



Since 1952

# THE BUILDING TRADESMAN

Official Publication of the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council

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

65 Cents

December 12, 2025

VOL. 74, NO. 25



## SHORT CUTS



### This is Tradesman's final edition in 2025

This will be *The Building Tradesman's* final edition in 2025. Our next edition will be mailed the week of Jan. 5, 2026.

### Construction slows, optimism remains

The U.S. construction industry added 19,000 jobs in September, and gained a total of 38,000 jobs over September 2024, according to new government data released Nov. 20.

The Associated General Contractors said the 0.5 percent year-over-year rise in industry employment was less than the 0.8 percent growth rate in total U.S. nonfarm payroll employment. However, AGC officials noted that firms continue to add employees to keep pace with demand for public sector projects and data centers, even as other segments of the industry are experiencing slowing demand.

U.S. construction employment in September totaled 8,305,000, seasonally adjusted, an increase of 19,000 from August.

Nonresidential construction firms added 16,300 jobs in September, marking continued growth across much of the sector. Meanwhile, residential construction employment rose by 3,100 jobs.

The increase in construction employment in September ended a streak of three consecutive monthly declines. Overall, the industry has added just 2,000 jobs since March.

As we've noted, a wide swath of federal economic and employment statistics are late in being compiled and announced because of the government shutdown.

The construction unemployment rate increased to 3.8 percent in September. Unemployment across all industries increased from 4.3 percent in August to 4.4 percent in September.

"Despite some significant economic uncertainties, construction firms remain optimistic enough to continue adding to their payrolls," said Jeffrey Shoaf, the AGC's chief executive officer. "The best way to sustain that momentum is by providing clarity about tariff levels, stabilizing materials prices and developing a more robust workforce."

### Michigan ranked No. 15 in Hardhat pay

Michigan's construction workers ranked No. 15 among the states in annual wages earned in 2025, with paychecks averaging \$64,055 per year.

That information comes from *Construction Coverage*, which compiles information on the industry based on federal government statistics. Leading the pack in annual wages are Hardhats in Illinois (\$79,328); followed by Hawaii (\$73,060) and Alaska (\$72,841).

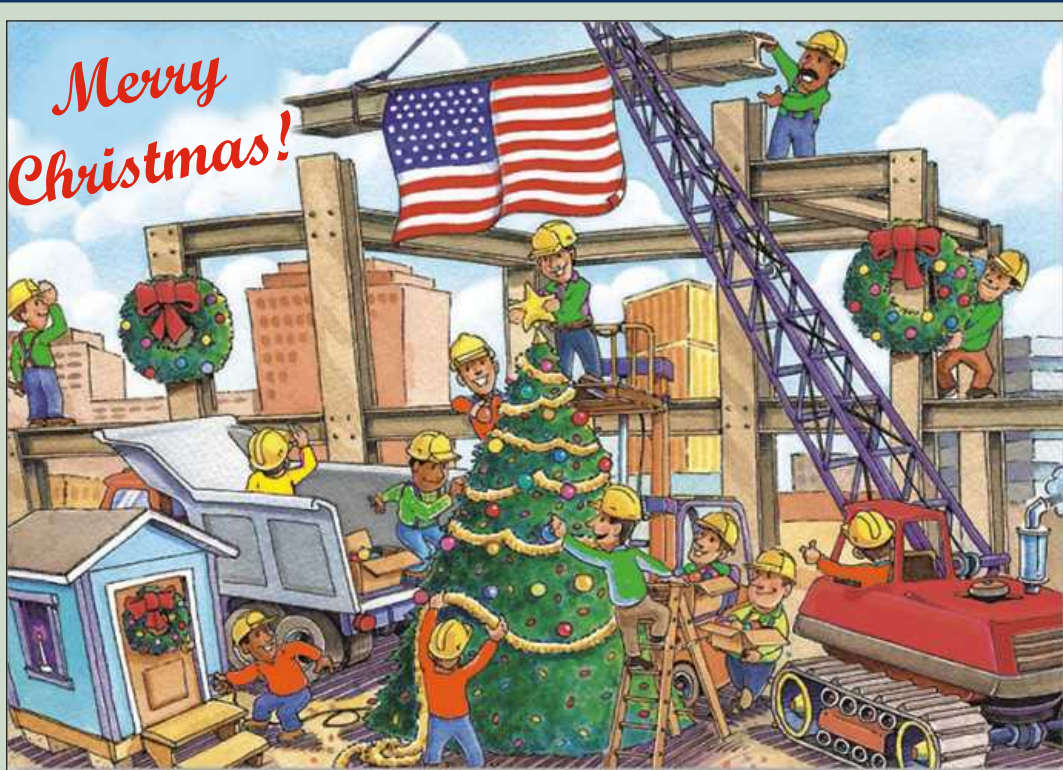
Five right-to-work states are ahead of Michigan when it comes to building trades worker pay. Conversely, 13 of the 15 states on the bottom of the pay list are right-to-work states.

On average, building trades workers in Florida are the lowest paid in the nation (\$46,843), followed by Texas (\$49,817) and Georgia (\$50,683).

### Quotable

"A merry Christmas to everybody! A happy New Year to all the world! Hallo here! Whoop! Hallo!"

-Ebenezer Scrooge/Charles Dickens (1812-1870), *A Christmas Carol*



## 2025 Holiday Edition

*We take this opportunity to thank our advertisers and  
subscribing unions for their patronage – and wish  
them, our local union members and their families an  
enjoyable holiday season and a happy, safe  
and healthy 2026.*



## Building goods price hikes 'modest but persistent'

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

The producer price index for materials and services used in nonresidential construction rose 0.2 percent in September and 3.2 percent compared to September 2024, according to an analysis released Nov. 25 by the Associated General Contractors of America.

AGC officials said the latest figures – arriving late because of the government shutdown – “underscore how cost pressures

are resurfacing for contractors even as overall demand in several private-sector construction segments remains muted.”

“Persistent input-price pressure, even when the increases are modest, creates a stop-and-go rhythm in procurement and production instead of a steady flow contractors and suppliers need,” said Macrina Wilkins, the AGC's senior research analyst.

She noted that “these month-to-month swings make it harder

for firms to plan confidently and protect already-thin margins.”

Several major input categories saw notable year-over-year increases. The producer price index for aluminum mill shapes increased 1.7 percent last month and 26 percent from September 2024. While the index for steel mill products fell 1.5 percent in September, it climbed by 12.4 percent over the previous 12 months.

The index for precast concrete products inched up 0.3

percent for the month and 5.5 percent year-over-year. Diesel fuel, a critical input for off-road equipment and transportation, rose 1.8 percent for the month and 8.2 percent year over year.

Lumber and plywood, always a major goods category, rose just 1.4 percent year-over-year.

AGC officials said the September data showed that contractors are facing “modest but persistent” increases in input costs

foreign-born workers in the U.S. construction industry.

The research was released Dec. 1 by *Construction Coverage*, which provides guides, research, and insights on the industry. It issued its compilation based on numbers from U.S. Census Bureau and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

“As a record construction boom collides with chronic labor shortages, the U.S. construction industry is more reliant on immigrant workers than ever,” said *Construction Coverage* Founder and CEO Mike LaFirenza. “Nationwide, over a quarter of the construction workforce is foreign-born – and in several major metros, that figure exceeds 50%. As federal immigration enforcement ramps up, these markets in particular could see crews thin out, costs climb, and key projects delayed.”

Under the category, “States where the construction industry depends most on foreign workers,” the report said leading the pack are California, with 521,249 foreign-born construction industry employees, representing 41.5% of the state's total construction workforce. Texas (40.2%) follows

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## Giving thanks to Local 190 volunteers

ANN ARBOR – Nice work by Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 190 volunteers, who purchased and packaged 210 turkey dinners, plus fixings, to help families in need around Washtenaw County.

On Nov. 15, 36 volunteers filled bags of food in the union's training center. Then 15 volunteers delivered the turkeys and bags of food throughout the community so that the families could enjoy a nice holiday dinner. Local 190 Business Manager Randall Whitaker said the effort would not have happened “without the help of all of our fantastic volunteers! A special thank you to Brian Keating and Karen Spearin for putting this event together.”



A NEW TRAINING CENTER in Escanaba is nearing completion, a facility that will provide added and improve educational space for UA Local 111's apprentices and journeymen.

Photo credit:  
Scott Pendergraft

## U.P. pipe trades ready for bigger, better training space

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

ESCANABA – More room, with more efficient use of the space, is on the way for training the current and next generations of union plumbers, pipe fitters and HVAC mechanics in the Upper Peninsula. Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 111 is wrapping up construction of a new \$3 million, 12,096-square-foot training center. Work on the new facility began in April, and is expected to wrap up early next year.

Local 111 has union hall locations in Marquette and Escanaba, while its training operations have taken place in an existing facility next to the Escanaba hall at 2601 N. 30th St. This new training center is next door to and will supplement the existing 4,000-square-foot educational facility.

“The new space is going to be a real benefit to the instructors the apprentices and other members,” said Local 111 Training Coordinator John Antoncew. “It's going to greatly improve our ability to do hands-on training and support a growing apprenticeship program.” Antoncew said nearly a third of the existing training center's educational space is taken up with equipment and materials, which are constantly being moved back and forth because of a lack of storage space. The existing training center, which was completed in 1998, will be retained, and get upgraded welding ventilation, added welding booths, as well as upgraded electrical and new paint.

The new training center space, he said, will include labs for

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Viewpoints



Stop the tariff pendulum

At its core, construction represents an investment in and commitment to the future. Long before the first dirt is moved, a foundation is poured, or a building is framed and finished, someone must first make a decision, take a risk and commit resources based on a prediction that tomorrow's economy will pay off the effort years down the line.

I wrote in my July column that we were in the midst of a "pencil's down" moment due to project-killing economic uncertainty. Unfortunately, that moment is being prolonged by a series of bad decisions coming out of Washington, D.C. – decisions that will imperil future construction seasons and slow the economic growth working people depend on to build prosperous lives.

On-again, off-again tariffs do double damage by increasing costs and slowing economic growth. Direct investments in infrastructure and to secure America's energy independence and technological superiority for another generation are being cancelled, not for any strategic reason, but out of spite for a previous administration.

