) year immediately prior to the date of election shall not be eligible to vote in any local union election." Apprentices that have successfully completed their 3<sup>rd</sup> year are now eligible to vote if they meet the requirements listed above.

**Election will take place Tuesday June 7, 2022** at UA Local 370 assembly hall, 2151 W Thompson Rd Fenton, MI. Polls will open at 2:00pm and close at 7:00pm. In the event of a tie vote a runoff election will be held June 21, 2022 at UA Local 370 assembly hall, 2151 W Thompson Rd Fenton, MI. Polls will open at 2:00pm and close at 7:00pm.

Upcoming Night Class Schedule.

**BackFlow.** March 7th - April 21st, every Monday and Thursday @ pm 4:30 pm

First Aid/CPR. Wednesday, March 16th @ 4:30 pm

Welding C. March 14th - April 13th, every Monday and Wednesday @ 4:30 pm

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

Weld Test Schedule. Members can sign up for UA welding tests by calling Kaytlin at the hall extension 15. Members must have a current UA weld cert or have made a pre-qualifier weld to be eligible to test. Weld tests begin at 7:00 am on the following Saturdays 3-12-22, 4-16-22



Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 190

ANN ARBOR – UNION MEETING: A monthly union meeting will be held on Monday, April 11 and will start 6:00 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

Plumbers.

Pipe Fitters,

Service Technicians,

**Gas** Distribution

**UNION HALL CLOSING AT NOON:** For the Easter holiday the office will be closing at 12 p.m. on Friday, April 15. Wishing you and your family a happy and safe holiday.

**UNION HALL CLOSING:** Our office will be closed all day Monday, May 30 for Memorial Day. Our thanks to those who serve. As we celebrate our liberty and freedoms we remember and support those who protect them.

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

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

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

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

**ROBO CALLS:** We are sending out Robo calls to keep you updated and informed, if you are NOT receiving these messages it means we do not have a current phone number on file for you, please contact the hall to update.

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

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

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

ATTENTION MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION & OHIO GAS DISTRIBUTION & BUILDING TRADES MEMBERS - UA LOCAL 190 WEBSITE: If you have not already done so, please log in and look at our website www.ua190.org *Current members will be able to log into the "Members Only" section using your last name and UA card number.* \*\*\*\* NEW ON THE WEBSITE: Members can now view and sign up for job calls. The same procedure will be used as the call-in line. If you are laid off or go back to work, there are forms available to fill out on the website that will inform the hall.

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

LAID OFF OR BACK TO WORK-IMPORTANT REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS: All members who get laid off or report back to work please immediately contact Karen (734) 424-0962 Ext. #210. Please report the last day in which you worked. When calling to report back to work please let Karen know the contactor and the date you reported back to work. PLEASE NOTE: All Members can now go to the website under "members only" and fill out a "back to work" form or "laid off" form. **INFORMATION - FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: NEW BLUE** CROSS BLUE SHIELD APPFOR YOUR SMART DEVICE: All members vou can download the free Blue Cross Blue Shield APP on your smart device. This will allow you to see a copy of your BCBS card, review your claims, explanation of benefits and much more. Download: BCBSM. **AREPRESENTATIVE FROM FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE WILL** BE AT THE UNION HALL: A representative will be at the union hall each month on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month. Members will be able to meet with Bernadette from 9 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.



Plumbers, Pipefitters & Hvac Service Local 357

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

**UNION DUES REMINDERS:** 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.

**ORGANIZER POSITION:** At this time, Local 357 will be looking to hire another full-time Organizer. If you are interested in applying for the position, resumes are due by April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Your resume can be emailed to **lhatfield@ualocal357.com** or dropped off at the Union Hall prior to that date. Interviews to fill Local 357's Organizer position are scheduled for April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

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

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

NOTE: HEALTH INSURANCE IS PAID BY THE CONTRAC-TORS AND IS NOT DEDUCTIBLE.

**RETIREE MEETINGS:** Retiree lunch meetings will resume on April 5<sup>th</sup> and from then on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month. The lunches will commence at 11:30 am at Travelers Café located at 5225 Portage Rd, Portage, MI. The phone number for the location is (269) 775-1775.

**MEDICAL CLAIMS 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 INFORMATION - FRINGES - TIC: Check out the website at www.ualocal357.com and the FACEBOOK Page @ www.facebook.com/UALocal357/. You should sign up for access to your fringe reporting done by TIC via the Union website. To gain access, click on the Member Resources, then click on MRA / TIC Intl Information and then Register. This is where you will type in your Name, Email Address, UA Card # and create your own password. Once you have completed all the information - click on the LARGE REGISTER button that is surrounded by a Blue Box. Your User Access will be granted the next business day. To access your account, once it is set up, all you need to do is access the Membership Button again - type in your email address and password - and all your information will be presented. As a member via the website, you will be able to keep track of all your hours and receive an 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 TIC at the phone number above and Lori at the Union Hall. It is very important that we keep all our records up to date. There seems to be a continuing problem regarding notification of divorces. Note that you, the member, will be responsible for any bills incurred and paid on claims of an ex-spouse or dependents. (See Pages 6 and 27 in the Summary Plan Description Booklet for clarification).

CONGRATULATIONS:

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

**Committee and Board meetings are as follows:** Examining Board – Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at 4:00pm FMR Committee – Tuesday April 12, 2022, at 4:00pm PAC committee – Tuesday April 12, 2022, at 5:00pm Executive Board – Tuesday April 12, 2022, at 5:00pm Building Committee – Tuesday April 12, 2022, at 6:00pm Finance Committee – Tuesday April 12, 2022, at 6:15pm JATC Committee – TBD

ALL GM Worksites and others require Must Safety and Drug Testing: MUST safety modules are only valid for 4 years. Call the hall to sign up for the MUSTBSAFE.com website and complete all 18 safety modules. Members will not be eligible to work at any job site requiring them until all 18 modules are complete and are current on their drug 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 - 11:30am 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 dollars.

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

**Mobile App.** Our mobile app. Is now available for download on 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.org

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

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

Remember to keep your dues current. Any member failing to pay for 3 months shall stand suspended, unable to vote for a period of 1 year or run for office for a period of 2 years and subject to a \$50.00 reinstatement fee. Dues must be paid in 3-month increments according to our bylaws. Dues will be accepted up to 6:45 on union meeting nights.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Pipefitter Class (32hrs):** This class will show participants how to properly set up torches, cut, bevel, and fit-up pipe. You will also be taught how to read welding procedures, proper flange tightening procedures, how to figure offsets, change in direction offsets and rolling offsets. It will run for 8 weeks from 5pm-9pm. Class size is limited to 8 participants. Please call Retha to be put on the list, so we can schedule the class days.

ASSE Backflow Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become an ASSE Certified Backflow Tester (5110). 2022 Schedule: Next course starts Sept 13, 2022 at 5:00pm. Course runs on Tue and Wed for 5 weeks and are limited to 8 participants. Call Retha to secure your spot.

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

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

Med Gas Installer Up-Date (8hrs): Call Retha to be put into the next class. 2022 Schedule: 1st course April 19 & 21 at 5 pm. 2nd course Sept 27 & 29 at 5 pm. Courses are on Tue and Thu and are limited to 24 participants. Call Retha to be placed in the course that keeps your certification current.

EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Certification (40hrs): This is (Continued next column) Congratulations to Malcolm Harmon on the birth of a daughter, Belle.

Congratulations to Tim Petkoff on his recent marriage. **CONDOLENCES:** 

Condolences to the family of retired brother, Patrick Fitzpatrick, on his recent passing.

Condolences to Scott Worden and his family on the recent passing of his wife.

Condolences to the family of Robert Keene on the recent passing of his mother-in-law.

## Local 190, continued

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

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

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

**CONDOLENCES:** Our member Brian Fyan passed away on March 1. Brian initiated on July 20, 1999. To all family members and friends, we send our most sincere condolences. May the care and love of those around you provide comfort and peace to get you through the days ahead.

Our lifetime member Ken Phillips passed away on March 6. Ken initiated Sept. 16, 1953, retired Jan. 1, 1985 and became a lifetime member Sept. 16, 2003. To all family members and friends, the loss of someone dear to us is never easy but may you all take comfort in the fact that you are surrounded by people that care about you.

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

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

"Supreme excellence consists in breaking the enemy's resistance without fighting."

-Sun-Tzu (~400 BC)

"Proportion your expenses to what you have, not what you expect."

-English Proverb



# **UA 85's Pomerville gets virtual seat at State of the Union**

Justin Pomerville, Business Manager/Financial Secretary of UA Local 85 in Saginaw and Secretary of the Michigan Pipe Trades Association, was a virtual guest of U.S. Sen. Gary Peters for President Biden's State of the Union Address on March 1.

The invitation was intended to highlight how the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will, according to Peters' office, "invest in Michigan's infrastructure, bolster the economic recovery, create good-paying jobs for Michiganders – including union jobs - and protect critical labor standards on construction projects."

"The bipartisan infrastructure law will strengthen our economy and improve the way Michiganders move, live and work for generations," said Peters, a member of the Senate, Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee. "Thanks to this significant investment we will create good-paying jobs for Michiganders, including for union workers, as we rebuild our roads and bridges, and invest in

clean drinking water. I'm thrilled to have Justin join me virtually for this year's State of the Union Address to discuss how the bipartisan infrastructure law will directly benefit Michiganders and support our local workforce.'

Said Pomerville: "I'm honored to join Sen. Peters virtually for this year's State of the Union Address. The bipartisan infrastructure law, which Senator Peters was instrumental in helping pass, is a win for Michigan workers that enacts strong labor protections and will create good-paying, union jobs. We've been proud to host Sen. Peters in Saginaw and see first-hand some of the incredible work our members do. I applaud Senator Peters' leadership to strengthen our local economy and provide Michiganders with the skills and opportunities they need for success."

Peters previously toured UA Local 85 with Pomerville to view firsthand the apprenticeship programs offered in the region. During the tour, Peters and Pomerville interacted with apprentices and

instructors from the Saginaw School District and the UA Veterans in Piping Program.

As a direct result of the bipartisan infrastructure law, Peters

has announced that Michigan is already set to receive \$563.1 million to fix bridges across the state, \$479 million to modernize the Soo Locks, \$16 million to build elec-

tric vehicle charging stations, and \$1 billion for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative - the singlelargest-ever investment to pro-



PLUMBERS AND STEAMFITTERS Local 85 Business Manager Justin Pomerville, left, was a virtual guest of U.S. Sen. Gary Peters, center, at President Biden's State of the Union address earlier this month. With them at right is United Association International Rep. Kevin Carden.



#### Pipe Fitters 636

DETROIT - There will be a ter located at 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. Southfield MI 48075.

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

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

We will be hosting our 49th Annual Golf Outing on Saturday,

pay your Dues by the end of each quarter, you will be assessed an "re-instatement" fee of \$50. After 2 quarters go unpaid you will then be Expelled and have to be Re-Initiated and pay a \$200 Re-Ini-

The Retiree Meetings are up and running again. The Retirees will be meeting the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month at 11am at Local 636 Union Hall. The next Retiree meeting will be April 21, 2022, at this meeting there will be nominations and elections of new officers

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

BeneSys has set up a dedicated phone line for Pipefitters

tect our Great Lakes.

Sprinkler Fitters Local 704

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

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

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

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

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

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

Congratulations to retired brothers Doug Kraus, Lee Luzynski, Tom McElmeel, Bruce McShane and Charles Williams on achieving their 50-Year status with the UA and Local 704. Thank you for your years of service.

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

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

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

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

*"Why not seize the pleasure"* at once, how often is happiness destroyed by preparation, fool-



Plumbers and Steamfitters 85

UA LOCAL 85

SAGINAW - The next Union Meeting will be a Special Order of Business on Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at the Union Hall located at 3535 Bay Road starting at 7:00 PM. The purpose of this meeting is Local 85 Contract allocations.

The next Northern Informational Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 6, 2022 at 7:00 PM at the Northern Facility located at 2476 Industrial Dr. in Grayling, Michigan.

It is Contract/Bargaining season, every member needs to pay close attention to their mail. There will be several special order of business mailers and meetings in the upcoming months.

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

ALL NON-CRITICAL INTERACTIONS are cancelled until further notice. Please utilize email and phone calls whenever possible. Justin Pomerville, Business Manager (989) 799-5261 x 8513

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

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

Clint Steele, Business Agent (231) 499-7330 csteele@ualocal85.org

Bobby Anderson, Organizer, (989) 799-5261 x 8512

rjanderson@ualocal85.org

Kristin Tuthill, Office Professional, (989) 799-5261 x 8511 ktuthill@ualocal85.org

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

The new website is up and running. Please check out www.ualocal85.org. Click on Local 85 Members to access members only information. Login information is username: first initial with full last name. Password is 00 with your UA Card Number. If you should



have any difficulties logging in, please call Kristin at (989) 799-5261 ext. 8511

The new Facebook page is live. If you are currently on the Local Eighty-Five Facebook account, invites were sent to have you join the new site. UA Local 85 page is our public Facebook account. UA Local 85 Members Group is our new members only Facebook. On this page, we will have important messages and reminders specific to our membership. Please like both and let us know what you think.

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

#### GOD BLESS ORGANIZED LABOR AND THE LABOR MOVE-**MENT!**

#### SUB Fund:

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

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

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

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

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

#### NOTE TOALL MEMBERS:

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

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

Website Address: Please visit www.ualocal85.org.

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

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

CONDOLENCES: Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of David Grover who passed away on March 5, 2022. Fraternally, Justin M. Pomerville **Business Manager/Financial Secretary** Local Union 85

"There are many ways of going forward, but only one way of standing still.'

-Franklin D. Roosevelt (1882 - 1945)

"The right to be heard does not automatically include the right to be taken seriously.' -Hubert H. Humphrey (1911 - 1978)

June 18, 2022 at the Links of Novi, located at 50395 Ten Mile Rd. in Novi. We will be playing a four-man scramble with an 8:00am shotgun start. Tickets are limited to 216 GOLFERS and available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Foursomes can be reserved at a cost of \$500.00. This will include a continental breakfast, range balls, 18 holes of golf with cart, lunch on the turn, complimentary soft drinks/beer, prizes, and a buffet dinner immediately following completion of play.

Sponsorships and ticket reservations are on a "FIRST COME FIRST SERVE" basis and can be guaranteed with early request and payment. Contact "MOLLY KRIST" (248)538-6636 at the hall prior to ordering. Ticket orders and sponsorships will be accepted until Friday, June 3rd 2022, or until sold out. All tickets will be mailed.

Please make checks payable to: "Pipefitters Local 636" and return to: Pipefitters Local 636 Golf Committee, 30100 Northwestern Hwy., Farmington Hills, MI 48334

**Update on Brother Brian** Mierendorf-Brian is still in U of M Burn Unit, he still has a long road ahead of him. The GO FUND ME PAGE is still set up to help him and his family out. If you rather drop a donation off at the Union Hall vs the Go Fund Me Page, we will make sure the donation will get to his family. Brian and his family are very thankful for everyone's thoughts and prayers. The Go Fund Me Page for Brian is under listed as Coach Brian.

Dues: 1st Quarters window dues are due. The Window Dues structure is as follows for active members: \$31 monthly/\$93 per quarter/\$186-6 months/\$372 for the entire year. For your convenience, you can call the hall and pay over the phone with your credit card number. If you do not

"Success seems to be largely a matter of hanging on after others have let go.

-William Feather (1908 -1976)

636 needs and questions, when calling BeneSys, please call #248-641-4936 or #888-646-8920

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

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

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

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

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

Referrals to outside professionals, if needed, will be paid for according to the current health care plan benefits.

CJ Harrison would like all our members to know that she is still available by phone during these uncertain times, she is working from home doing phone conferences which is still beneficial to (Continued next column) the same dough but not baked in the same oven." -Yiddish proverb

information

rent? Check your report card at

mustbsafe.org and if it is time for

renewal call the Training Center

248-585-0636 and they will regis-

ter you. Be "ready" when the

calls come in. Safety modules

and drug tests are paid for by the

**RENT WITH YOUR SAFETY** 

**MODULES, DRUG TEST AND** 

FIRST AID, YOU WILL

**QUALIFY FOR FUTURE BO-**

sub pay requests to subpay

Members-Local 636 does not

have a sanctioned Facebook and/

or any other social media sites.

We are working on putting to-

gether a social media site. If you

require information regarding

Local 636, please refer to our

website www.pipefitters636.org

or any paid officer for further

"Everyone is kneaded out of

WHEN YOU STAY CUR-

**REMINDER:** Please email all

**Reminder to all Local 636** 

Contractors Association.

NUS PAYMENTS.

@pipefitters636.org

ish preparations. -Jane Austen (1775 - 1817)

"You can fool too many of the people too much of the time." -James Thurber (1894 - 1961)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

www.ssdfighter.com



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

West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters & Service Trades Local 174

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

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

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

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

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

You will be tested physically in several ways. Your vehicle is your office, so we do many hours behind the wheel sitting for long hours is required. You will have times of standing for up to 4-6 hours at any given time while teaching one of our organizing programs. While doing job site visits which can be up to as many as 10 construction sites in a week you will be subject to tough terrain such as uneven ground, unstable concrete, wet conditions (which create mud and slippery conditions) and maneuvering around building materials and COVID Test please save your receipt. Effective Jan. 15 the health fund will reimburse the cost of up to 8 tests per month. We are still working on setting up the reimbursement arrangement. Once that process is in place you will receive a letter with instruction on how to obtain reimbursement. You can order four free tests per household at www.covidtests .gov.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Medicare Retirees:** Effective Jan. 1, 2021 your insurance premiums will be reduced by approximately 12.5%.

New rates are as follows:

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

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

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

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

FRINGE PLAN THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR: (TIC). West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters and Service Trades Local No.174 Fringe Benefit Funds

6525 Centurion Drive, Lansing, MI 48917-9275

(517) 321-7502 Phone

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

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

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

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

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



Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 333

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

May's union meeting will be held Wednesday, May 18, 2023, at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr Blvd., Lansing, MI. 48911 at 7:30.

Scholarship applications for the 2022-2023 school year will be available the first week in April at all three Local 333 Union Halls or by calling Joni at 517-784-1106 ect#4.

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

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

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

Lansing: (Tuesdays & Thursdays) Lansing Training Center, 16180 National Parkway, Lansing, MI. 48906.

Jackson: (Tuesdays & Thursdays) 3101 Industrial Allied Dr. Jackson, MI. 49201.

Battle Creek: (Mondays & Thursdays) (KCC) RMTC, 405
Hill Brady Rd. Battle Creek, MI.
49037.

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

Masters test prep is Monday and Wednesday every week at the Lansing Training Center. If you are interested in signing up for classes please go to our website at www.ua333.org or call the Training Center (517) 323-0333.

PLEASE NOTE FOR ALL CERTIFICATIONS: Per the UA, as of January 2019, all Braze and Weld Certifications shall be 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.



Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 671

MONROE – The next Regular Union meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2022 at 7 p.m. The Executive Board will also meet in person on April 8, at 5:00 p.m. If any Member wishes to see them, please contact the Hall prior to the meeting.

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

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

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

**Training**: There will be UA New Business Seminar with Tom Bigley, the UA Director of Plumbing, hosted by Local 98 Detroit on March 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. If any member is considering opening your own business this class has a lot of great information on how to get started.

If anyone is interested, please contact Mike or Vinnie at the Union Hall so we can get you signed up. All members attending this seminar MUST be fully vaccinated. If you are not vaccinated and still wish to participate, we are making arrangements to attend virtually.

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

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

All retiree self pays are due 1 month prior to the month you want coverage. This is the cause



Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 111 UPPER PENINSULA – MARQUETTE – The next Union Meeting will be in Marquette on March 31, 2022 @ 7:30 p.m. EST.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Check your dues records! You are assessed a \$50 reinstatement once you become 3 months behind. You are automatically expelled once you are over 6 months behind. Safety Training on Local 111 Web Site: When taking the online safety training, go to our web site ualll.com and click on Safety Links. Members must take these safety trainings for each site to work at each mill. Please take note they are valid for 1 year. MSHA Training: The 2022 MSHA schedule is on our web site & our Facebook page. To register for an MSHA class please go to Upconstruction.org and go to the MSHA calendar to register. This website applies for cancelling classes also. MSHA expires in one year.

unsmooth conditions of construction sites.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Covid Test Reimbursement:** If you purchase an at-home

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

Retiree and Non-Medicare Spouse \$677.55

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

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

New insurance carriers: Active and Non-Medicare Retirees Aetna: (888)290-7241 Save-Rx: (800)228-3108

Medicare Retirees Labor First: (616) 345-0788

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

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

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

#### Training News:

The Training Center will be closed on May 4, 5, 6, 2022 as the staff will be out of town for the 2022 Apprentice Contest.

**FIRST AID:** First Aid/CPR/ BBP class will be the second Thursday of the month, from 5:00p-9:00p. The next classes will be held Thursday, April 14, 2022 and Thursday, May 12, 2022.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Union Hall extension numbers: Ryan Bennett Business Manager ext: 12, Nathan Phillips Assistant Business Manager ext. 13, Jason Finch Business Agent ext.14, Chris Pelton Organizer ext.15, Lisa Johnson Accounting Manager ext.11, Cami Burris Administrative Assistant ext. 10, Training Dept: Jeff Rumsey ext. 16, Nicole Shumaker ext. 30. NOTICE!!! The Local 333 Retiree Breakfasts are back!!! The next breakfast will be Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at 10:00 am at the Alpha Coney Island at 1188 Jackson Crossing, Jackson, MI.

**PLEASE NOTE:** This is a new location. Restaurant is located at the west end of the Jackson Crossing shopping center. 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.

Sincere condolences to Battle Creek member Kevin Hoyt whose mother passed away March 16. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Our thoughts and prayers to Lansing member, Chuck Osborne on the loss of his son Chad Osborne, who passes away March 10. Our deepest sympathies to you and your loved ones.

Deepest sympathy to Linda Forward on the loss of her husband, Battle Creek member Edward Forward, who passed away March 13, 2022. Ed was a member of our Local for 44 years. Our hearts goes out to you and your family during this sorrowful time.

If you have any life changes, marriage, divorce, births, address changes, please call Debra at our Lansing office 517-393-5480 ext.#4.