All on the chopping block: projects to deliver broadband access to rural Michigan, develop carbon capture technology, build out national EV infrastructure, improve the resilience of our energy grid and lower utility costs through community solar, bolster our domestic manufacturing capacity, realize the potential of hydrogen fuels, and much more.

These things should never be part of some partisan loyalty test. Yet, they are increasingly becoming casualties of a pendulum that swings dramatically back and forth with each election, as each party races to undo what the other delivered. At the end of that road is nothing but paralysis and economic stagnation.

After all, we build wealth as a country and create opportunities for our people when we invest in the things that move society forward. The interstate highway system connected our vast country, facilitating movement and commerce. The space race drove technological innovation on multiple fronts. The internet connected us in new ways, democratizing entire industries. Public dollars kicked off each of these revolutions and facilitated trillions more in private investments, putting thousands of tradespeople to work on construction sites and spinning off countless jobs thereafter. None were red programs or blue projects; they just merely and powerfully represented American progress.

I am thankful for the investments those who came before us made in our future. We owe it to them to move past partisan drama and focus instead on shared prosperity. If we do that, we can again put our pencils to work planning, designing, investing and, yes, building the projects that unleash the potential of American innovation to the benefit of working Americans.

Tom Lutz  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer  
Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters and Millwrights  
Detroit

The Building Tradesman welcomes your letters to the editor. We reserve the right to edit for clarity and to shorten them. Please sign the letter and include a way to contact you.

How to contact us –  
By mail: Building Tradesman Editor  
1640 Porter St. Detroit, MI 48216  
e-mail: buildingtradesman@ameritech.net

THE INTERIOR of the new Plumbers, Pipe Fitters and HVAC workers' Local 111 Training Center in Escanaba.

Photo credits: Scott Pendergraft



U.P. pipe trades ready for better training space

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computers, plumbing and HVAC/R and industrial piping. The facility will also have hi-bay space for pipe rigging – and a classroom. "The new facility is going to have a dedicated classroom – we won't have to move things around and put things away just to have a class," Antoncew said.

Another feature of the new building: normally hidden behind walls, ceilings and in mechanical rooms, portions of the structure's mechanical systems and piping will be exposed as an architectural feature and as educational tools.

Local 111's training facilities currently serve 57 apprentices, in addition to providing space for journeyman upgrading.

Roy Ness Contracting is acting as the project's general contractor, with electrical work done by Master Electric, plumbing and mechanical work by United Contractors Inc. and building HVAC/R controls by Johnson Controls. Other subcontractors have also contributed.

AT WORK at the UA Local 111 Training Center project is Joe Lip-pold of Iron Workers Local 8. He's employed by Roy Ness Contracting.

Give thanks, but not for lower food prices

By Jim Hightower  
Oh, thank goodness for Don-ald Trump!

As millions of families struggle with the ever-rising price of groceries, The Donald is bragging that his economic policies have miraculously lowered prices, just in time for Thanksgiving.

As proof, he points to Walmart, America's largest food marketer, boasting that it cut the price of its "complete Thanksgiving dinner package" by a whopping 25 percent from a year ago!

"That's a tremendous number," Trump exclaimed.

But wait – before we swallow that whole, let's peek inside Walmart's dinner package to see what's in there... and what's NOT. Sure enough, using a trick called "shrinkflation," the corporate giant has quietly removed basic Thanksgiving items that were in last year's package, including cornbread mix, sweet potatoes, and pie. Then, it shrank the size of the servings of other items, such as cranberries and soup.

By shorting the food in each package, this year's Walmart dinner actually costs more than last year's. How tremendous is that?

Yet (like his wrecking ball demolition of the White House) Trump keeps trying to destroy the

very idea of presidential honesty. He now rants that there is no affordability crisis in America. It's "a complete CON JOB" by the media, he barks, consumer prices are "tumbling down," we have "the greatest economy in history." People should stop complaining and be grateful!

The problem for politicians who peddle such lies is that people's everyday life experiences instantly reveal the huckster's deception.

Even for MAGA believers, it must be hard to give thanks for a president who demands praise for helping one of his profiteering backers scam millions of working-class families, who're just trying to put food on their tables.

Just joking

I showed the damaged remains of my luggage to my lawyer and said, "I want to sue the airline!"

"Looks like you don't have much of a case," he replied.

...

Someone asked me what the word for inflicting pain or causing a lot of damage is. I said I couldn't tell them.

Because violence is never the answer.

...

I've heard that after last night's riots in the city, eight of my mom's sisters are going to be standing by some of the damaged buildings holding candles all night.

Because you can't beat vigil-aunties....



Sheet Metal Workers' Local 292

Detroit, Michigan

The Officers of Sheet Metal Workers' Local 292 would like to wish you and your family happiness, peace, and prosperity this Christmas and in the coming New Year.

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# BUILDING MICHIGAN: Fort Wayne HISTORY IN THE MAKING

By Marty Mulcahy



COMPLETED IN 1848, Fort Wayne in southwest Detroit is the last star-shaped fort in existence in the Midwest. It was built on 83 acres in a spot that's easily within cannon range of Canada across the Detroit River, but a political thaw with Great Britain in the 1840s meant that no cannon were placed at the fort. The star-shaped design was based on a 200-year-old fortification plan created by a French military engineer, which included elements that forced attackers to face a succession of obstacles and multiple angles of fire. Visible behind Fort Wayne is the extended housing area for the enlarged army camp that sprouted for use during the wars of the 20th Century. These houses are now dilapidated.

Photo credit: Star Forts

By the 1830s and even into the early 1840s, the United States was still warily keeping an eye on any expansionist tendencies in the Northwest Territories by Great Britain and their Canadian commonwealth subjects.

The U.S. government came to realize that occupants of those territories, which included border states like Michigan and Minnesota, were woefully unprepared for any type of military incursion from the British.

No doubt, the U.S. defense planning would look like this: if Great Britain or any other European nation had belligerent designs on taking some North American tracts of land for their king or queen, wouldn't their attack start with a flotilla of warships sailing unmolested down the St. Lawrence River and into the Great Lakes?

That's the scenario the U.S. War Department was planning for as they were choosing a site for a new fort in 1840 to eliminate that soft underbelly along a strategic point on the banks of the Detroit River.

That site would become Fort Wayne – still intact and present today – a structure that became obsolete to its original purpose just about as soon as it opened. But while no hostile shots were ever fired from the fort, the 83-acre site would become host to a myriad of uses in the ensuing decades. Today, in a city that has seen dozens of historic downtown buildings become renovated in the past two decades, Fort Wayne on the city's southwest side stands as a tantalizingly unfinished project awaiting money and the political will to renovate what remains.

"In 1840, at the point on the Detroit River is closest to British Canada, the United States Army began surveying local farms for the placement of a new artillery post," says the Historic Fort Wayne Coalition. "A five-point star fort was slated to have the most up-to-date cannon capable of firing on enemy sailing vessels and the Canadian shore. It would be named for General Anthony Wayne, whose defeat of the

British at Fallen Timbers in 1796 resulted in United States occupation of the Northwest Territories.

"This new fort would be Detroit's third, yet its first to be built by Americans."

The establishment of the military installation at Fort Wayne was authorized by an act of Congress on Aug. 4, 1841, "as the result of a national defense plan to ensure protection for the Northwest. The possibility of attack from British North America favored the strategic location at a major bend in the Detroit River," according to the *Historic Fort Wayne Master Plan* prepared in 2003 by The Smith Group architects.

Construction of the fort at the foot of Livernois Avenue and the Detroit River would take place between 1842-1851. The fort was the first major work designed and built by Army Engineer and West Point graduate Lt. Montgomery C. Meigs, who later became the indispensable Quartermaster General of the entire Union Army during the Civil War.



THE ORIGINAL BARRACKS at Fort Wayne, clad in limestone, was completed in 1848 and is still standing.

Photo credit: Wikipedia Commons

"The original portion of the fort – a square, four-bastioned work with oak log revetments (a retaining wall or the fort's facing), and a brick and limestone postern (a secondary door or gate) and sally port (a secured entrance) – was built between 1844 and 1847 at a cost of \$150,000," said The Smith Group. "Construction of the Old Barracks commenced in 1845, and was completed in 1848. In 1863 the original oak revetments were replaced by a brick masonry scarp (a steep embankment), incorporating the 1845 postern and sally port, thus completing the Star Fort essentially as we see it today. The Star Fort and the Old Barracks are the oldest buildings that survive today on the site."

It was a strong, modern fort, but the big guns never made it to Fort Wayne. "Diplomacy intervened, however, in the mission of Fort Wayne," said *American Heritage Magazine's* short history on Fort Wayne. "Before any cannon were even procured for the new fort, the United States signed a treaty with Britain that called for diplomatic solutions to their territorial disputes. The new fort was re-commissioned as an infantry garrison, but did not see any troops until the outbreak of the Civil War, when the first Michigan soldiers reported for duty."

Said the Historic Fort Wayne Coalition: "Because of the new relationship with Britain, and later Canada, Fort Wayne never saw a shot fired in anger. Instead, the peaceful location became a primary induction center for Michigan troops entering battle in every

U. S. conflict from the Civil War to Vietnam."

The coalition said among other duties over the course of its 125 years, Fort Wayne has served as an infantry training station, and the primary procurement location for vehicles and weapons manufactured in Detroit during both world wars. During World War II, it also housed prisoners of war from Italy. Thousands of soldiers swore oaths of allegiance and were given physicals there during the Vietnam and Korean wars. Additionally, following Detroit's 1967 riots, the fort became a haven for many families whose homes were burned, with many residing there until as late as 1971.

Beginning in 1948, the coalition said the fort was slowly turned over to the City of Detroit, parcel by parcel. Over the next 28 years, the city eventually came to own the entire property, with the exception of nine acres still occupied by the Army Corps of Engineers. The property is now under the care of the City of Detroit Recreation Department, along with the assistance of its volunteer

organization, the Historic Fort Wayne Coalition.

Beyond efforts to stabilize the existing structures, progress to make Fort Wayne a prime historic destination has been agonizingly slow over the decades. The Historic Fort Wayne Master Plan from 2020 by the City of Detroit General Services Department said it "began a comprehensive strategic planning process" for the fort after an agreement was made with the federal government for the site's future, but there have been no announcements of arrangements with public nor private partners to make significant improvements.

Fort Wayne has nearly 40 historic structures at the site, as well as a quarter mile of riverfront access. Unfortunately, many of those structure are in disrepair.