Warmest congratulation to Battle Creek member, Dewayne Tyler who became a Life Member, March 15, 2023. Thank you for your years of dedication to Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 333. of some of our issues with coverage being denied. For example, if you are paying for April, you now need to have that payment in at least by March 15<sup>th</sup>. This will help avoid any disruptions in coverage.

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

The 2022 UA National Softball Tournament is scheduled for June 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> in Cincinnati, Ohio. We traditionally send a team down every year and we hope to do that this year.

If you are interested, please contact the Hall or Nate Schneider. This is a UA sanctioned event and you MUST BE FULLY VACCINATED to participate. I hope to see you in Cincinnati.

**Condolences:** Our condolences go out to the family of Retiree Doug Sieb. Doug passed away on March 6 at the age of 93 and was a 73-year member of Local 671. He will be missed dearly.

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

**Congratulations:** We would like to congratulate our latest two Michigan Licensed Plumbers Mike Menard and Jeremy Rousselo. Nice job guys!

In Closing: We have all been quite busy this Spring and it looks like Summer will be no exception. We have to "make hay while the sun shines" but don't forget about your personal and family's well-being. As you finish a project, take the time you may need to re-energize physically and mentally.

Mike Jewell: Cell (419) 262-8503 email: mike@ualocal671.com Vinnie Fenech: Cell (734) 693-4082 email: vinnie@ualocal-

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

Local 671 Fax: (734) 242-4692

"He who finds Fortune on his side should go briskly ahead, for she is wont to favor the bold." –Baltasar Gracian (1601-

1668)

"We know next to nothing about virtually everything. It is not necessary to know the origin of the universe; it is necessary to want to know. Civilization depends not on any particular knowledge, but on the disposition to crave knowledge."

-George F. Will (1941 - )

"Selfishness is not living as one wishes to live, it is asking others to live as one wishes to live."

-Oscar Wilde (1854 - 1900)

"One of the most basic principles for making and keeping peace within and between nations... is that in political, military, moral, and spiritual confrontations, there should be an honest attempt at the reconciliation of differences before resorting to combat."

-Jimmy Carter (1924 - )

"Principles have no real force except when one is wellfed."

- Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)

"Three things in human life are important: the first is to be kind; the second is to be kind; and the third is to be kind."

-Henry James (1843 - 1916)

"No man is free who is not master of himself."

-Epictetus (55 AD - 135 AD)

#### THE BUILDING TRADESMAN March 25, 2022 9



# Plumbers Local 98

#### **Plumbers Local 98**

DETROIT – Membership of Plumbers Local 98. Brothers and Sisters,

Have you checked out our website? Announcements, information on meetings, links to your benefits the Training Center, and more can be found there. Go to UALOCAL98.COM to see what's happening.

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

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

Retiree Meetings. The APRIL RETIREE MEETING is Wednesday, April 13th from 12 pm-2 pm. Please note, any existing Covid-19 protocols are still being adhered to for these meetings.

**Education Opportunities.** The Apprentice Applications process will open April 1, 2022. To learn more and apply please Plumbers98TC.org/ visit Apprenticship.

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

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

Please visit ualocal98.com/ covid-update-3 for the most current COIVD-19 updates.

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

You should have received a letter in the mail with the form for Direct Deposit on SUB Pay. Please return that to the hall and note that it takes 30-60 days to set up. It is your responsibility to

able through Local 98 and the UA can be found on our website, ualocal98.com/scholarship. These scholarships are open to the dependents of our members who are seeking a higher education. Please note, the UA scholarship deadline is June 9, 2022. The deadline for the Local 98 Scholarship is June 30, 2022, but it is best to get your application submitted sooner rather than later.

In Memoriam. Our deepest condolences go out to the family and friends of Brother John Wathen who passed away on February 15, 2022

Good/Welfare. Congratulations to John Bailey, Jonah Beisel, Justyn Bowels, DaMarius Copeland, Allen Ernst, Matthew Rembisz, and Davonn Walker who are now Journeymen Extraordinaires!

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

Macomb County Adopt-A-Highway Week is April 23rd thru May 1st. Join us on April 30th as we clean up our stretch of I-94. Please call BA Gary Glaser (313)580-0148 for more information and to sign up so we can assure we have adequate equipment for the number of volunteers. This is a great volunteer opportunity for any high schoolers in need of volunteer hours

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

In solidarity I remain, Carlo Castiglione Business Manager Plumbers Local 98 **TRAINING CENTER NEWS** 

Phone # 248-585-1435 Check out The Training

Center's website: www.Plumbers 98tc.org The Apprenticeship Appli-

cation process is currently closed.

The Training Center is open.



#### Laborers 1191

DETROIT - Monthly Membership Meetings: Union meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Union hall (except for holidays),

Dear Local 1191 Members: There will be a special meeting for the purpose of nominating candidates to all offices of Laborers' Local 1191. It will be held Tuesday,

April 19, 2022 at 7:00pm at Laborers' Local Union, 1191 Union Hall, 2161 West Grand Blvd Detroit MI 48208.

The following offices shall be placed for nomination: President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Secretary Treasurer, Business Manager/ Convention Delegate & District Council Delegate, Sergeant-at-arms, Auditors (3), Executive Board (2), Delegates to District Council (5).

Nominations may be made from the floor of the meeting by members in good standing. A member who has been nominated must accept such nomination in person, unless absent from the meeting on union business, or excused for just cause by a vote of the membership of the Local Union.

the next membership meeting will on the April, 1st 2022.

International

North America

Union of

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

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

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

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

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

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

ule appointments for modules. You can also contact the Local Union office at (313) 894-2241 to use a Local Union computer to complete required modules.

Training: Check out the training classes available to you at no cost. Journeymen and apprentices may still obtain training through MLTAI's online training at https://lms.mltai.org. Types of training you can take include: Asbestos Awareness-Silica Awareness-Infectious Disease Awareness-Respirator Awareness-Hazard Communication-Blood borne Pathogens Awareness-Covid-19 Awareness-Lead Awareness.

NOTE: Classes & Certifications contractors have been asking for are: OSHA 30, Asbestos & Lead Awareness, Hoisting & Rigging, Pipeline Safety. Class A Cdl License, Asbestos Removal Supervisors Licence, Confined Space Permit Required, Grade Checking Blueprint Reading & Measuring *Tools*, *GPS Location*. The above training and certifications are all available at the training center. It could mean the difference of being sent to work or not!

FYI: By taking the OSHA 30 your 18 MUST Safety modules are updated as well. If you are not able to go to the Training Center for MUST Safety Modules contact the Local Union to assist you with making arrangements to complete them. Referral List: Every member who is looking for work must call, or come to the Local Union Office on Mondays between 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm and put their name on the out-of-work list. You must have an out-of-work skills sheet filled out and on file in order to be referred out for work by the Local Union. Also be sure to Check & Update your Skills regularly. **Roll Call: All members on** the out-of-work list must re-register every quarter within the first five days of the following months March, June, September and December. Your failure to do so will result in your name being removed from the referral list. \*Example: If your name is on the list in April and or May and you don't re-register by June 5<sup>th</sup> your name will be removed from the list. Members are urged to report new project starts to the Local Union. Members working for a contractor who may be looking to hire additional laborers are urged to call the Union Hall and help a brother or sister get referred out to work. The next time, it may be your name on the list when that call comes in for work. **CONTACT NUMBERS.** Michigan Laborers' Fringe Benefits Funds (Annuity, Insurance, Pension & Vacation)

laborers.org

Feel the Power

- Delta Dental: (800) 524-0149 Metropolitan Detroit Labor-(Pension) ers
  - Telephone: (248) 641-4942 Fax: (248) 813-9898 Metropolitan Detroit Labor-

'(Healthcare) ers Telephone: (800) 228 0048

Metropolitan Detroit Labor-(Vacation) ers

Telephone: (877) 645-2267 Web Site: www.metrodetroit laborers.org

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

check your location on the Out of Work List. Make sure your contact information is up to date as well as MUST and other certifications. If you have any problems with state agencies involving unemployment, or questions on MUST models and staying current, please contact Gary Glaser at 313-580-0148 or Dan Nixon at 248-752-3702 and hopefully they can help you get that resolved.

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

Dues. You can pay your dues online, over the phone, or by mailing in a check. You can also 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. 4.

NOTE ON DISABILITY/RE-**TIREMENT.** If you are filing for Social Security Disability you will need to file for your Local 98 Disability Pension at the same time in order to make sure you get all of your pension checks. Social Security normally takes at least a year and sometimes a lot longer. If you file for your Local 98 Disability Pension at the same time, when you receive your award from Social Security, we will be able to pay you all the retro money owed. If you are less than a year from retirement, we suggest you set up a meeting with Jon DeRoo prior to your retirement date.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPOR-TUNITIES. All of the information regarding the scholarships availThe mask mandate has been lifted. We are asking that people still practice social distancing while in the building. Please call Ryan Lyle at 248-585-1435 ext. 122 if you have any questions.

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

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

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

Monthly Code Class – Next class is April 13, 2022 at 4:30 pm. Open to any member looking to have discussions about the interpretation of the Michigan Plumbing Code. Great refresher for anyone wanting to take a state plumbing exam. Please call Paul at the Training Center at 248-585-1435 ext. 123 to register.

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

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

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

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

ASSE Repairer: \*\*\* Prerequisite: Must hold a current 5110 Tester Certification Fall Class: (Continued next column)

# Local 98 cont'd

August 31st-October 5th, Deadline is August 12th \$75

Industrial Rigging: June 30th – August 27th, Deadline is June 10th \$100 Class size limited to 10

6010 Medical Gas Installer Recertification-\*All current 2018 Medical Gas Installer certification holders are required to take this update to 2021. \$130.00

\*OPEN WELDING\* - Our welding shop is open! The new ventilation system has been installed. Please call Chris Opalka 248-585-1435 ext. 146 for any welding related inquiries and to check on booth availability.

If your brazing or welding certs are ready to expire, call to schedule an appointment. The next WELDING Test session will be April 2nd. You must call to schedule your welding tests at least 3 days prior to the test.

The next BRAZING Cert Session will be Friday, April 8, 2022. Please note: All members must be dressed appropriately to be in the shop area.

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

OSHA Training - OSHA 10, available as on an online class for \$25 at www.careersafeonline.com This OSHA 10 class is not affiliated with the UA or our Training Center. OSHA 10 and 30 Hour Training is also offered online through the MUST website. Go to www.mustonline.org. \*\*Be sure to take the Construction Safety courses; not the General Industry courses.

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

If the person you are trying to reach at the Training Center is unavailable, please leave a message to ensure we can return your

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

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

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

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

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

Telephone: (877) 645-2267

> \* Fax: (517) 321-7508 \*Website: www.michigan



information about Union Plus scholarships at www.unionplus .org/benefits/education/unionplus-scholarships

"We should every night call ourselves to an account: What infirmity have I mastered today? What passions opposed? What temptation resisted? What virtue acquired?"

-Seneca (5 BC - 65 AD)

"Whenever evil befalls us, we ought to ask ourselves, after the first suffering, how we can turn it into good. So shall we take occasion, from one bitter root, to raise perhaps many flowers. – Leigh Hunt (1784 - 1859)

"Great events make me quiet and calm; it is only trifles that irritate my nerves.

-Queen Victoria (1819-1901)

"It is easy to take liberty for granted when you have never had it taken from you." -M. Grundler

"I think the first virtue is to restrain the tongue; he approaches nearest to gods who knows how to be silent, even though he is in the right.