Historic Fort Wayne is open to visitors during the warmer months. Visitors can tour the original 1848 limestone barracks building, 1845 star fort structure renovated in 1861, the restored Commanding Officers house, and the Spanish-American War guard house.

AN ENTRANCE at Fort Wayne.

Like most northern forts of the period, Fort Wayne was not designed to withstand a protracted seige, since they were not expected.



FROM OUR ROOFTOP TO YOURS  
*Happy Holidays*



From the Officers, Staff and Members of Roofers and Waterproofers Local 149.

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ROOFERS AND WATERPROOFERS LOCAL 149



# District Council 1M Michigan

*Wishing our Union Brothers and Sisters  
Merry Christmas  
& Happy New Year!*

ROBERT GONZALEZ  
BUSINESS MANAGER/SECRETARY-TREASURER

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

**Sheet Metal Workers Local 292**

TROY – MEETING NOTICE: The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, **January 14, 2026, at 6:00 pm.** at **Troy Community Center 3179 Livernois, Troy 48083** 1 block north of Big Beaver on the west side of Livernois. Use the Banquet Entrance. Member meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. The **E-Board/Stewards meeting** will be held on **Thursday, December 18, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.** at the Union Hall.

**RETIREEES NOTICE:** The next Retiree Luncheon will be held on 4/2/26 at 12:30 pm at Madhouse Bar and Grill, 32787 Stephenson Hwy, Madison Heights, 48071. It's always nice catching up and staying connected. Have a safe and happy Holiday Season. We will see you in the Spring. Please get in touch with the union hall via our website [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com), click on the "Contact Us" page if you would like to be added to the retiree email list.

**HEALTHCARE DEPENDENT ELIGIBILITY AUDIT:** The Health & Welfare Fund has contracted with Part D Advisors, Inc. (PDA) to handle the details of this dependent eligibility audit. PDA will be mailing you a dependent eligibility verification form. You will need to complete and return that form along with legal documents to verify that your dependents meet the Plan's definition of an eligible dependent. The mailing will include a list of the required documents. You also have the option to submit the documents electronically. **YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE DEPENDENT AUDIT IS MANDATORY.** Please call the Hall if you have not received a notification.

**LOCAL 292 ANNUITY/WAGE DEFERRAL:** Beginning 1/1/26 the Annuity Fund will offer both pre-tax 401 (K) and Roth 401 (K) contribution options. Check your mail for flyers from Local 292 & John Hancock explaining the new option.

**ANNUITY FUND ACCOUNT ACCESS:** You can now access your Annuity account online, by phone, or by mobile app. The phone number to reach John Hancock is 833-388-6466. To create an online profile and a PIN, visit [johnhancock.com/myplan](http://johnhancock.com/myplan) and click "register now." Be sure to choose a strong password. Keep your password safe and change it regularly. To establish your PIN by phone, call 833-38-6466 or 888-440-0022 for Spanish.

**Important Notice: Pension Benefit Payments Transitioning to Prudential Effective 8/1/25.** Pension benefit payments will now come from Prudential, starting with the transfer. Retirees will begin receiving monthly pension payments directly from Prudential Insurance. If your medical insurance premium was being automatically deducted from your pension, this will continue under Prudential. No action is needed. **Advantages of the Pension Risk Transfer:** Greater Long-Term Security. The pension plan is being transferred to Prudential, a highly reputable and financially stable insurance company. Prudential specializes in managing long-term annuity payments, ensuring that retirees receive dependable monthly payments for life. Prudential's sole focus is managing and delivering retirement income. This transfer places retirees' pension under expert stewardship and reduces financial risk to the Union. The amount of your monthly benefit with not change. The payment schedule will continue on time and in full.

**MEMBER ASSISTANCE:** Please remember, Local 292 partners with Ulliance, an Employee Assistance Program designed to assist 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](http://www.LifeAdvisorEAP.com) for completely confidential assistance. Ulliance is **available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.** Services are of no cost to members and their dependents.

**SMOHIT HELPLINE:** Call 877-884-6227/ Available 24/7. For SMART 292 Members and their families experiencing an immediate crisis or who need a helpful ear.

**SHEET METAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM** Applications are being accepted for the Sheet Metal Scholarship program, beginning Sept 1, 2025. Applications must be received by Feb 15, 2026. Eligibility requires that an applicant be an active member, a covered employee, or a dependent spouse or child under the age of 25 of a member or covered employee. The applicant must also be a full-time student or be accepted to be a full-time student at an accredited college or university. Obtain an "Application Request Form" by visiting <https://smart-union.org/why-join-smart/scholarships/sheet-metal-scholarship-programs/> click on the "Sheet Metal Scholarships" tab to download the form or call 202-662-0858 to request the application form by mail.

**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 through all shop stewards. This is the only way your name will be added to the Out of Work List.

**SMART 292 APP:** Our new Local 292 App is now live. It is available to all dues-paying members. Download is available through your App Store. Search SMART Local 292. There will be a short waiting period for the verification process.

**WEBSITE / FACEBOOK:** Be sure to check our website – [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com); Facebook page - Sheet Metal Workers Local 292.

**TEXT BLAST NOTIFICATION:** If you haven't been receiving texts and would like to be added or wish to opt out of text blast, (Continued on Page 6

## One quarter of U.S. trades workers are foreign-born – but not so much in Mich.

(Continued from Page 1)

with 491,132 foreign-born workers, while New Jersey (38.7%), Florida (37.9%), and New York (37.1%) round out the top five.

"While 26% of U.S. construction industry employment is foreign-born, this immigrant dependence is not distributed equally," *Construction Coverage* said. "Foreign-born workers make up a substantial share of the construction workforce along the West Coast, the Southwest, and the Northeast."

Accordingly, the states with the lowest percentage of foreign-born construction workers include No. 50 Montana (2.9%), Maine (3.1%), Vermont (3.2%), West Virginia (3.4%) and North Dakota (3.4%). Michigan (8.3%) was No. 35 on the list among the states.

The study dove down even further, looking at city regions. The Miami area led the nation with 66.2 percent foreign-born construction workers. The areas around Los Angeles, Washington, D.C. and Houston followed, all topping 51 percent foreign-born workers. Well down on the list is the Detroit area (13.0 percent), which came in No. 46 among big cities/metro regions – that percentage is ninth-lowest among big cities in the U.S.

"These patterns reflect the geographic clustering of immigrant populations, the scale of urban construction activity, and the deep integration of foreign-born labor into local building trades," the study said.

Among Michigan's "mid-sized metros," the Grand Rapids area (10.6%) came in at No. 62 on the national list, followed by Kalamazoo (6.1%, No. 72) and Lansing (5.2%, No. 78).

The study said nationally, construction occupation groups that are most reliant on foreign labor include: drywall and ceiling installers (56.9%), painters and paperhangers (50.2%), and roofers (50.0%) Other such trades include flooring and tile installers (46.7%) and construction laborers (42.4%).

Trades in the U.S. that are least reliant on foreign workers include HVAC installers, sheet metal workers and plumbers and pipe fitters, which are all clustered at about 18 percent.



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

**Sheet Metal Workers Local 80**

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

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** Next General Membership Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, December 23, 2025 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, 48076.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:** The next executive board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 16, 2025 at 5:00 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Southfield, MI.

**TRUSTEE NOMINATIONS: OFFICIAL NOTICE:** At the December 2025 meeting, nominations will be taken for the position of Fund Trustees. Elections will be held at the January 2026 membership meeting. You will vote on 4 positions: Health and Welfare, Pension and Annuity, Sub Fund and JATC. Trustees will serve a 3-year term from January 2026 through January 2029. Your dues must be current if you would like to be nominated.

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

**RETIREE NEWS & MEETING SCHEDULE:** 2025 Retiree Meetings: Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. 2026 Retiree Meetings: Monday February 16<sup>th</sup>, April 20<sup>th</sup>, June 15<sup>th</sup>, August 17<sup>th</sup>, October 19<sup>th</sup> (annual party) & December 21<sup>st</sup>. All membership meetings start at 12:30 pm, held at the Local 80 hall. Please enter the hall through the ramp entrance. Any questions regarding joining the Retirees Association please contact Steve Murzen at 248-652-0593. Retiree lapel pins with the SMWIA logo are available to all members of the local 80 retirees' association. They will be available to all retiree association members at our general membership meetings. Please see the general membership-meeting schedule above.

**BENESYS AT THE UNION HALL:** Lashone will be in Monday to Thursday from 9-4pm. To schedule an appointment, please 248-813-9800 ext. 3250

**THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE:** Charles R. Kortright, David A. Balaze, Earl Stinchcomb, Richard Donovan, Kenneth Knapp, John Heggie, Richard Manzo, Earl Ward, Jack MacFarland, Dale Pokorny, James Schwarz, Terry Fischer, Robert Zalewski, Rob Schleicher, Gary Norrow, Paul Barbara, Michael Trelfa, David Keck III, Kenneth Weil, Jonathan Perry, Mark Sinnott, Benjamin Shepherd, Andrew Clavier, Mark Billings, Randy Harding, Gary Reichhold, George Agius, Joseph Duffiney, Norman Pyke, Ralph Consiglio, Steven Czebatol, Jestin Andrews, Ronald Kramer, John Johnson, Keith McVettie, Joshua Taulbee, Frank Burns, Chet Lewandowski, Michael Neuman, Jason Grunenwald, Carl McRorie, Sergiy Bondarchuk, Kolten Yike, Matthew Navarro, Michael Luedtke, Charles Kortright, Christopher Travis, Camren Jorgensen, James Belisle, Steven Wiseman, Dennis Marentette, Mario Vrane, Wesley Hartsuck, Talt Huffman, David Fields, Kevin Muraszewski, Robert Schell, James Smith, George Gurney, Ryley Priest, Michael Cary, Collin Truba, John Morrow, James Maynor, Joseph Verbit, John Sajewski, Andrew Wright & William Ozark.

**BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT:** Congratulations to member Joe Komisar and his wife Stephanie on the birth of their little girl, Kinslee Rose. Kinslee was born on November 9<sup>th</sup> weighing 6lbs 13 oz.

**DUES PAYMENTS: are due prior to the 1st of the month.** Books close at the end of business day on the last day of the month. Payments made on the 1st will be considered late. No exceptions - once the books are closed, they cannot be reopened. To help you stay on track, you will receive a text reminder before the end of the month. If you're not receiving these reminders, please contact the hall.

**WORKING IN OTHER LOCALS:** Please remember that if you are working in a jurisdiction outside of Local 80 you must call their union hall and check in as a traveler. It is the member's responsibility to do this, not the contractor's! If you have any questions please reach out to an agent.

**BENEFICIARY REMINDER:** Please ensure that you have designated or updated your beneficiary choices for all Local 80 and International Association benefits.

**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 also need to call Benesys at 800-400-7710 to update for insurance and pension documents.

**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 (Continued on Page 6

## Building goods price hikes 'modest but persistent'

(Continued from Page 1)

even as bid prices have begun to cool.

They noted that this imbalance, where materials costs edge higher while final demand and pricing power soften, "is adding pressure for firms at a time when several private sector markets remain uneven. Uncertainty around future tariff levels and global trade conditions is adding another layer of caution, making it harder for contractors to plan procurement or secure long-term pricing with confidence," the AGC said.

"Contractors can manage modest cost increases, but they need a predictable environment to keep projects moving," said Jeffrey D. Shoaf, the chief executive officer of the Associated General Contractors of America. "Greater clarity on tariff policy and progress on outstanding trade issues would help stabilize materials markets and give firms more confidence to plan for the work ahead.



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

**Sheet Metal Workers Local 7**

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

The next Statewide Meeting will be Feb. 12, 2026, at 6 p.m.

\*Zone 1 January 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 2 January 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 3 January 14<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. (Freeland)

\*Zone 3 February 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)

\*Zone 4 January 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 5 February 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Please be aware that we are all required to report into the Local/Zone/Area/Jurisdiction in which we are traveling outside of our home Local/Zone/Area/Jurisdiction per the SMART Constitution Article 16 Section 10. Failure to report could result in charges and fines that you alone will be responsible for. Do not rely on your contractor or others to report on your behalf, it is your responsibility. Call your Business Representative if you are unsure of who to contact, they will get you the correct reporting information.

Please register on our website at [www.sheetmetal7.org](http://www.sheetmetal7.org) for the most up to date information on meeting schedules for 2025. Once you are registered it must be approved in order to be able to log on. Please contact your representative if you have 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.labelitscanireport.com](http://www.labelitscanireport.com) and download the official app by texting "SMART" to 90975.

**ZONE 1 Info.** Work in the Zone 1 area continues to be busy and will remain this way through the end of the year. If you become unemployed, please update your status with Eric or Vance (Apprentices please notify Ryan as well). If you are experiencing any difficulties with unemployment or insurance, please contact Eric or Vance for any additional assistance. Any Journeypersons interested in upgrade classes, please contact Ryan at the Training Center for additional information (269) 781-7183 (class availability depends on the number of individuals interested).

**Monthly Retiree meeting:** 2nd Tuesday of each month 1:00 pm located at Sarah's Place 1100 Page Ave, Jackson MI 49203 **In Solidarity, Eric Farrington and Vance Saunders**

**ZONE 2 Info:** Work in zone 2 remains the same with a few (Continued on Page 6

### 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 themselves 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 maintain 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

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SETTING DUCTWORK at the UA Local 111 Training Center project in Escanaba is Henry Jones of Sheetmetal Workers Local 7. He's employed by United Contractors Inc.

Photo credit: Scott Pendergraft



AT WORK AT THE UA Local 111 Training Center project in Escanaba is Brian Argall of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 111. He's employed by United Contractors.



Local 7  
Sheet Metal Workers

(Continued from Page 5) members off. If your employment status changes please contact me. Dues are always due prior to the first of the month. If your address or phone number changes let me know as soon as possible. Thank you to all who came out to the Christmas party. It was a great time.

Happy Holidays  
Mike Adams

ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw)

The next Zone 3 meeting is January 14th in Freeland

Thanks to everyone who made it to the Christmas party, we had another great turnout this year. If you are laid off please contact me so I can add you to the out of work list. Please make our dues are up to date, they are due before the first off the month. If your contact information has changed please call the Lansing office (517-882-4064)

The next Retiree meeting is April 7th at the Ponderosa in Bay City on Wilder Rd. Hope everyone has a safe and Merry Christmas. In Solidarity, Joe Dotson

ZONE 3 Info: (Traverse City) Work is still slow in the area. There will be some shutdown work over Christmas and New Years, contact me if you are interested. Don't forget to set up your yearly physicals and go to www.ourbenefitoffice.com/smw7-3/benefits to view your H&W and local pension status. For the National Pension Fund, go to www.smnw.org and register and view your future benefit. No job is more important

than going home to your family at night, please work safely and have a Merry Christmas! In Solidarity, John Amalfitano

ZONE 4 Info: I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year. I also want to thank everyone who came to the 2025 Christmas party, we had a great showing this year. Remember if you are laid off please call me so I have your name on the list. We are a little slow at the moment in Zone 4 I will let anyone know if there are any calls on the travel bank. Thanks, your brother Scott Brotherton

ZONE 5 Info. Work in the UP has hit a little bit of a lull. Now is a good time to get your Mine Safety Training up to date. If you need a refresher please sign up for that at upconstruction.org Thank you to everyone that attended the Christmas party. We had a good turn out this year. Merry Christmas to everyone and your families. In Solidarity, Brandon Langenfeld.

Dues Department: \*Online dues payment is now available\* Dues from 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/Creek/Jackson) 517-242-3223

Vance Saunders (Agent-Battle Creek/Kalamazoo) 269-569-9200

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

Joe Dotson (Agent-Saginaw) 989-225-0095

John Amalfitano (Agent-Traverse City) 231-590-1112

Scott Brotherton (Agent-Flint) 810-836-3552

Brandon Langenfeld (Agent-Upper Peninsula) 906-372-9288



Local 292  
Sheet Metal Workers

(Continued from Page 5) please get in touch with the Union Hall and we will make the change.

TRUEHEARING: This benefit of premium hearing aids is available to active eligible participants, dependents, and Pre-Medicare retirees. To get started, contact TruHearing at 1-833-898-1255 for an appointment.

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.

DUES: Membership dues must 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 paid online (sheetmetal292.com).

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

CONSTITUTION AND RITUAL: The new Constitution and Ritual of the 3rd 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 now has hard copies if anyone is interested in having one.

SUBSTANTIATION REQUEST: Many members have received 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. The IRS requires this validation; the Fund cannot make exceptions. It is the members' responsibility to ensure all requested documentation is returned to the Fund office promptly. 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.

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

THE 4 PLUS MEMBER PROGRAM: The "4-plus" member program is for any Local 292 member who has achieved four (or more) welding certifications. These certifications can be in any welding process. Members who qualify will receive a shirt (one shirt for every four certifications) with the 4 Plus logo, 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 at 248.495.6764.

Attention all Welders! We are looking for any members interested in a Saturday welding class on December 13, December 20, January 10, January 24, and January 31.

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

Note: Anyone who 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 and 3 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 for the class.



Local 80  
Sheet Metal Workers

(Continued from Page 5) of SMART International.

WEEKEND WORK ASSIGNMENTS: must be reported by the steward by 3pm on Friday and signed forms returned on Monday to staff@smw80.org

LAY-OFFS: All members must report to the Union Hall immediately upon lay-off. You must be on the out-of-work list to collect S.U.B. or SASMI benefits. It is the contractor's responsibility to issue a termination slip in accordance with our contract.

OUT-OF-WORK LIST: Members must re-register bi-annually: March 1 through March 20 and Sept. 1 through Sept. 20. If you fail to re-register, you will be removed from the list. Your name will be removed from the list fourteen (14) days after receiving an assignment.

SUB Application Deadlines and Requirements:

Submit your SUB application within 7 days of your layoff to avoid forfeiting benefits.

Layoff slips must accompany your application to qualify for SUB benefits.

Proof of UIA benefit payments due within 21 days of the payment date to receive SUB benefits.

Send your unemployment proof to smw80subfund@gmail.com or fax it to 248-557-0297. To ensure payment by Friday, proof due by 2:00 PM on Tuesdays.

Important: Do not submit your UIA proof directly to the fund office. For questions, call the hall at 248-557-7575.

SHORT WORK WEEK SUB PAY: If you miss work due to weather, and you are not laid off, the company must provide written documentation confirming the loss of hours was weather-related. If you work 16 hours or less in a week, you may be eligible to collect SUB, but only if the hours worked are at the beginning or end of a layoff. To apply:

Complete the SUB application at the hall.

Provide a pay stub for the week.

The hall will submit your information to the fund office.

Make sure to follow these steps to ensure your eligibility.

MEMBERSASSISTANCE PROGRAM: If you're facing challenges in your family, relationships, or dealing with stress, emotional difficulties, grief, or substance use, please reach out to our Assistance Program Ulliance