-Cato the Elder (234 BC - 149 BC)





Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25 SOUTHFIELD – UNION

**MEETING** - The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, April 14, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge Street, Southfield, MI 48033. This Meeting will be spe-



25's 4th Convention Delegate. Those members running are: Micah Vincent, Marty Allen, Scott Nolan and Randy

McGLONE Rowell. This meeting is man-

datory for all apprentices.

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

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

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

M.U.S.T. SAFETY MOD-**ULES**: It is important to keep your M.U.S.T. Safety Modules up to date. If you have Modules expir-



Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 47

LANSING-The next Regular Union Meeting will be held on Friday, April 8, 2022, at 7:30 p.m.

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

The May 13<sup>th</sup> Union Meeting will be a notified meeting to elect the 4<sup>th</sup> Quinquennial Delegate as stated in the International Constitution and Bylaws: Article 5, **Conventions.** 

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

Any retirees wanting to go to work, please call the office.

The Funds Trustees have waived the 79-hour rule.

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

Per the Rules and Procedures:

Members must notify the office within 24 hours of being laid off or charges may be placed.

Members must notify the office before ANY overtime is worked

Contracts are available at the Union Office or at the Union Meeting upon request.

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

To ensure all Active Mem-

READYINGANOTHER piece of 3/8-inch tempered glass for installation at the former Book Depository Building in **Detroit is Max Hoisington of Glaziers** and Glassworkers Local 357. He's the project foreman for EGD Glass and Door.



**Iron Workers Local 25** 

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

Ironworkers Local 25 APP-Sign up for our Alerts & E-mails via our website (www.iron workers25.org). We continue to communicate through the PUSH NOTIFICATIONS - download the APP if you haven't done so yet!

Steward meeting(s): The Lansing Hall Steward Meeting will be Monday April 11, 2022 at 6:30 pm. The Flint Hall Steward Meeting will be April 20, 2022 at 5:30 pm. The Saginaw Hall Steward Meeting will be April 28, 2022 at 6:00 pm. All are welcome.

**Stewards' Notes:** 

1) The link for Online Steward Report forms is found in the upper right-hand corner of our website www.ironworkers25.org LOG-IN DIRECTIONS will follow once you click the link that reads "Electronic Steward Reports." These forms are much easier than the paper forms, we encourage you to give it a try if you have

# Local 47, con't

will be covered on our insurance until these items are sent to TIC. Please call TIC immediately at (800) 323-8079 and get the abovementioned forms into the fund ASAP and you will be reinstated retroactively



# Local 25 **Iron Workers**

not yet done so.

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

3) All members please be sure to keep your Union dues paid up to date as it is criteria for working. You can be asked to leave the jobsite if your dues are not current 4) Doby/Travel Service

Dues are \$10.00 per week. 24/7 CREDIT-DEBIT CARD

processing for Union Dues: Pay via our APP or website www.ironworkers25.org. The phone number is 866-635-2826.

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

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

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

to submit apprentice evaluations using computer/cell phone and submit electronically. Please also note, you must check your email for your pay raise slips.

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

The Iron Workers' Local 25 Retirees' Club: The Novi Chapter Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday April 5, 2022 at 9:00 am. The Retirees meeting will be Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at 10:00 am in Novi. All are welcome.

The Retiree Club Scholarship Fund applications are available. Contact John Miller for rules, application, and deadline 734-812-8036 or email jlmillertime50@yahoo.com

Thoughts & well-wishes to Lifetime Ironworker George Smith #808498 who is recuperating after a fall, at St. Mary's Hospital Livonia. George is 94 and we wish him kind regards – get well!

The West Michigan Chapter Retirees breakfast will meet Tuesday, April 5, 2022 at 9:00 am at Red Rock Grille & Café, 228 N. Ball Creek Rd, NW, Kent City, Michigan 49330. Future meeting

"Although prepared for martyrdom, I preferred that it be postponed."

scheduled for the 1st Tuesday of each month. All are welcome.

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

The Downriver Chapter Retirees breakfast will meet Friday April 15, 2022 at 9:00 am at Mom's Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, Michigan, 48183. Future meetings scheduled for the third Friday of each month. All are welcome

Watch for updates at (www.ironworkers25.org) or the Local 25 app that you can download by searching "Iron Workers Local 25" to stay informed on union matters.

In Memory: JSIW Mark Carey #1139667 of Wyoming, Michigan passed away suddenly on Friday March 11, 2022. He was 61 years old, and a 34-year member. Lifetime IW Roderique "George" Pearson of Lansing MI passed away March 12, 2022 at the age of 91. He was a 67-year member.

Our deep condolences to all of the family and friends as you mourn the loss of your dear loved one(s)!

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (March 18, 2022 12:00 pm E.S.T.).

"All truth passes through three stages. First, it is ridiculed. Second, it is violently opposed. Third, it is accepted as being selfevident.' -Arthur Schopenhauer (1788 - 1860)

ing and needing to be completed, give the Union Office a call to have the testing authorization turned on.

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

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

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

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

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

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

'Be wiser than other people, if you can, but do not tell them so.

-Lord Chesterfield (1694 - 1773)

bers 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 al-

ways update with Local 47. The JATC will be hiring two new Instructors for the 2022-2023 school year. If you are interested, please send a letter to the Local 47 office by April 8th, 2022. If you have any questions regarding the JATC Instructor position please contact Phil Wilson at (616) 466-8736.

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 (Continued next column)

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

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

Please complete and return the working spousal forms to TIC.

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

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

Under Duties of Apprenticeship, Section 5.3 part L, page 4 of the Apprenticeship Standards states, "According to the Apprenticeship Standards you are required to accurately fill out the online work report for NO later than ten (10) days from the end of the current work week.'

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

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

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

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

-Sir Winston Churchill (1874 -1965

"The major difference between a thing that might go wrong and a thing that cannot possibly go wrong is that when a thing that cannot possibly go wrong goes wrong it usually turns out to be impossible to get at and repair.

-Douglas Adams (1952 -2001)

"Associate yourself with men of good quality if you esteem your own reputation, for 'tis better to be alone than in bad company.

-George Washington (1732 -1799)

'Man is distinguished from all other creatures by the faculty of laughter."

Joseph Addison (1672 -1719

"Music has charms to soothe the savage breast

To soften rocks, or bend a knotted oak.'

-William Congreve (1670 -1729)

"Honest differences are often a healthy sign of progress. -Mahatma Gandhi (1869 -

1948)

"Never does the human soul appear so strong and noble as when it foregoes revenge and dares to forgive an injury.' -Edward Chapin

"The essence of knowledge is, having it, to apply it; not having it, to confess your ignorance.

- Confucius (551 BC - 479 BC)





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

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

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## 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 April 26, 2022, at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Road, Southfield, MI 48076

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: The next executive board meeting is scheduled for April 19, 2022 at 5:00 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2nd Floor, Southfield, MI

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

RETIREE MEETING SCHEDULE: The 2022 retiree meeting sched-



ule is as follows: April 18, 2022, June 20, 2022 August 15, 2022, October 17, 2022 (annual party) and December 19, 2022. All membership meetings will be held at the Local 80 hall. Please enter the hall through the ramp entrance. All meetings will start at 12:30 pm. Any questions regarding joining the Retirees Association please contact Steve Murzen at 248-652-0593.

SUB CHANGES: As of May 1, 2021 the sub fund has been raised to \$250 per credit for building trades journeyman. Bereavement & Jury

MULLIGAN

**TIM** Duty is now \$500 but you must be off 2 days. Effective immediately you will need to start sending your unemployment proof to

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

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

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

**CONDOLENCES:** We are deeply saddened by the passing of member Jeffrey Ostrander. Jeff passed away at the age of 54 on March 12, 2022. Our thoughts go out to his family.

THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES AYEAR IN ADVANCE: John McIsaac, Matt Shaffer, Michael Jones and Thomas Eckerle.

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

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

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

ADDRESS CHANGES: If you have a new address please make sure to let the hall know. We will take care of your account with the union hall which includes the Tradesman paper. You will need to call Benesys at 800-400-7710 and update your address with them as well, that is not done through the hall. ACCIDENTAL DEATH and DISMEMBERMENT INSURANCE FROM OUR INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Members who have their dues paid in advance (prior to the month of the accident) are eligible for accidental death and dismemberment benefits up to \$7,500.00. This benefit comes as a dues paying member of SMART International. WEEKEND WORKASSIGNMENTS: Saturday and Sunday work assignments. Please remember that when performing work on a Saturday or Sunday the steward must report it to the hall, give each member's name and obtain a form for signatures. Each member must sign the form along with the number of hours they worked. The completed form must be sent back to by hall by the end of the day on the following Monday. Weekend work assignments must be called or emailed into the hall prior to 3:00 pm on Friday.



# **Sheet Metal Workers**

## **Sheet Metal Workers Local 7**

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

The next Statewide Meeting will be, April 14, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. \*Zone 1- May 10<sup>th</sup> -6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 2 –May 17<sup>th</sup>-6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 3- May 11<sup>th</sup> -6:00 p.m. (Saginaw)

\*Zone 3- June 16<sup>th</sup> -6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)

\*Zone 4- May 10<sup>th</sup> -6:00 p.m.

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

SMART Local 7 Picnic: Local 7 will be hosting a picnic on Saturday, July 23, 2022, at the Double JJ Resort located at 5900 Water Road, Rothbury, MI 49452. If you are interested in making reservations at their campground, call their offices at 231-894-4444 or go to



their website at www.doublejj.com Let them know you are with Local 7. All Local 7 Members and their Families are invited to Attend. Renew Old Acquaintances and Make new ones with Games, Food, Beverages, Kids Games, and Door Prizes Etc .... view the Picnic Flyer on our local website www.sheetmetal7.org.

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 Please register on our website at

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

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

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

Zone 1 Retiree monthly meetings:

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

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

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

ZONE 2 Info: Work in Zone 2 remains steady and is looking to get even better. Please keep me informed of your employment status as we have work starting to pick up. Thank you to all of those members who were at the Disbursement meeting and also who came out to vote on the 18th. As always work safe and Thank You. Mike Adams

ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw) Work in the Zone 3 Saginaw area remains slow but work should start to pick up soon. If you need OSHA 30 or Mine safety for any upcoming work please contact me or the training center. Please make sure your union dues are up-to-date. Please update your contact information if you have moved or got a new phone number. Thank you, Joe Dotson

Zone 3 - Special Order of Business/ Wage Disbursement scheduled Friday April 1st at 6pm at 7677 Midland Freeland

ZONE 3 Info: (Traverse City) Work remains slow with a few members off in the area, and not picking up substantially until May. The wage disbursement meeting will be April 1st in Freeland at 6pm please check your mail to confirm. Make sure your dues and addresses are up to date for all mailings, especially for the information on Vision and Dental. We are still in the process of finding a permanent hall for the benefit of all members. If you have any questions, feel free to call me. (231) 590-1112 Regards, John Amalfitano



# **Local 292 Sheet Metal Workers**

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

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

Member meetings are held the second Wednesday of every month at The Knights of Columbus in Clawson. Check out the calendar tab at www.sheetmetal292.com for the location and date.

The E-Board/Stewards meeting is scheduled for April 26, 2022 at 6:00 pm at the Union Hall.