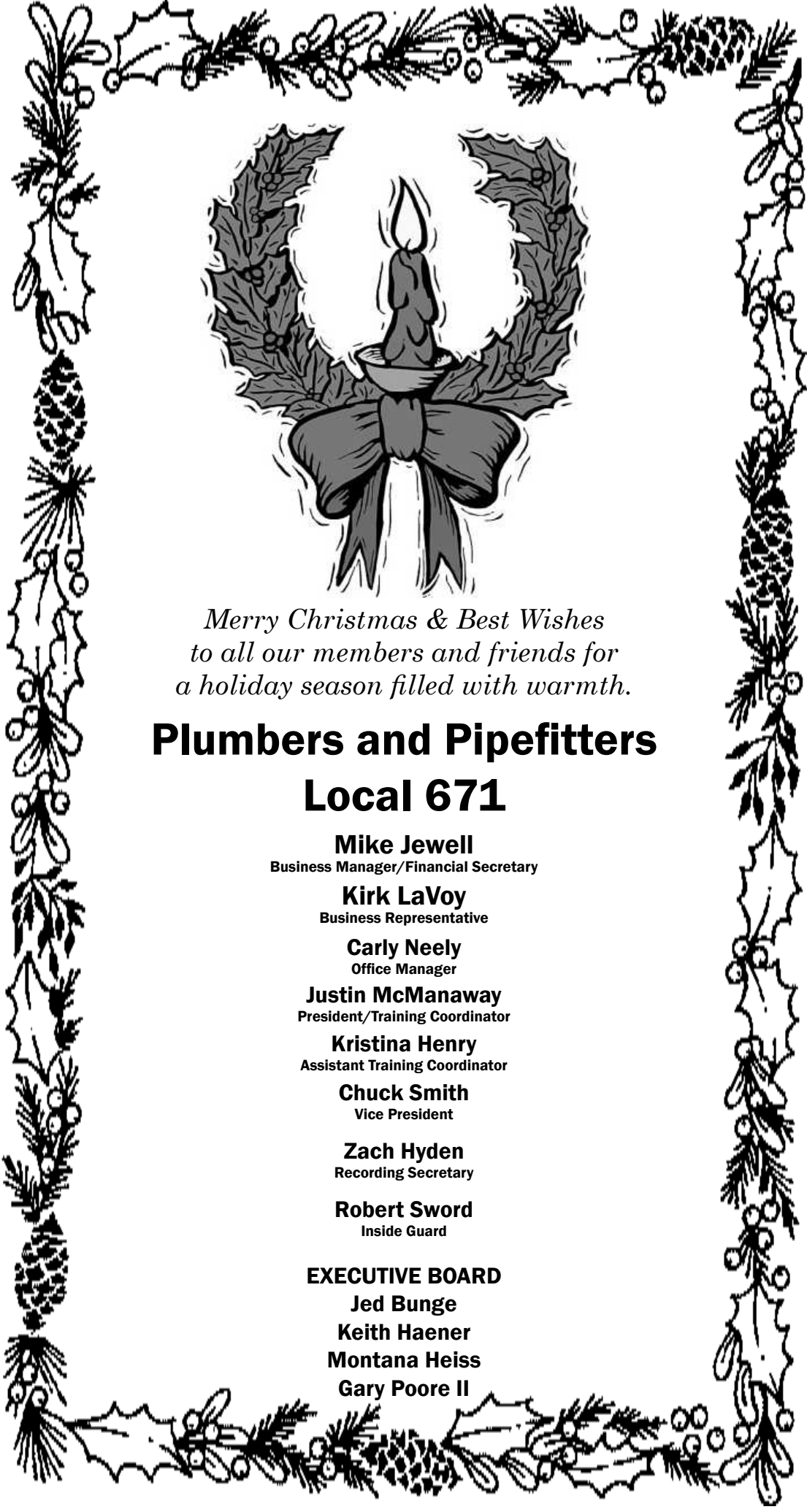
at 1-800-448-8326 or visit www.LifeAdvisorEAP.com. Mention Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 when you call.

NOTARY: We have a notary public available at the hall at no charge.

Training Center News.

Entrance Exam Information. The Sheet Metal Workers' Local 80 Apprenticeship Entrance Exam is scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 28, 2026. The deadline to apply is Friday, Jan. 23. Requirements include a high school diploma or GED, a valid driver's license and applicants must be 18 years old by April 1, 2026. Applications must be submitted in person and are accepted by appointment only. Appointments can be scheduled by calling the Local 80 Training Center at (586) 979-5190.

Upgrading Classes. Upgrading Classes for the Winter 2026 term begin the week of January 19th and enrollment starts Monday, December 1, 2025. To view the most up-to-date schedule, go to https://www.smw80jac.org/Upgrading\_Class\_Schedule. To enroll in a class, call the training center starting at 7:30 am Monday, Dec. 1, 2025 - 586-979-5190.



Merry Christmas & Best Wishes  
to all our members and friends for  
a holiday season filled with warmth.

Plumbers and Pipefitters  
Local 671

Mike Jewell

Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Kirk LaVoy

Business Representative

Carly Neely

Office Manager

Justin McManaway

President/Training Coordinator

Kristina Henry

Assistant Training Coordinator

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The Building Tradesman

is the Official Publication of the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council

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Secretary-Treasurer

Greg Herman

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ISSN-007-3717



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E-mail:

btads@ameritech.net (734) 558-6955

Subscription Rate \$15 annually (group rate for unions)

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

POSTMASTER

send postage returns to:

The Building Tradesman

1640 Porter St. Detroit, MI 48216

Phone: (313) 961-3800

Fax: (313) 961-2467

Union members with address changes are asked to contact their local union.

The Building Tradesman is published bi-weekly (every other Friday) by the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council, Detroit office. 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216 Printed at Grand Blanc Printing, a union shop



IBEW Local 252

**ANN ARBOR – IM-  
PORTANT UPDATE FOR  
EARNED SICK TIME ACT  
(ESTA):** We need official complaints filed with the State of Michigan if you are being denied earned sick time from your employer. NECA has dropped their appeal but is still refusing to acknowledge the ESTA in our jurisdiction. We need as many complaints to the state as possible. To file a complaint please use one of the following options:

- Online (fastest method): [www.michigan.gov/wageclaim](http://www.michigan.gov/wageclaim)
- Fax: 517-763-0110
- Mail: Wage & Hour Division, P.O. Box 30476, Lansing, MI 48909-7976
- In Person-- Lansing or Detroit BY APPT ONLY 530 W. Allegan St., Lansing, MI 48933 (Mon through Friday; 8am- 4pm) 3026 W. Grand Blvd., Suite 2-750, Detroit, MI 48202 (Mon and Wed only; 8:30am- 4pm)

Please reach out to the hall if assistance is needed.

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

**TRAINING CLASSES 2025: ALL CLASSES START AT 5 PM**

**CPR/First Aid:** Tuesdays, December 2, 9.

**Transformer/Transformer Grounding and Bonding** -6 classes- Monday evenings, Jan. 5, 12, 19 then Feb. 9, 16 and 23.

**Masters Prep** - 6 classes- Monday evenings- March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and April 6.

**Journeyman Prep** - 6 classes- Tuesday evenings- June 16, 23, 30 July 7, 14 and 21.

All classes require a \$50 deposit. Call the school 734-475-1180 to add your name to the desired class ahead of time. All evening classes are held from 5-9 PM.

If there's interest in a class not listed, please call the school and request it. Once there's enough interest in the class, it will be scheduled.

**IBEW 252 APP FOR ANDROID:** If you use an android phone, you must redownload the IBEW 252 app, which is now available in the app store.

**EWMC CHEF'S CHOICE COOK OFF:** Join us Feb. 21, 2026 from 4-9 p.m. at the Union Hall. Cook and bring your favorite and best recipe(s). The best savory and sweet dishes will be voted on with a reward for the winners. Please have an ingredient list for allergy purposes. This event will be on the same day as the RENEW Euchre/Cribbage Tournament. If you would like to volunteer or have any questions, please contact Yohance Jennings (313) 283-3294 or Dan Beck (810) 858-0033.

**RENEW BENEVOLENT EUCHRE & CRIBBAGE TOURNAMENT:** Join us Feb.21 from 4-9 p.m. at the Union Hall. Stop in and play some card games. Tournament winners will receive gifts. If you're willing to help with set up, run games, clean up, or to make a donation please contact Dan Beck (810) 858-0033. This is the same day as the EWMC Cook Off.

**RETIREE'S 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 join the fun.

**RETIREE's BREAKFAST:** will take place on the second Wednesday of each month at **9 a.m. (new time)** at Leo's Conney Island, 160 South Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. There is parking and entrances at both the front and rear of the restaurant.

**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 for the Electronic Reciprocity Transfer System. You must be signed up for ERTS before working outside of Local 252's jurisdiction or your benefits will not be transferred back.

**EMPLOYEE ASSIS-**  
(Continued next column)



IBEW Local 948

**FLINT - Membership Meeting** - Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will be Jan. 12th, 2026 at 6 PM.

**Retiree Meetings** - Retirees next meeting will be Jan. 6th, 2026 at 9:00am.

**Book Signing** - For any members looking to sign our books please refer to our hotline at (810) 767-3308 Ext #5 or report directly to the hall.

**Our work outlook** is steady with a slow ramp possible leading to the upcoming months. For further details on job information please ensure the hall has your email address for our job calls and re-signs.

**Dues Reminder** - Members, please ensure your dues are paid in full. For any questions, concerns, or payments please see Jenny Wallace or call the main office at (810) 767-3308.

**Seeking New Membership** - As always, we are actively seeking to organize new membership. For any questions, concerns, or interest please contact Organizer Eric Crites.

**New Store Stock** - To all members interested, we have merchandise at our hall. Stock includes shirts, hoodies, hats, and other apparel. For any questions or purchases please contact Jenny Wallace.

**New Membership** - Welcome to our latest member Maxwell Cavric. We look forward to working with you and hope to see you in the field.

**Retirees** - Congratulations to Larry Richter on your pension application. The membership would like to wish you a healthy and relaxing retirement.

**Draping of the Charter** - Our condolences to the family of David Markee, Phillip Rozier, Robert Shourd. We are tremendously sorry for your losses and will continue to keep our Brother in our hearts.

## Local 252, con't

**TANCE PROGRAM:** Local 252 partners with Health Management Systems of America to provide Employee Assistance for several issues. For confidential 24/7 assistance, call toll-free 1-800-847-7240, or visit [www.my-life-resource.com](http://www.my-life-resource.com) and use username: hmsa, password: myresource for more information.

**RETIREMENT:** NEBF and IBEW PBF applications 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 3-6 months before your planned retirement date. You will be asked to submit copies of social security cards, birth certificates, marriage certificate, divorce decrees, etc. for you and your spouse with your applications. For a full list of required documents please contact the Union Hall.

**DUES PAYMENTS** – Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 09/2025, your dues are not current. The Union Hall accepts payment by cash, check or credit card. There is a 3% discount for paying by cash or check. Dues for “A” members are \$143.25 by cash or check, or \$147.55 by credit card for fourth quarter 2025. Dues for “BA” members are \$73.80 by cash or check, or \$76.01 by credit card for fourth quarter for 2025. Please mail your check to 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Your fourth quarter dues (October through December) are due now.

**Payments for fourth quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Wednesday, December 31, 2025.**

**IMPORTANT DATES:**  
DECEMBER 13: HOLIDAY PARTY

DEC. 24: BUSINESS OFFICE CLOSED AT NOON

DEC. 25-26: BUSINESS OFFICE CLOSED

DEC. 31: FOURTH QUARTER DUES DEADLINE 11:30 A.M.

DEC. 31: BUSINESS OFFICE CLOSED AT NOON

JAN. 1-2: BUSINESS OFFICE CLOSED



## IBEW Local 665

IBEW 665

**LANSING – IBEW Local 665 100 Year Anniversary:** IBEW Local 665 will be turning 100 years old in June of 2026. Please save the date June 6, 2026 to celebrate with us that evening. Please look here and in your email for more information.