LOCAL 292 ONLINE STORE: We are excited to announce our brand-new merchandise online store. Purchased items will be shipped directly to you. Access through Sheetmetal292.com at the online store tab or https://sheetmetalworkers292.itemorder.com/sale. Check it out!

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

#### **RETIREES NOTICE:**



The retirees luncheon will be held Thursdays at: Tavern on the Main @ 12:30 p.m.

235 S Main, Clawson MI 48017. (248) 588-1696. It is located 3 blocks south of 14 Mile on the

east side of the street.Please contact Gary Simon at PAUL jcsimon49@comcast.net if you would like to be GUALDONI added to the retiree email list.

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

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

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

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

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

DUES: Membership dues are required to be paid in advance of the month for which they are due. The union hall is not open on Saturday or Sunday, therefore, if you pay dues on either of those days, it will not be processed until Monday. If you are on suspension warning, your dues are 60 days late. To avoid suspension, dues must be paid online or at the union hall by 4:00 p.m. on the last business day of the month. Payments received after 4:00 p.m. on the last business day of the month will not be processed and you WILL go suspended. All members are responsible for making sure any required fees, i.e. late fees or service fees, are included if paying online (sheetmetal292.com). UNION HALL HOURS: Hall office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. OUT OF WORK: If you become laid off, you Must complete an Out of Work List Registration /SUB form. SUB forms are available at the Union Hall and also through all shop stewards. This is the only way your name will be added to the Out of Work List. **TEXT BLAST NOTIFICATION:** We have recently updated the text blast contact list. All members have been added. If you haven't been receiving texts and would like to be added or wish to opt out of text blast, please contact the Union Hall and we will make the change. FACEBOOK & TWITTER: Be sure to check our website www.sheetmetal292.com; Facebook page - Sheet Metal Workers Local 292 and Twitter - @SMW292, for updates and information. NOTARY PUBLIC: For your convenience, we now have a Notary Public on site at the union hall. Notary services are free of charge to our members. THE 4 PLUS MEMBER PROGRAM: The "4-plus" member program is for any Local 292 member who has achieved four (or more) welding certifications. These certifications can be in any welding process. Members who qualify will receive a shirt (one shirt for every four certs) with the 4 Plus logo, along with hard hat stickers and bragging rights. If you would like to be a "4-plus" member contact your Local 292 Training Center at: 313-623-9390 (Dave) or Quintin 248.495.6764.

SAM

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(Continued next column)

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

ZONE 5 Info: Work in the U.P. remains the same with some projects starting up over the next few weeks. If you are in need of MSHA training contact me for the link to sign up. Reminder our next scheduled meeting will be on April 7, 2022 at 6pm located at the hall in Gwinn please be in attendance. Thank you, Greg Faust

SASMI Information - Zone 3 and 5: Underemployment - Filing for period 2021-B is from July 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021. Eligible members who worked less than 700 hours from July 1, 2021, through Dec. 31, 2021, may receive an underemployment benefit. Health and welfare benefits paid on your behalf will be deducted from your benefit. NOTE: Members who received an Emergency Advance Benefit must file for Underemployment to receive the remainder of that benefit for the stabilization period.

In addition, you must provide copies of all W-2 forms for the entire year of 2021.

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

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

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

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

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

Local 7 Officers:

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

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

James Callahan (Agent-Battle Creek/Kalamazoo) 269-569-9200

Mike Adams (Agent-Grand Rapids/Muskegon) 616-299-3752

Joe Dotson (Saginaw) 989-225-0095

John Amalfitano (Traverse City) 231-590-1112

Larry Kinzie (Agent-Flint) 810-836-3552

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

# Local 80 cont'd

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

2022 SAVE THE DATES:

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

Attention all Welders! We are looking for any member interested in a Saturday welding classes March 26th.

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

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

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

"We cannot live only for ourselves. A thousand fibers connect us with our fellow men; and among those fibers, as sympathetic threads, our actions run as causes, and they come back to us as effects.

-Herman Melville (1819 - 1891)

"A friend might well be reckoned the masterpiece of nature." -Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 - 1882)

"We would often be sorry if our wishes were gratified." -Aesop (620 BC - 560 BC)

"The death of democracy is not likely to be an assassination from ambush. It will be a slow extinction from apathy, indifference, and undernourishment.'

-Robert Maynard Hutchins

"It is better to be prepared for an opportunity and not have one than to have an opportunity and not be prepared."

-Whitney Young Jr.

"One of the hardest things in this world is to admit you are wrong. And nothing is more helpful in resolving a situation than its frank admission.

-Benjamin Disraeli (1804 - 1881)



Serving Southwest Michigan Since 1916

IBEW Local 131

KALAMAZOO - The next **General Membership Meeting** will be held April 4, 2022 at 6 p.m. The next Executive Board meeting will be held April 18, at 5 p.m. Mark your calendars! The fifth year class of IBEW Local 131 is hosting a golf outing May 14, 2022 at Pine View golf course in School Craft. More information to follow. Contact Eddie Leboeuf with questions e.leboeuf.1985@gmail

.com 269-580-0767 Work Outlook: Pfizer Maps Project will begin to start having boots on the ground near the end of March to first part of April. Abbott Labs is seeking RFP's for a new dryer tower to be constructed sometime this year. We will need additional help from late spring into summer. If you are aware of interested electricians working in our jurisdiction, please have them visit www.powering kalamazoo.com or call the office.

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

#### If you believe we do not have your email address or correct cell phone no., please email Christine, cbohms@ibew131.com

**Dues pricing** – The price for dues in 2022 is \$40/month. If you're unsure about your balance, please call the Hall for the exact amount or email Christine. If your dues ticket reads paid through Feb. 2022, your dues are not current; please contact the Hall.

At the time of this writing, the following members are three months or more behind in counter dues payments: Anthony Falvo, Easton Lovell, Nick McKenna, Jason Streit

We have finalized our automated dues reminders; these reminders will be sent ahead of pos-



**IBEW Local 557** SAGINAW - Union News-Good Afternoon brothers and sisters! Deadline for apprentice applications has come and gone. The local received a good number of applicants. We wish

them all the best of luck with aptitude testing and interviews.

Local elections are coming up! Nominations will be in May and vote tally in June. You must be present at the May meeting or submit a written confirmation prior to the meeting. Good luck to all those who decide to run!

Apprentices should be on the lookout for new policy changes. Apprentices will need to buckle down on their school work and have all book payments and homework done and abide by all school policies. Other than that – enjoy the lost sleep and extra daylight!

IMPORTANT - The Service-Learning Policy has been reinstated for apprentices. Apprentices will now once again be expected to be in attendance of all Union Meetings or make up the absence. This change was approved at the March 21st JATC Board meeting. This change will immediately be in effect for the April Union Meeting.

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

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

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

**SIGNING-**BOOK Many Locals throughout the vigilant checking the Job Line if State of Michigan will continue to accept fax/email initial book signings. If you are interested in this reciprocated benefit and would like to be on some out-oftown Books, please call the hall to arrange this. If you are a Saginaw member and receive a lay off, please come to the hall and sign Book 1 in-person. WORK OUTLOOK- Van Herweg will be starting work at Handley school, Saginaw County Animal Shelter and the new Value City Furniture soon. Nelson Electric also got the St. Louis Schools. Hang in there Beef and Dougiewe're rooting for you over at Master in Caro. **ELECTIONS-** 2022 brings with it Election time! If you would like to stay informed and contribute to labor friendly candidates, please visit www.ibew.org/ IBEWPAC. It's going to take all of us to contribute to labor friendly candidates so please do your part to ensure our future yields labor positive results.



HEALTH CARE-We would like to inform our members that any purchased at-home Covid test is now reimbursable through the Health Plan and Blue Cross. The Michigan Electrical Employee's Health Plan continues to cover 100% of the costs related to testing for COVID-19.

During this pandemic, remote care is encouraged and Blue Cross members can call the 24-Hour Nurse Line at 800-117-BLUE. You may also want to inquire if your primary care provider offers telemedicine.

Also, if you used Expressscripts for your RX needs, BCBS has opted to use Optum RX in its place. This mainly applies to members who have their RX delivered to their homes. You may need to contact Optum to make sure the change is seamless. This is also part of the reason we were issued new BCBS cards in January.

Don't forget to schedule your annual physical with your doctor. By completing your annual physical, you could catch a health concern early and also help keep the cost of health care down. Registering on the Blue Cross/Blue Shield website is highly recommended. Please take the time to visit www.bcbsm.com. Upon registering you can take the Free Health Assessment test and find instant results that can lead to living a healthy lifestyle.

**BLUE CROSS APP-Down**load the Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan app for your smartphone. Search for "BCBSM" on the Google Play app or Apple store. Benefits to utilizing the app include: instant access to EOB's, a virtual ID card on your phone, information on deductibles, explanations of coverage and other helpful tips related to your Health Care coverage. EOB's can be downloaded to smart phones or computers and used to substantiate WEX receipt requests.

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

JOB CALLS- Please stay 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.



#### IBEW 58

DETROIT - The next General Membership Meeting the Next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 19, 2022. Dinner begins at 5:30 and the meeting will start at 6:30.

VACATION FUND: Disbursement from the Vacation Fund is anticipated to be transferred to your PNC Bank Stored Value Card or if you elected, Direct Deposited into your checking or savings accounts, on or around May 23, 2022. Please check the listed contributions from your employers with your pay records for accuracy. A list of contributions may be obtained from the Benefit Office Website, www.ewjbt.org by logging into your personal information and clicking My Benefits then Vacation Benefits. If you require a paper statement, please contact the Benefit Office for a printout. If there is an error, contact the Benefit Office at (586) 575-9200 ext. 212.

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

You may check your Stored Value utilization history by logging on to www.pncpaycard.com and by entering your 16-digit card number listed on the front of the card and the last four digits of your Social Security Number, also referred to as your Account Access Code (or AAC for short). Customer Service can be reached by telephone at (866) 453-5071.

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

Local 58 Dues Information: Dues can be paid on the APP/ Website. If you have not enrolled in the new dues' payment system - you will need to do so before you can pay. 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. NOTE – If you are paying on the App and do not want to receive a Reinstatement fee for 1s quarter, you need to pay by March 28. You can call the hall and pay by 3:00 pm on March 31. If you mail a check it needs to be received in the office by March 31.

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

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

The 13th Annual Local 58 Detroit River Walleye Tournament will be Saturday, May 7, 2022, beginning at 7:00 AM until 3:00 PM -Rain or Shine! Fish Fry following weigh-in at the Union Hall. \$25 per person, 4 people to a boat, 3 prizes awarded including Big Fish Contest. Fish Fry following weigh-in 3:30 pm at the Union Hall. Entry form and rules are available at the Hall and on our website www.ibewlocal58.org, Last day to register is Wednesday, May 4, 2022. AFL-CIO affiliated Local Union families and friends are welcome!

The Jerry Gaudi Memorial Golf Outing will take place on June 3, 2022. More information to follow in the next paper.

Members of the Community Service Committee: The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 12 at 5:30 PM. The Wobbly Kitchen is up and running again and we are assisting them every 2nd and 4th Sunday with food prep and distribution at Cass Park. We are asking volunteers to show up at the hall at 8 am to help with the Wobbly Kitchen program. To get involved with future community service projects contact Mike Conflitti or Rob Z at the union hall. Local 58 is very active with community service in the Metro Detroit area and has a variety of upcoming projects that require the help of volunteers and



IBEW 275

COOPERSVILLE - Dear Brothers and Sisters, the work outlook remains unchanged from what we've been reporting over the last few months. We are expecting some more definitive news on the potash project in Hersey within the next month or so. We are also hearing of a couple new larger projects that may begin pretty soon as well.