**WORK OUTLOOK:** Projected to be busy throughout Fall and the Winter.

**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:** Local 665 has reached a milestone. We have 852 members in the Local, of which 200 are apprentices. With all the new faces around please remember it is a Journeyman's job to teach first and empower the next generation to learn and grow.

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

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

**APPRENTICESHIP APPLICATIONS:** We often get calls or emails on how and/or where to apply to Local 665's apprenticeship program. To apply, go to [www.lejatc.org](http://www.lejatc.org) and navigate to the application page on the website. Applications are accepted on the **THIRD** Monday of each month.

**DRUG TEST / MUST MODS:** If you are planning on working any NMA or GM jobs this year, please make sure you are current on your 18 MUST mods or OSHA 30 certification and MUST drug test. Contact the hall if you need your annual drug test or your 18 must mods.

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

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

**DUES AND DEATH BENEFITS:** Quarterly dues are due. We are on death benefit #359. Please look at your dues to ensure that you are current.

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

**HOLIDAY EVENTS AT IBEW 665:** IBEW Local 665 is partnering with U of M Sparrow in a toy drive for this Holiday Season. You can drop off Toys at the Hall until Dec. 19. Wish list of toys: Action Figures (Superhero), Barbie Dolls, Band-Aids (Children's fun/novelty ones), Baby Dolls, Beauty Items (Hair accessories, Lotions, any self-care related items), basketball, footballs, soccer balls, board games, Art related items, gift cards (Meijer, Walmart, Amazon), puzzles, etc.

IBEW Local 665 will have Union Meeting on 12/15/2025 At 6:30pm. We will have the Christmas Party following the union meeting. There will be food and door prizes. IBEW staff would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy NEW YEAR.

Remember that the hall will be closed on Christmas Eve and Day. The hall will also be closed on New Years Eve and Day

**IN REMEMBRANCE:** of Local 665 local members who have passed away. May their memory be eternal. Darold English 11/28/25, Michael Quintieri 11/15/25, Douglas Maki 09/17/25, Randolph Dehate 07/01/25, Glendon “Bill” Toaz 06/10/25, David McLellan 05/28/25, Raul Torres 10/19/24, Ronald Oberlin 12/16/24, Dale Battle 11/14/24, Stephen Bair 09/16/24, Jackie “Jack” Heart 04/21/24, Stanley McLellan 04/17/24, Arthur “Dave” Benzinger 03/28/24, James McDonald 2/22/24, Roger Carroll 12/13/23, Harry Baker 11/26/23, Mark McCrackin 10/02/23.

December 12, 2025

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN 7



## IBEW Local 275

IBEW 275

**COOPERSVILLE – Work Outlook:** Work in the jurisdiction remains steady for journeymen with calls on the job recorder regularly. Please continue to call the job line if you are seeking work in Local 275. Hart Solar is just starting to have calls regularly, and Freshwater solar in Stanton has also started to man up.

**Volunteer Info:** A big thank you to those who helped with bell ringing as well as participating in the EWMC day of service. Please be on the lookout for more opportunities in 2026.

We have a Toys for Tots donation box in the front lobby of the Union Hall. Please feel free to donate any new, unwrapped toys for this great cause! The donation box will be here until mid-December!!

**West Michigan RENEW/EWMC:** Meetings will be held monthly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month, 6pm via ZOOM. The ZOOM link will be available on Local 275 Members Only Facebook group as well as on the Local 275 Mobile app.

**Veteran's Committee:** Meeting will be held monthly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month, 6pm at Muskegon Community College Tech Center in downtown Muskegon. (388 W Clay Ave.) Room 125.

**Training:** Code update will only be available online only going forward. Please go to the JATC website at [www.wmejatc.org](http://www.wmejatc.org) and click the Code Update Course link to sign up. The cost for members is \$40.

The JATC is now offering Master's Exam Prep courses. Please reach out to the JATC for more information. [wmjatc@gmail.com](mailto:wmjatc@gmail.com)

Anyone interested in signing up for Foreman training or Steward training, please reach out to Jonas at the Hall to get on the list.

**General Info:** If you want to get added to our blast email list, please reach out to Nicole at the Hall to get on the list.

Please join us for our annual Christmas Dinner on December 16<sup>th</sup> after our scheduled union meeting. This is also a great time to cash in your volunteer reward

points, as they expire on December 31.

For any members still using the 1-800 number to call the Union Hall Offices, please note that we removed that line several months ago. If you are having trouble reaching the office, please double check that you aren't using that number.

As a reminder, the Local Union Hall offices have changed their hours. The offices will be open from 8am-12:30pm, 1pm-4:30pm. **The union hall will be closed December 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> and will re-open on Monday, December 29. We will also close at 12:30 on December 31<sup>st</sup> and will be closed January 1<sup>st</sup>, resuming normal operations on January 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

Monthly dues will be increasing by \$1 in July of 2025. Please adjust any automatic payments to reflect the new monthly dues amount of \$50.90.

**Delinquent Members:** At the time of this writing the following members are three months or more behind on dues: Matthew Buikema, Dan Heeringa, Brandon Kiander, Andrew Kruihthoff, Andrew Lafrance, Dave Lebeck, Desi Mancilla, and Cedric Shepherd - Please make every effort to become current with your dues as soon as you can.

*“Good judgment comes from experience, and often experience comes from bad judgment.”*

–Rita Mae Brown

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

–Lady Bird Johnson (1912 - 2007)

*“Retribution often means that we eventually do to ourselves what we have done unto others.”*

–Eric Hoffer (1902 - 1983)

*“The greatest of faults, I should say, is to be conscious of none.”*

–Thomas Carlyle (1795 - 1881)

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[www.middletontraining.com](http://www.middletontraining.com)  
**248-885-8311**

From: Sheet Metal Workers Local Union #7

**Business Manager/Financial Secretary-Treasurer**

Samual J. Fuller

<b><u>Business Representatives</u></b>	<b><u>President</u></b>	<b><u>Executive Board</u></b>
<b>Zone 1</b> – Eric Farrington Vance Saunders	Chris McFarland	<b>Zone 1</b> – Jesse Cox Dirk Kosloski
<b>Zone 2</b> – Mike Adams	<b><u>Vice President</u></b>	<b>Zone 2</b> – Eric Vandam
<b>Zone 3</b> – Joe Dotson John Amalfitano	Adam Shipley	<b>Zone 3</b> – Jeff Keeler Robert Deeds
<b>Zone 4</b> – Scott Brotherton	<b><u>Recording Secretary</u></b>	<b>Zone 4</b> – Jason Rix
<b>Zone 5</b> – Brandon Langenfeld	Gregg Johnson	<b>Zone 5</b> – Dave Janofski
	<b><u>Conductor/ Warden</u></b>	
	Jake Konyha	
	<b><u>Trustees</u></b>	<b><u>Office Staff</u></b>
	Mike Carpenter	Lisa Ingraham
	Ron Moore	Sarah Pettit
	Kevin Pegley	Michelle Henry

SHEET METAL | AIR | RAIL | TRANSPORTATION



**IBEW**  
**LOCAL 557**

**IBEW Local 557**  
SAGINAW – UNION NEWS- The next Local 557 Union Meeting will be held Tuesday, Jan. 6, at 6 pm. It was great to see the turnout at the Dec. 2 meeting in celebration of Christmas. Service pins were handed out to members eligible for the awards. If you have one to pick up please stop in and do so.

**LOCAL 557 OFFICERS PALs CLASS – The PALs class for Local 557 officers will be offered on Tuesday, Jan. 13 at 6pm.** Approximate length for the course will be 2 hours. Pizza will be provided. This class is offered for compliance with the International Office’s mandate issued earlier this year for ALL OFFICERS to attend. Of course, it is available other rank and file members as well. Please join us.

**LICENSE RENEWAL –** If you have not logged into the State of Michigan website to renew your electrical license, this is your reminder to do so. Avoid the late fee and take care of it this month.

**MEETING PARKING –** To help the congestion around the Hall on meeting night, members may park freely on the property directly to the west of the Union Hall as the acquisition of the property has been completed 100%.

**LOCAL 557 RE-VAMPED WEBSITE & PAYING DUES ONLINE –** Recently the Local 557 website received a much-needed make-over. The feature to pay dues online is now fully active. The credit card fee for using this feature is also less than the normal of providing your card information to the Hall the old-fashioned way. To pay dues online, you will need to initially set up the new service by entering your card number as the username and the temporary password is your last name and the last 4 digits of your SSN. Upon completing this, you can then change your password. If you haven’t checked this out yet, please do as it is very convenient. If you need assistance setting up your account, please call for help.

**APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM BUILDING –** Due to the apprenticeship program suffering a setback on Sept. 17 when a fire broke out at our shared facility in Flint, we are currently in the process of obtaining a space to conduct classes in the short term. Current apprentices should continue to monitor their email communications from the JATC as the venue for class will change very soon. In the meantime, it has been nice to share a space at the Union Hall with apprentices again. It has allowed the apprentices to get to know the daily functions at the Hall and also forge more relationships with the office staff.

**SAGINAW SPIRIT GAMES –** Local 557 has again sponsored the Saginaw Spirit through the Labor-Management Committee. Season tickets will continue to be given away at Union meetings for the remainder of the season. The Local has 3 more dates reserved with a large quantity of tickets that will be made available as we get closer to those games. Upcoming games with blocks of tickets and the Eagle’s Nest are on Feb. 22, and March 14. Jan. 10 tickets were given away at the December Union Meeting. If you picked up some of those tickets, please make the plans to use them or drop them back off at the Hall for others to use if your plans have changed.

**EARNED SICK TIME ACT-** Michigan’s new law requiring employers to pay their employees Earned Sick Time (ESTA) is in full effect. All members working in the State of Michigan have rights to utilize this law. Members should look to utilize this benefit as intended. If you are experiencing any issues regarding this matter, please visit the Local’s website and follow the link to the State of Michigan’s site to file a complaint or contact the Union Hall for help.

**LOCAL 557 ORGANIZING-** With work being solid throughout the area, organizing is as important as ever. Local contractors are continuing to do the traditional work in the area on top of the bigger projects. These projects are extremely important to the Local and we need to do everything we can to keep manning that work.



**IBEW**  
**Local 131**  
*Serving Southwest Michigan Since 1916*

**IBEW Local 131**  
KALAMAZOO – We wish everyone HAPPY HOLIDAYS! The Hall will be closed on Dec. 25 and Dec. 26 for Christmas and Jan. 1 for New Years Day.

**Holidays:** Thanksgiving, the Friday after Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas, and New Year’s Day (as well as Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Labor Day) are all Holidays under the contract.

**DBRF Assessment:** Earlier this year, a new bylaw was approved to increase the Death Benefit Retirement Fund to \$10 per member for each retiree/decedent. This benefit is to be assessed once per year at the end of the year. This means each member will be assessed \$10 for every Local 131 member who retired or died as an active member after April 25. \$3 will be assessed for retirees and decedents prior to April 25.

The next **General Membership Meeting** will be held Jan. 5 @ 6PM.

**Veteran’s Committee Meeting:** Jan. 8 @ 5PM

**The Executive Board meeting** will be held on Monday, Dec. 15th, at 5 p.m.

**Brotherhood Night** is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month @ CJ’s beginning at 3:30. 1027 Schuster Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49001. Keep an eye out for location changes on the Local’s FB page.

**Hall Hours:** Monday thru Friday 8AM to 12:30PM and 1:30PM to 4:30PM

**Upcoming Events:**  
**Dec. 17 Retirees Christmas Party @ the Radisson:** Call the hall to RSVP. Lunch at 11AM.

**Toys for Tots:** Donation boxes are at the Hall now thru the first week of December. Please donate new toys

**Work Outlook:** Many members are working in neighboring locals, particularly Blue Oval Battery Plant in Marshall. Palisades Nuclear Facility is expected to have work for the foreseeable future, and likely into spring of 2026, paying \$57.78/hr. **The work situation in and around Local 131 appears to be steady until spring.** Palisades is expected to begin construction of its new SMRs sometime in 2026. There are also tentative plans for solar farms in the jurisdiction, so 2026 may prove a very busy year for Local 131.

**Solar Fields, Data Centers, and infrastructure:** There are many projects in our area being cancelled or rejected due to local opposition, usually based on bad information and reactionary politics. To help secure work and build prosperity for our Local and our community, please speak up and participate in local meetings and board hearings.

**Projects to support –** Fabius Township will be reviewing a special land use request for Three Lake Solar (150 MW) on December 9<sup>th</sup> 2025 @ 6PM.


**Comstock Battery Storage Facility:** There is a Comstock Township Hall meeting on December 15<sup>th</sup> @ 6PM. It’s likely that their proposed BESS Project will be on the agenda. Members who would like to speak about the issue or just attend the meeting may do so at 5858 King Highway, Kalamazoo, MI 49048

**Retirees’ Lunches at the following Locations:**  
Dec. 17, Retires Christmas Lunch. It will be held at the Radisson Plaza Hotel at Kalamazoo Center, 100 West Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo MI. 49007. RSVP.  
Jan. 21, Lunch at Olive Garden Italian Restaurant, 6700 Westnedge Ave. Portage, MI. 49002

Every Tuesday, a group of Retirees meets at The Crew, 5200 Portage Road, Portage at 10 a.m. On the last Friday of each month, a group of retirees and others, meet at Jac’s Cekola’s Pizza, 3112 South Ninth Street, Kalamazoo, MI. 49009 @11:30.

**Members Three Months in Arears or More:** Italo Alfieri, Josh Cook, Robert Dalecki, Deshaun Darden, Stephen S Johnson, Lemuel Johnson, Clayton Northrup, Thomas Pickett, Joseph Zirkelbach II, Darren Pond

**Jonathan Current Business Manager IBEW Local 131**



**IBEW**  
**LOCAL 692**  
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS BAY CITY MICHIGAN

**IBEW Local 692**  
BAY CITY – **Union Meeting.** The next monthly membership meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, Jan. 5, 2026.**  
The next **Executive Board Meeting** will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, Dec. 15, 2025.**

**Message from the Business Manager.** From the Officers and Staff of IBEW Local 692 our sincere wishes Brothers and Sisters for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! It is my hope the New Year brings you and your family all unfound prosperity.

As we approach the holidays, please note the hall will be closed on the following days: For Christmas: Wednesday, Dec. 24 through Friday, Dec. 26. For New Years: Beginning at Noon on Wednesday, Dec. 31 and all-day Thursday, Jan. 1.

**Work Report.** The work report in our jurisdiction continues to be very strong. Many calls have been very difficult to find the amount of help needed. Calls that may require additional manpower include:

**Motor City Electric** is finishing up work on the new line at Bay City’s GM Powertrain site. **Nelson Electric** and **Superior Electric** also have ongoing projects at Powertrain. **Nelson** also secured the Delta College S-Wing lighting upgrade.

**AZCO** continues work at Consumers Energy’s Karn Solar site in Essexville. More calls are expected in mid-December and may continue into January.

**Van Ert Electric** has begun work at their solar project in Gladwin and more calls are expected late December or early January.

**Conti Electric** has projects that are ramping up inside the I-Park (Dow) and ongoing work at the Karn Generation Facility.

**Escon Group** is ramping up work within the I-Park and Consumers Energy service centers.

**Master Electric** continues work at Clare County Road Commission. **Ted’s Electric** has work in Mt. Pleasant and Clare Schools.

**Bay Valley Electric** is continuing work at Bay Valley Resort.

**John’s Electric** has work through the winter at Clear Lake and Hoeft State Parks. **Swan Electric** has secured a decent project at TCE Charlton in Johannesburg. **Northern Valley** continues work at the Holcim Cement Plant and Oscoda’s Air Base, as well as many smaller projects and service calls. **J. Raymond Electric** has a project at Warbler’s Cove Campground near Rose City.

We do need some wiremen to man our local work or market share will be lost. Open calls continue to be available on a weekly basis. We saw this scenario play out in our past, let us not repeat our mistakes. Rest assured, your organizers will be working diligently to fill all open calls with qualified hands by any means necessary. If you are looking for work, please do not hesitate to contact the Union Hall. Please note when calling the job line to use extension #1.

**In Solidarity, Ryan Charney Business Manager / Financial Secretary**

**Organizers’ Report.** New Member Orientation will be scheduled this winter. All members are highly encouraged to attend these training sessions at some point, either for the first time or as a refresher course. A newsletter, *New Member Minute*, has been created to inform wiremen and apprentices about topics such as benefits, contracts, dues, referral procedures, etc. All members are welcome to request being added to the list to receive these informative newsletters by emailing organizers.

PAL and COMET training sessions will continue, all members are welcome to attend. Dates and times will be shared in future Building Tradesman articles.

Any non-licensed member looking to study for their state electrical license exam (outside of the apprenticeship) is welcome to attend Code Navigation classes at the JATC every second and fourth Monday at 4 PM. This class is designed for accelerated apprentices (CWs) and will be taught by former Training Director Stephen Pahl.

If you need help renewing your State Electrical License, please call the hall. Licenses must be renewed before Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> to avoid a \$50 late fee. **Brendon Baranek 989.327.4131 Kevin Klapish 252.9225**

**Union Dues. Effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, dues increased to \$49.20 per month.** This increase was approved by the delegates of the 40<sup>th</sup> IBEW International Convention held in May of 2022.

**Retirees Lunch.** The December retiree lunch is scheduled for 1:00 P.M. on Thursday, Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> at Washington Street Irish Pub, 112 Washington Avenue in Bay City.



**IBEW**  
**Local 498**  
*“Powering Northern Michigan Since 1949”*

**IBEW Local 498**  
TRAVERSE CITY – **Meetings.**  
**The next regularly scheduled E-Board meeting** is set for Monday, Jan. 12 @ 5:30pm.

**The next regularly scheduled membership meeting** is scheduled for 7pm Monday, Jan. 12, 2026.

**Resale Items –** We still have Tee shirts for resale. Proud Union Home signs are in and available at the hall. Free to members in good standing.

**Retiree breakfast-** Several of the retirees meet at Sparky’s Diner off of South Airport road every Monday morning at 9am. So, if you are retired or not and want to join in the conversations and possibly some old wives’ tales or other embellished stories, show up at Sparky’s.

**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!

**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 Fax# 1-952-854-1632 Website: www.michiganelectrical.org  
**MEEPP (MI Pension)** 1-855-633-4584  
**(New address Michigan Pension and Health Plan)**  
**3001 Metro Drive Suite 500, Bloomington, MN 55425**  
NEBF 1-301-556-4300  
NEAP 1-301-556-4300  
IO Pension 1-202-833-7000

**DUES RATES.** Jan 1, 2026 – \$164.10/Quarter.

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

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. 2#



**IBEW**  
**LOCAL 906**

**IBEW Local 906**  
UPPER PENINSULA – **MEETINGS.** Brothers and Sisters, Happy Holidays, for the month of January there will be a general membership meeting on Saturday, Jan. 10, 2026 at 1:00pm EST, 12:00pm CST at the Laborers Hall in Iron Mountain, MI.

Merchandise is available for pick up at the hall or delivered to a union meeting. Payment can be done in person, over the phone, or on the app/website.

Work outlook is holding steady heading into winter of 2025. Currently we have a 4 man call for MJ Electric at Renegade Solar in Rock, and a 1 man call for Northern Power on Mackinac Island. Reminder that there is a retiree lunch the third Thursday of every month at the Vierling Restaurant in Marquette at 11 am EST.

We have a new website and mobile app. Please reference those new tools for any new announcements and updates within the local. The website can be found at ibew906.org and the app can be found under IBEW 906. Dues payments can also be made through the app and website. If you have any questions or are having trouble with the app please call the hall.

There is a 2026 Negotiations Survey under the Announcements tab on the Website and App, we encourage everybody to submit what they would like to see in these upcoming negotiations.


There is a RENEW (Reach out and Engage Next Generation Electrical Workers) zoom meeting held the first Thursday of every month at 8 pm est. To get the zoom link please reference the calendar section of the app or website.

A friendly reminder that monthly dues increased \$1.00 effective July 1, 2025 bringing the monthly dues total to \$49.00 per month. Please keep this in mind if you are mailing a check for dues payment. There will be no Dues increase for 2026.


IBEW Local 906 will be hosting their 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Christmas Party at the Island Resort and Casino in Harris, MI on Jan. 2. Please call the hall to sign up by Dec. 11.