On March 14, Local 275 and our NECA contractors sat down for negotiations for the Inside Wireman's Agreement. Both sides agreed to a two-year contract with a 4% total package increase the first year and a 4% total package increase the second year.

There may be an increase to health care this year and that amount won't be known until our next MEEHP Trustee meeting. Once that amount is determined, we may proceed with allocation of the June 1st wage increase that I am confident we can do at April's monthly meeting.

Wild game tickets are still available at the Hall. This year's dinner is scheduled for May 5th @ 6:00 p.m. in Muskegon. Call Walter at the Hall for more information and to reserve your tickets today!

Any Members who are not currently registered to vote will soon receive a voter registration letter and registration form in the mail from the Local. As always, this will be another important election as far as state government and labor-friendly candidates are concerned.

At the time of this writing, the following members are three or more months behind in dues: Joanna Gunnett, Antonio Zizumbo and Robby Engelsman. Please remember that re-sign is the 10<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup> of each month. If your re-sign is not in by the 16<sup>th</sup>, you will be rolled off the Book. You may contact Geoff at the Hall if you need assistance.

Regular meetings for the EWMC and RENEW committees are every month on the 4th Tuesday @ 6:00pm at the Union Hall in Coopersville and/or via zoom.

sible late dues. You may receive a message via text or email if you have not tendered your most current I.O. Dues payments. Dues payments can also be made online; to log in, use your Last Name and Card Number.

We have also now integrated Death Benefit and Retirement payments into the online portal, you should expect to start seeing them accounted for in your month dues payments, both at the window and in the form of online payments.

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

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

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

FROMTHEAPPRENTICE-SHIP: \*\*Code Update Classes: it is now required for Journeyman to pay in advance to hold your spot in the Code Update Class. We require 48 hours' notice for cancelations if you need to reschedule for another available Code Update Course.\*\*

Drug Test Renewals: Please keep track of your drug test expiration date through www.safe2 work4you.com. It is your responsibility to stay current on your drug test. Please contact Nicole (269) 388-4434 to get your authorization form printed for you to pick up. If you don't want to come to the Hall to pick it up, please email Nicole and request your form to be emailed to you. office@kalamazoojatc.com.

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

Retirees: We are working on updating the Retirees List for Julius, if you believe we do not have a good phone number for (Continued next column)

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

**CONTACT NUMBERS-**Michigan Electrical Employee Pension fund and Michigan Health Plan (517) 321-7502 or (855) 633-4584. Fax (517) 321-7508, website mielectrical health.org In Solidarity, Breanna DePottey, **Press Secretary** 

## **IBEW 131, continued**

you please call the hall and contact us.

Retiree Lunches all start at 11 A.M. at the following Locations: April 20<sup>th</sup>, La Rue's, 6375 Stadium Drive

May 18th, Niko's Landing, 5852 King Hwy, Kalamazoo June 15th, Julianna's, 205 Lake St., Kalamazoo July 20th, Red Lobster, 6535 S. Westnedge, Portage Brian O'Donnell, Business Manager/

**Financial Secretary** 



Make checks payable to: Local 58 Benevolent Fund Mail or Bring to: 1358 Abbott St., Detroit, MI 48226 Attn: Michael Bellhorr For further information call 313.963.2130 /kl-opeiu42afl-cic

helping hands. Contact the Union Hall (313) 963.2130 for further information to volunteer or participate.

Members of the Entertainment Committee- The next meeting of the Entertainment Committee will be Tuesday, April 12, 2022, following the Community Service Committee meeting that starts at 5:30 pm.

EWMC of Southeastern MI The next chapter meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 18, 2022 at 6pm. This will be an in-person meeting with a ZOOM option. Please make sure your cell phone number and your email address are up to date. The meeting information will be sent out as soon as available. If you are not receiving the notices, please make sure that your information is updated here at the hall.

Please bring any suggestions that you have for EWMC involvement and engagement. What can we safely participate in that continues to promote the IBEW in the community? Thank you to everyone who participated in the Developing Kids STEAM event on St Patrick's Day. It was a fun hands-on time with the kids. These kids are our future and they need to know that we believe in them. Stay tuned for more volunteer opportunities in the near future. Also, if you are a DPS/DPSCD alumni, please add your name to our list for future events. You can contact Byron Osbern or Felicia Wiseman with your information. Solidarity Forever.

The RENEW Committee meeting will be on Tuesday, April 26, 2022 at 5:00 PM.

The Safety Committee meeting will be on Monday, April 11, 2022 at 5:30 PM.

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

The Political Action Committee (PAC) meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month Via Zoom. To be added to our email list please contact Jeannette Bradshaw (313-408-1287). PAC contributions can be made through the APP, and at the Union Hall. You can contribute more than the \$4 dollars that is suggested on your quarterly dues, but you cannot exceed \$175.00 per calendar year. The loss of our deduction cut our resources in half, and we would like to assist local candidates and our members looking to run for office.

Local 58's Women's Committee- Our next regular meeting is Thursday, April 28th at 5:30 pm at the hall and on zoom. Please watch for emails with further updates and zoom info. Coin number 3 in the "She needed a hero" set is now available. Hurry and get yours before they are all gone! They are \$25 a piece, funds raised are for the ARC Scholarship. PayPal, Venmo, and of course cash is available for payment. The 4th coin in the set will be released at a later date! Applications for the ARC Scholarship are now available! If you have a dependent that is heading to or enrolled in college have them, try for this Scholarship! We also award a scholarship for a whole year of school to one of our apprentices! The due date will be the end of May. Applications are available at the hall and on the website. If you have any questions don't hesitate to call.

You can Email us at: 58Womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org, or call committee chairs Angela Panicucci (586) 291-8014 or Kayla Pauli with any questions.

Follow us on Instagram @ibewomen58; Check us out on Facebook Local 58 Women's Committee.

Local 58 Senior Softball Team – Now that springtime is upon us, we will be starting practicing soon with games beginning May 9, 2022. Weather permitting. Games will be played again at Shelby Twp Ford Fields on 23 Mile Rd. just west of Van Dyke. 10 am is the game times. If you have questions or want more information, please call Joe Schraufnagel at 586-255-1205 or Gerry Cassani at 586-804-8026.

IBEW Local 58 Retirees Association Retirees Association: As things unfold, the Local 58 staff are back full time in person at the (Continued next column)

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

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

## IBEW 58, con't

hall, and masks are optional for staff, and temperatures and signing in has been suspended. It's very likely that the retirees will have a board meeting in April, on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 10 a.m. in the lower level of the union hall.

We are planning to have the Annual Pin Party on April 30, 2022. Details to follow. It's still appropriate to be cautious out and about. It may be practical to wear a mask in places that include large groups of people, like grocery stores. As we return to a new normal, our comfort zones will definitely adjust accordingly. We are still in covid mode, and it will probably be quite a few months before we see the end of the omicron variant. Let's hope it the last one we experience. Happy Spring!

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

IBEW Pension: Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: Jack Casad and Douglas King.

Members that have Passed Away: Doris Buckenberger, Mother-in-law to Business Representative of IBEW Local 58, Technician I William "Bill" Green; Frederick Hansen, Pension member, 53 year IBEW membership; Leo Jaroneski Jr., Pension member, 52 year IBEW membership, Father to JIW Jason Jaroneski; John McCrea, Pension member, 70 year IBEW membership; Timothy McGahey, Pension member, 50 year IBEW membership; Virgil Pokorski, Pension member, 47 year IBEW membership; Pension member, 44 year IBEW membership, Brother-in-law to JIW's Mark Hagemann & Ronald Merritt. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss.



**IBEW** 

LOCAL

906

UPPER PENINSULA-

MARQUETTE UNIT-First

IRÓN MOUNTAIN UNIT-

ESCANABA UNIT-Second

**OFFICIAL NOTICE OF** 

NOMINATIONS AND ELEC-

TION. The nominations for all of-

ficers of Local Union 906 will be

held on May 7th, 2022, beginning

at 1 p.m. during the General

Membership Meeting being held

at the Masonic Center, 128 W.

Washington St., Marquette, MI.

nated must be present during the

nominations or provide a written

and signed statement that they

will accept the nomination. No

member may be a candidate for

more than one office. Anyone nomi-

nated for more than one office must

choose the office for which they

will be a candidate. Nominations

will proceed in the order of offices

listed in the IBEW Constitution

cording Secretary, Treasurer,

Business Manager, Executive

of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Re-

corder and 2 Executive Commit-

tee slots are available in the

President, Vice President, Re-

Additionally Unit positions

whose term shall be 3 years:

Board

Anyone desiring to be nomi-

**IBEW LOCAL 906** 

Second Tuesday

Wednesday

MEETINGS

Tuesday

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

Reminder: April 1, 2022 is the beginning of the second Quarter for your dues. Please check your dues receipt. The \$10.00 processing fee for Members in Arrears goes into effect on April 1, 2022.

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



INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD BAY CITY MICHIGAN OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS **IBEW Local 692** 

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

Executive Board Meeting. The April Executive Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on Monday, April 18, 2022.

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

Thank you to all members and their families who joined us to participate in the Bay City St. Patrick's Day Parade. It was a wonderful day.

Work Report. The jobs our signatory contractors are performing in our jurisdiction are as follows:

Work on the two Bay City bridges is ongoing with a large-scale remodel of the Liberty bridge followed by the construction of a new Independence Bridge in the spring. Clements has secured the Liberty Bridge. Master Electric is finishing up the new Meijer store in West Branch and will begin the new Isabella County Jail located in Mt. Pleasant later this year. The new jail is seeing some delays, we will keep you posted. Master continues work at Wise guy Farms in Loomis.

Ted's Electric was awarded the Beaverton Schools lighting retrofit project. John's Electric in Alpena has slowed considerably and is now waiting for summer school work. Countyline is continuing their work at the Cheboygan Wastewater Plant. Goyette Electrical has secured a decent job at PFAS mitigation sites in Oscoda. Consumer's Energy has awarded the re-lighting project at the service center on Wilder Rd to Escon Group. Consumers is also continuing with some dam work. Northern Valley Electrical and J. Ranck Electric are currently working a shutdown at the LaFarge cement plant in Alpena.

Nelson Electric out of Local 557 has secured a nice project at two of the high rises in Bay City. Wilkinson Mineral and SK Siltron both have large projects coming up in the local with J. Ranck securing a large portion of that work. Ranck is on site at SK Siltron with rumors that Escon may also have a piece of work out there. As soon as we have an update on manpower for these projects, we will let you know.

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

#### In Solidarity, Ryan Charney

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

Organizers Report. 692's Organizing team continues to reach out to unrepresented workers in our jurisdiction about the benefits of joining the IBEW. The second quarter of 2022 will see demand for local manpower increase considerably. The ability to provide adequate manpower to larger-scale projects will only strengthen our contractors' chances of securing this work. The IBEW work outlook looks strong statewide as well, with larger projects coming to Detroit, Lansing, West Michigan and elsewhere. If you'd like to register on any other IBEW out-of-work lists, please reach out to the hall. Bay City commissioners recently adopted a Responsible Contracting ordinance that will ensure projects funded by taxpayers are completed by reputable firms. Responsible Contracting language prioritizes criteria such as workplace safety, the utilization of a local workforce, and adhering to licensing and permitting requirements when awarding contracts on larger-scale construction projects and city contracts. No longer will cost be the only criteria when considering contractors looking to secure work in the city. As with any new process, there will undoubtably be some growing pains. 692 agents will continue to assist our signatory contractors in navigating the new bidding process included in this important ordinance. IBEW organizers in the State of Michigan are currently involved in a campaign against United Electrical Contractors, a large merit shop based in Lansing. A Federal EEOC lawsuit has been filed by six former United employees due to the unfair treatment, discriminatory and blatantly racist behavior they experienced at the hands of management. The IBEW stands in solidarity with the United Six+ (the "+" has been added as more than the initial six former employees have joined the lawsuit). We also stand up for all other working people who demand accountability from employers who fail to respect their human rights. Local 692 continues to join other locals in protest to demand contractor accountability and promote dignity for all working people within our industry. Please follow the Justice for the United Six campaign on Facebook, and do everything in your power to keep our jobsites safe, inclusive, and free from discrimination.

at the Hall.

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

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

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



April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 6:00pm.



**IBEW Local 498** 

TRAVERSE CITY - Meetings.

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

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

Negotiations-Local 498 ratified the proposed contract changes at the last regular called membership meeting. The increase to the total package for the 1st year will be \$2.05/hr and \$1.80/ hr for the second year. We do not have an allocation amount yet as we do not know what or if we will have an increase to the health plan. The Health Plan meeting will be in April, so the allocation meeting will be at the May regular meeting.

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

**Scholarship** – Past charter member Brother Bob Dost has a scholarship 'Robert Paul Dost

#### THE BUILDING TRADESMAN March 25, 2022 13

Meeting will be held on Monday, a month March 28th, 2022, at 4:30 pm.

The Next Retiree Club Meeting will be Tuesday, April  $5^{th}$ , 2022 at 9:00am.

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

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

2022 - Monthly Dues - Journeyman \$43.70 a month - Apprentices, CE, Sound Tech \$40.70

NON ELECTRICAL

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

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

#### **Gregory Remington Business Manager**

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

**IBEW LOCAL 252** 

**IBEW Local 252** 

ANNARBOR-THE MAY MEMBERSHIP MEETING HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED TO MAY 18, 2022 AT 6:00 P.M.

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

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

1. CPR/FIRST AID: Tuesdays, June 7 & 14

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

AT&T Discount: Union members can save up to 15% on the

**IBEW Local 948** Meeting will be held on Monday,

Our March Executive Board

Marquette, Iron Mountain and Escanaba Units.

In order to be nominated, a member must have a minimum of 2 years of continuous good standing in Local Union 906. Good standing means that the member is current in their payment of dues and has been for 2 years preceding the nominations. (Apprentices cannot be nominated or elected to any office.)

The election shall be conducted by mail ballot and they shall be counted beginning at 10 a.m. on June 11, 2022 at the Hall located at 119 S. Front St. Marquette, MI.

All members in good standing shall be mailed a ballot not less than 15 days prior to the above specified date. Ballots received after the close of business on June 10, 2022 will not be counted

If you do not receive a ballot in the mail by May 28th please call the election judge immediately at 906-869-1685 and request a replacement ballot.

In the event a run-off election is required, same shall be held on (21 days after the election), 2022. The same rules shall apply to the run-off election as were applicable to the regular election.

All officers shall be installed and begin their 3 year terms at the regular meeting of the Local Union in July, 2022.

A detailed Notice of Election will be mailed to all members and will include observer and protest rules and guidelines.

A reminder that the monthly dues are \$40.00. We have received some at the old rate of \$39.00 and a few members are overpaying. This makes the bookwork difficult. Please if you have a service that pays your dues monthly inform them of the correct amount.

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

If you have any information you would like to see noted in this article or something you believe should be published please email the Hall with your request. Ibew906@gmail.com.

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

Brian Klele 989.252.9225 Brendon Baranek 989.327.4131

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

2022 Dues: Monthly \$41.20 • Quarterly \$123.60 • 6 months \$247.20 • Yearly \$494.40

To avoid a reinstatement fee, please remember to keep your dues current. This year's party scheduled for Friday, March 11, 2022 has been rescheduled to Friday, October 7, 2022. It will be located at the DoubleTree in Bay City. Please mark your calendars and make every effort to attend this great event to honor our retirees!

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

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

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

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

www.ibew692.org • Health Plan 517-321-7502

•www.mielectricalhealth.org • Michigan Pension Fund 517-321-7502 www.michiganelectrical.org

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

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

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 ibew@local498.net Thank you!

Important numbers for you to write in your address book:

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

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

(New address Michigan Pension and Health Plan)

TIC International Corporation, 6525 Centurion Drive, Lansing, MI 48917 NEBF 1-301-556-4300 NEAP 1-301-556-4300 IO Pension 1-202-833-7000

**DUES RATES** 

Jan 1, 2021 – No increase. Still remains \$140.10/Quarter

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

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

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

monthly service charges of qualified wireless plans, or unlimited calling for \$15/mo. for AT&T Wireless Home Phone plans. Visit UnionPlus.org/ATT with discount code 4924966.

Local 252 Website & App: The Local's website www.ibew252.org is up and running. There is also a Local 252 App available to download. Search "IBEW 252" in the app store. You must create a new login and password to access the Members Only section. Your login for the old website is no longer valid.

**RETIREMENT:** The NEBF and IBEW Pension Benefit Fund applications can take 3 months to process but can be filled out as early as 6 months before your planned retirement effective date. If you are nearing retirement, please contact Alana at the Union Hall to start your paperwork AT LEAST 3 months before your planned retirement date.

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

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

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

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

"Avoid having your ego so close to your position that when your position falls, your ego goes with it.'

-Colin Powell (1937 - 2021)

"He who carries out one good deed acquires one advocate in his own behalf, and he who commits one transgression acquires one accuser against himself. Repentance and good works are like a shield against calamity."

-The Talmud

"A bear, however hard he tries, grows tubby without exercise." –Winnie the Pooh

"Nothing is a waste of time if you use the experience wisely." - Rodin (1840 - 1917)

"Get your facts first, then you can distort them as you please" -Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)

"Politics is the art of preventing people from sticking their noses in things that are properly their business.'

-Paul Valéry (1871 - 1945)

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.'

-Martin Luther King Jr. (1929 - 1968)

"Real freedom lies in wildness, not in civilization." - Charles Lindbergh (1902 - 1974)

"Perseverance is a great element of success. If you only knock long enough and loud enough at the gate, you are sure to wake up somebody

-Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807 - 1882)



**Elevator Constructors Local 36** DETROIT - ALL MEM-BERSARE INFORMED that our next regular Membership Meeting is planned for Monday, March 28, 2022, at 5:30 pm at 1640 Porter Street Detroit, MI. **Correction** from last Article the April Meeting (not the March Meeting), will have nominations for Officers of the Local, per Article XI of the Locals Constitution and By-Laws. The April Meeting will be on the 25<sup>th</sup> and will a Special Called Meeting. Keep watching your email for changes as we are seeking a larger venue.

have the new We Internationals Constitution and By-Laws (Revised edition October 2021) at the Hall, Article XXVII(Safety) was created. Your Company's Safety policy states the same, so always follow Your Company's Safety policies.

Attention all Apprentices, monthly OJL forms are now online at NEIEP which must be completed before the 9th day of the next month. If you are working out of our jurisdiction, laid off or a probationary, OJT forms must be filled out and turned into the Hall. This is a requirement of the Department of Labor. Reminder to All that the NEIEP website is available to All interested in Reviewing and Continuing Education. Any apprenticeship certifications missed, or noncurrent can be retaken if we can build a class as part of continuing education program through NEIEP. CPR/First-aid OSHA, Scaffolding, are available to all members though some classes may require fees. Go to the NEIEP website for the status of your apprenticeship. Continue to watch your NEIEP and personal emails for further information, this is a responsibility of your apprenticeship. The Local is seeking Instructors for NEIEP, anyone interested please contact the Hall.

Attention all Members, a Motion was made to have a picnic this summer at our October meeting and was passed by the body at the November meeting, save the date of July 30th, 2022. There is a need for members to assist with the Picnic from start to finish as this will help all enjoy the time with families and friends. The Local also has committees that NEED members to run/assist. Safety, Organizing, Mentoring, Golf outing and Picnic, please call the hall! Local elections are coming this year, members participation keeps the Local moving in a positive direction. The Locals Constitution and By-Laws has changes that will be read starting at our February meeting with Three consecutive reading at Monthly meetings. The Second reading will be at our March meeting. Per Article XIX (Amendments) of the Locals Constitution and By-Laws. All should have received there W2s from your companies. be advised the Local has sent out the Locals W-2 statement and letter. Your next quarter card and W2s must be taken care of before the First day of the second quarter Per Article XIV in the Locals Constitution and By-Laws. All Testing must be done according to Code and your Companies Maintenance Control Program. Document all tests that are due and only tasks you have completed. Keep all job logs current with this information. When you need assistance, technical or for safety, request, receive and document. Check your paystubs weekly, are you getting what you put in? Paper copies can be requested as stated in Article XI, Par. 2. Forms are available at the Hall. Check your recent pay stubs for proper Holiday pay and hours All Members, Local 36, Local 85 and the EIWPF are holding outreaches sessions on Monday nights, 6:00 – 8:00 pm. Reviewing and answering any questions pertaining to Michigan and Detroit Elevator Codes. Contact the Hall if you are interested. The link will be sent to you for either online or phone participation. We are holding code book layout sessions monthly, call the hall if interested. Maintenance Control Programs (MCP) reference the Codes, are you being Code compliant? Know what the MCP is referencing for you the Licensed Journeyperson. If anyone is interested in a class for OEI train-



**Roofers Local 149** DETROIT – Attention. This paper is to serve as an official notice to the membership.

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

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

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

**Detroit Vacation Checks** (quarterly). The Detroit Union Hall will open at 5:00am, Friday, April 22, 2022 to distribute vacation checks. The Hall will also be open from 8:00 until Noon, Saturday, April 23, 2021 for anyone who cannot make it down Friday. Detroit Members will need to contact the Union Hall if you what the check mailed.

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

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

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

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

Union Dues. Make sure you pay your monthly dues before the end of every month to stay in good standing. 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.

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

Local 149 Roofers &

Waterproofers

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

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

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

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

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

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

MID-MICHIGANAREA-Clio Office. The next Mid-Michigan regular membership meeting scheduled for Tue., April 12, 2022 at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420.

Notice of Election - Mid-Michigan Negotiating Committee. The following members are running for the committee: Robert Coats, Jesse Wangler, Frank Ostrander, Douglas Heyd

Three to be elected. The election will take place



THE SIX-STORY headquarters for the United Auto Workers, aka "Solidarity House," is undergoing repairs by trades workers after a third-floor fire. Completed in 1951 along East Jefferson on Detroit's riverfront, the building encompasses more than 165,000-square-feet of space, and underwent multiple subsequent additions and mechanical renovations over the years.

# **Union trades bring their skills** to UAW's Solidarity House

A devastating fire on July 13, 2019, at the headquarters of the UAW - "Solidarity House" on East Jefferson Avenue in Detroit - has brought about needed repairs currently undertaken by Barton Malow, its subcontractors, and building trades union workers.

The third floor fire - whose cause has remained undetermined - forced UAW staff from the building to other locations, and ushered in the building trades, who have had a significant amount of work to do.

The work consists of "interior and exterior renovation, rehabilitation and modernization of UAW Solidarity House building, and additions," says Barton Malow. "The project has been broken out into two separate design and bid scopes" consisting of:

•Core and shell including but not necessarily limited to the new building envelope and approximately 9,040 square feet of additions. Also included are the main HVAC, plumbing, and electrical systems.

•Interior fit-out of the existing building and new additions. Also included are the secondary HVAC, plumbing, and electrical branch systems.

**TRADES WORKERS fit out** the bottom of the structure of what will hold the UAW sign on the front of the building.



# **Young union women welders** exemplify WIC week at Andy Egan

(Continued from Page 1) most organized weld booths. are just a great thing to get into

If you have any questions please call the Hall at 313-961-6093

## Local 36 cont'd

ing, please call the Hall so we can build a potential class list.

Reminder, Keep your State of Michigan, and City of Detroit licenses current. Sign up to receive Safety Alerts at IUEC.org for safety and product alerts to your phone. All Construction and Modernization work is Teamwork. Cab work complete is the work of our Elevator Constructors, Article IV Par. 2(j), cross the threshold and it is our work! Keep the hall informed of all jobs and have permit as required before starting. Per Article X par. 2 of the NEBA agreement all jobs shall be manned in accordance with this Article, any discrepancies with this ratio you must inform the Hall immediately. These are violations of the NEBAAgreement and International Constitution and By-Laws. Inform the hall on any employment status changes as we need to inform the International. When your Company Assignment takes you outside our jurisdiction it is your responsibility to report in to that Local before you start, as stated in the International Constitution and By-Laws.

All Members, you are obligated to keep current with the Local your contact information, including address, phone, and email information, notify any changes including company phone numbers. Your company should take care of all business during regular working hours, after hours phone calls are not acceptable.

Get well wishes are extended to all our Brothers and Sisters who are on our sick list. Be Safe mind, as labor does the body.' and Be Healthy!

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

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

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

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

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

The publication above is as 3/21/2022, 11:00a.m.

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

"There is nobody so irritating as somebody with less intelligence and more sense than we have.

-Don Herold

"Procrastination is the thief of time."

-Edward Young (1683 - 1765) "The successful revolutionary is a statesman, the unsuc-

cessful one a criminal.

-Erich Fromm (1900 - 1980)

"Live so that your friends can defend you but never have to.

-Arnold H. Glasgow

"Man invented language to satisfy his deep need to complain.

-Lily Tomlin (1939 - )

"Good questions outrank easy answers.'

-Paul A. Samuelson

"Difficulties strengthen the -Seneca (5 BC - 65 AD)

If anything about her first days in the shop was intimidating, Lampe says it was working side-by-side with so many great welders who had years more experience than her. "My confidence in myself has definitely grown," she says. "At first, I was nervous, but that became my motivation to show people what I could do. I love challenging myself, knowing that I can improve every single day on something. I feel like we surprise people every day."

In some instances, the women have been able to do things that would be physically impossible for their male colleagues. Lampe shared an example where, because of her size, she was able to complete a weld in a tight space that no one else could access. "We're not very big," says Conway, and advises other women not to worry about their size when considering a career in construction. "People often think that to do this job, you have to be super strong. But we have all sorts of equipment that will help you lift heavy things, and no one should be doing that much heavy lifting anyway.'

Organizational skills and attention to detail are other strengths both women feel they bring to their work, joking that they hate clutter and have the

Their supervisor, Foreman Shane Shook, agrees. "They are hard workers with a focused attention to detail," he says. "Both women are driven to excel and want to be great at their craft. They are respected for what they want to accomplish and have been welcome additions to our shop and trade."

When asked what advice they would give other women considering a career in the trades, without hesitation both Conway and Lampe replied in unison, "Do it. Just do it." Lampe pointed out that even if you don't have experience, there are many people willing to teach you a skilled trade. "It might be hard at first," she says. "But in five years, it will be worth it. And your team will take care of you because they do not want to lose you."

Conway adds, "The trades

Even if people are telling you to go to a four-year college, you can give the trades a try. You can learn a lot of stuff and make a lot of money really quickly. You keep those skills forever and, and if you're good at what you do, you'll always have a job."

(From the Andy J. Egan Co.)

"History teaches us that men and nations behave wisely when they have exhausted all other alternatives.'

-Abba Eban (1915 - 2002)

"Do not regret growing older. It is a privilege denied to many.

-Unknown

"Necessity never made a good bargain."

-Benjamin Franklin (1706 -1790)







# FROM OUR CORNER.

At the intersection of Congress and Griswold, on the 26th floor of the iconic Buhl Building, Ven Johnson Law is investing in Detroit — on behalf of hard workers like you. From our recently renovated offices, we're fighting the good fight on behalf of labor unions throughout Michigan with decades of experience in personal injury cases, vehicle crash cases, product liability and more. So if you find yourself backed into a corner, remember you're not alone. KNOW JUSTICE. KNOW PEACE.

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# Outdoors

Tagging timber, humorously

#### By Kathleen Lavey Michigan Department of **Natural Resources**

An important job for foresters in the Michigan Department of Natural Resources is marking the boundaries of timber sales that will take place on state forest land. They spray-paint trees to do it.

And that's where one of the timber sales Patrick Mohney was marking a few years back got its unique name.

Mohney's black lab, Betty, loved to go to the woods with him, back when foresters were allowed to take their dogs to work in the field. But Betty often rushed ahead of Mohney on the trail and got herself into the line of spray paint fire.

The sale's unique name lives in historic records at the DNR's Forest Resources Division: "Painted Dog Aspen."

There are many other timber sale names, just as colorful, inventive or just plain wacky.

Some of the current timber sales names include the "Ghostbuster Cut," "Scrupulous Aspen" and "72 Decibels Mix" in the Traverse City Forest Management Unit and "Pronto Pup Pine" in the Pigeon River Country State Forest

Folks in Gaylord may have been thinking about the office kitchenette when naming the "Teak Kettle Mix," the "Coffee Pot Mix" and "Microwave Mixed Pine."

Creatively naming timber sales is a tradition passed down through the history of logging. A good name helps identify the type of timber to be harvested (The "aspen" part of Painted Dog Aspen, for example) or its relative geographic location.

While some government entities that sell timber have dull naming conventions that include locations and numbers only, DNR foresters get more leeway to follow tradition and exercise creativity.

"It's been going on as long as I've been around, and well before that," said Mohney, who now works as the manager of the Forest Resources Division's Gladwin unit. "Some foresters are like, 'I



TIMBER FROM STATE forests in Michigan provides wood products Michiganders need. Michigan Department of Natural Resources forest management techniques are certified sustainable by two separate, outside organizations. MDNR photo

some of them put a lot of thought by two outside organizations. into it."

Sometimes a whole office will jump on a theme. A Disney spree in the Shingleton unit led to names like "Little Mermaple,""Sprucetopia" and "Inside Out Maple." A pirate theme yielded names such as "High Rollaway Treasures.'

Mohney admits he has themed sale names as well. He recalls one season of marking timber in excessively damp weather. "My boots were always wet, so there was a whole year of sales that I titled after soups," he said. "Another year it was all music artists that I like."

In 2020, the DNR prepared 54,222 acres of state forest and national forest timber for sale, a tiny fraction of the state's forest holdings of just under 4 million acres. Harvested areas provide habitat for many types of wildlife that cannot thrive in deep woods such as grouse and elk.

That same year, the DNR planted 1.8 million trees and works to facilitate natural regeneration in forests that have been harvested. DNR forestry pracjust threw a name out there.' But tices are certified as sustainable of State Foresters).

Foresters have a lot to remember. Tori Irving, who works out of the DNR's Shingleton management unit in the Upper Peninsula, said that besides allowing



**MICHIGAN Department of Natu**ral Resources foresters use spray paint to mark the boundaries of a timber sale.

(Photo credit: Hans Isaacson/ National Association

for creativity, naming conventions serve foresters as a memory boost, since planning for timber sales takes place a couple of years in advance.

"As foresters, we touch thousands of acres of land if it's an inventory or a timber sale," she said. "The only way that you can remember it is by using something funny that happened or something that is unique to the area. You lost your boot in a swamp or you get your snowmobile buried."

Remembering the type of forest is important, since foresters serve as the expert to assist loggers who may be interested in bidding on the timber sale and carrying out the logging operation.

"You have all the data and the inventory, that's all on paper,' Irving said. "The name helps bring a memory so that you can see that forest. You're the expert they're asking about it."

A couple of unwritten rules: Keep the timber sale names clean and inoffensive. Oh, and one more: "Name them something you can say with a straight face in court," Irving said.

One of Irving's sale names reflects the somewhat miserable conditions at the time she was working in the forest: "Deer Tick Circus." She named another one "Hyland Games," which is both the name of a road in the sale area and a nod to her Scottish ancestry.

'We've had loggers ask, 'Where did this name come from?'" Irving said. "It's kind of a cool conversation starter.

Mohney agreed. "It boosts morale and keeps things interesting," he said. "We have found it sparks conversation. Producers will bid on a sale and say, "What the heck?"



MICHIGAN DNR STAFF flew across portions of the northern Lower Peninsula over eight days in January to locate, count and photograph elk. Results from the aerial survey estimate the population is between 870 and 1,684 animals.

# Michigan has healthy herd of elk

Results of the 2022 Michigan elk survey show the herd is healthy and growing.

During an aerial survey of the elk herd conducted over eight days in January, Department of Natural Resources staff flew over 1,080 square miles of predetermined sample plots across the northern Lower Peninsula to locate, count and photograph elk. Results from the survey estimate the population is between 870 and 1,684 animals.

A total of 793 animals in 92 groups were observed during the survey. A population estimate model was used to account for the animals that may not have been observed during the flight survey. Additionally, the photos taken during the survey were used to calculate the sex and age ratio of the herd. The 2022 survey estimates the population has increased 5 percent since 2019.

The elk population reflects the objectives and actions written in the Michigan Elk Management Plan. "The latest estimates suggest that the elk herd remains healthy," said Chad Stewart, DNR deer, elk and moose management specialist. "We will continue to sustainably manage the herd and habitat across the elk range."

At March 10's Michigan Natural Resources Commission meeting in Lansing, the DNR recommended maintaining the current license quotas and season structure for the 2022-2024 elk regulation cycle.

The Michigan Elk Management Plan was last updated in 2012. In 2022, an update on Michigan's elk management progress and accomplishments over the past decade will be developed and incorporated into the plan to guide management decisions for the next 10 years.

Elk are a valuable resource for Michigan's ecosystems, while also providing opportunities for outdoor recreation such as hunting and wildlife viewing. Learn more at Michigan.gov/Elk. (From the Michigan DNR)

\$1.8 Million Goldberg, Persky and White Verdict Considered

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# **Notice of Asbestos Health Hazards in Michigan**

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

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

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

all qualified building tradesmen with start dates prior to 1980.

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

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

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