If you have a change in information please make sure to let the hall know so we have your information up to date.

Have a safe and happy Christmas and New Year!



**WISHING YOU A  
PEACEFUL HOLIDAY  
SEASON AND A  
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!**

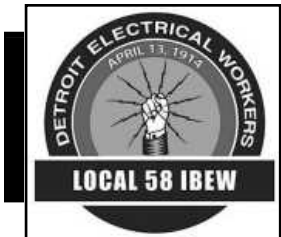


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# IBEW LOCAL 58

IBEW Local 58  
DETROIT - **The next General Membership meeting** will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2025. Dinner with the brotherhood begins at 5:30 pm and the meeting starts at 6:30 pm. Parking will continue to be tight.

**UPDATE – Sub Pay is currently paused for Inside ONLY. Limited Energy Sub Pay has resumed. If you have any questions, please contact the Local 58 Union Hall 313-963-2130.** If you have any questions regarding the Port Huron office, please contact Business Agent Paul Ledsworth at 313-802-4970.

Our **Store** will be **Closed** from Dec. 17 until Jan. 12. The last day to pick up orders will be Dec. 16. Any orders not picked up will be returned to stock.

**Our union hall:** Local 58 has a new three-story addition that is nearly completed. This will help us attain the coveted “zero net energy” status! The new addition work includes 216 solar panels mounted on Mechatron solar trackers in our parking lot. It has also brought us a new maintenance garage, loading dock, electrical room, battery storage room, a multipurpose room, commercial kitchen, office space and bathrooms! We'll utilize this space to showcase how green energy can work when it's installed correctly. We'll inform people on how to take a 1960's era building and make it energy efficient.

**The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline** (formerly known as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) offers 24/7 call, text and chat access to trained crisis counselors. Call 988!

**IBEW Local 58 Brick Pavers-** are available for purchase, please contact Stacy at the Union Hall 313-963-2130, ext. 3015.

**Local 58 Dues Department** –Please check your dues receipt. If your dues receipt has a paid-through date of 06-30-2025 you owe the \$30.00 reinstatement fee, and dues. You will lapse your membership at the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, (Dec. 31, 2025), if your dues are not paid. Dues Statements have been mailed. You can pay on the APP/Website, send a check, or call and pay over the phone. The dues office is closed on Dec. 19, at 12 pm, Dec. 24 and 25, and Dec. 31 and Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>. Please plan accordingly to make your dues payment.

**IBEW Local 58 Retirees Association:** The January Board meeting is on Wednesday, Jan. 14. Meeting starts are 10 a.m. in the main conference room at the Local Union Hall.

Our January Luncheon is on Wednesday, Jan. 28 at Mama Mia's Livonia, 27770 Plymouth Rd., Livonia. Doors open at 11, lunch is served at 12:30. Tickets are \$25 per person (payable to the Retirees Association), mail your reservations and checks to IBEW #58, Attn. Retirees Association, P.O. Box 32756, Detroit MI, 48232-0756. Questions, call Elaine Crawford at 313 408-5885. All retirees are welcome!

Syl Ludwic is working on the Florida Luncheon that happens in February 2026. He would appreciate input from you Florida folks, with attendance low this past February, he is considering a venue change, his two possible places are Melanie's Seafood Co., 120 E. Park Ave., Lake Wales, FL 33853 or Harborside, 2435 7<sup>th</sup> St. SW, Winter Haven, FL 33880. Please check out their menus, Send Syl Suggestions, (sludwic@gmail.com or 352-250-1178). He would appreciate thoughts about whether to continue the luncheon, and these potential venues.

Dues expire on 12/31/2025, dues are \$8 per person (spouse is an additional \$8). A renewal form is in the November Newsletter (will also be in the December and January Newsletters), and send your dues (checks payable to the Retirees Association) to the address above, Attn. Retirees. Thanks to all of our members for your prompt dues renewals. Membership includes a monthly newsletter, luncheons alternating from the west side of town to the east side. We also host a spring Pin Party, our annual August Picnic, and our Christmas Party in early December. For the travelers among us, we also have an annual September Bus Trip, New York City is the destination of the 2026 trip. Details are being worked out. Come join us, we always have a great time.

**Electrical Workers' Joint Boards of Trustees** – Any ques-

tions regarding Local 58 Pension, Annuity, Health insurance or Life insurance should be directed to the IBEW Local 58 Fund Office at 586-575-9200.

**Detroit Electrical Industry Training Center** - Know anyone interested in learning the Electrical Trade? Please contact the Training Center at 586-751-6600 for information on Apprenticeship and training opportunities.

**Detroit Electrical Workers Benevolent Fund (DEWBF):** Detroit Electrical Workers Benevolent Fund will have their next meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 6, Our next event will be the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Ken Fitzhenry party on Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 8 at the Local 58 Union Hall. Raffle tickets are \$20 per ticket and entrance fee is \$20 at the door. The doors will open at 4pm. Grand Prize is a 75-inch tv and theatre recliner as well as numerous other prizes.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual John Mayernik scholarship will be available soon. Please be on the lookout for more details to follow.

**Members of the Community Service Committee:** The next meeting will be Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2026, at 5:30p.m. The Wobbly Kitchen (Sundays in the Park) will be the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, starting at the union hall and then traveling to Cass Park. We are asking volunteers to show up at the hall at 8:00a.m. Questions can be directed to Ray Kujawski at (248) 496-1916 (call, text, leave a voicemail). Contact the Union Hall (313) 963-2130 or Ray Kujawski for further information about volunteering or participating.

**The next Entertainment Committee meeting** will be Tuesday, Jan. 13 following the Community Service Committee meeting that starts at 5:30 p.m.

**EWMC of Southeastern MI** – The next chapter meeting is scheduled for Monday, Dec. 15, 2025 at 6pm. This will be an in-person meeting with a ZOOM option. Please make sure your cell phone no. and your email address are up to date. The meeting information will be sent out as soon as available.

We are moving forward with our challenge coin fundraiser. The third coin in the series is now available for sale. Our IBEW car flags are also in. We will be selling them at any upcoming union events and Membership meetings.

The EWMC “What Up Doe?” jackets have been ordered. Thanks to all who participated in both of our EWMC International Day of Service projects. Our partnership with Developing K.I.D.S. is continually growing and strengthening and we are proud to have distributed and donated over 530 coats to help keep kids and families warm this winter. Thank you to everyone who helped out. Also, thanks to those who braved the cold and helped to take down the fence at St. Paul's Church. They truly appreciated our work.

A BIG round of applause to everyone who helped out with this year's Adopt A Child Christmas program through the NEYIC (North End Youth Improvement Council). We took on 17 families and 47 kids this year. The kindness and generosity of our members and committees is amazing. These kids and families will all have a wonderful Christmas because of the gifts that we have donated. Keep on being AWESOME!

It's time to get prepared for the 2026 Annual EWMC Leadership Conference. Our chapter always makes a positive impact on the conference and we will continue the tradition. Please be on the look out for any emails from Kelly Lynch with conference information and respond accordingly.

**The Safety Committee meeting** will be on Monday, Jan. 12, 2026, at 5:30 PM.

**The Veterans Committee** will be meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm.

**Local 58's Women's Committee** – The December meeting will be cancelled due to the Christmas holiday. The next committee meeting will be Thursday, Jan. 22 at 5:30 p.m. at the Hall and on Zoom. If you have questions, contact Committee Chair Angela Panicucci (586-291-8014) or Co-chair Liz Gorski (586-921-3087). Email at 58womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org

**The Political Action Committee:** meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of the month via  
(Continued next column)



## Local 370 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service

UA Local 370

FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025**, and is designated as a refreshment meeting.

**Wednesday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm** we will be hosting our second **Retirement Education Seminar** at Local 370, 2151 W Thompson Rd. We will have professionals from the pension department and the healthcare department. Our 401k financial planner will also be in attendance. If you are retiring in the near future or already have retired, please join and bring your questions. Spouses welcome.

**Congratulations** to brother Kevin Gaby on the announcement of his retirement. Kevin has loyally served as Training Coordinator/ Instructor at Local 370 for 25 years. With that being said, Local 370's JATC is in search of its next Building Trades Apprentice Instructor. If you are interested, please contact Ashley in the training department. Interviews for this position will be Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Local 370 will host our annual Service Award banquet and Holiday celebration.** We decided to move the date to February so we can celebrate in the new meeting hall. The location will be at our hall/ training center at 2151 W. Thompson Rd. Fenton MI. Cocktail hour will begin at 5:00pm. The service award ceremony will begin at 6:00 with dinner following. Please call Karla or Kyara at the hall to reserve your spot.

**Retiree Breakfast** will be on Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am.

**The Ulliance Member Assistance Program** is now available to all members and retirees as of March 1st. This benefit includes free and confidential mental health counseling, coaching, and 24/7 crisis support. In addition, there are free 30-minute consultations on legal and

### IBEW Local 58, con't

Zoom and in person at the Hall at 5:30 pm. If you have questions or concerns or would like to attend a PAC meeting, you can reach out to our registrars at registrar1@ibew58.org.

**The RENEW Committee:** The next meeting will be Tuesday, Dec. 23 at 5:30 p.m.at the Hall and on Zoom.

**Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings** take place every Wednesday at the IBEW Local 58 Union Hall, (1358 Abbott St, Detroit, MI 48226), starting at 6 pm. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. All trades welcome.

**Electrical Workers Credit Union:** Our website is http://WWW.EWCU.NET (313) 963-6060.

**NEW SYSTEM UPGRADE!** You will notice several changes including: Account Numbers-Your existing base account number(s) will remain unaffected by our system upgrade. Checks-Your MICR line will change to a 14-digit format. You can continue to use your current checks. New checks will have the updated MICR. Online Banking-

**IBEW Pension:** Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: Arthur Bahnweg, Michael Bruyere, Christopher Flowers, Mark Funk, Frederick Glass, Stephen Hickcox, David Radke, Scott Siple and Darren Vermeesch.

**Members who have Passed Away:** Our heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of our fallen Brothers and Sisters. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss.

**Arlene Barber**, Widow of the late Pension member Harold Barber; **Paul Kremer**, Pension member, 25 year IBEW membership; **Brenda Ann Lonsway**, Wife of Dennis Lonsway, Pension member, 36 year IBEW membership; Mother to JIWs George Costigan IV, Jason Costigan & Justin Costigan, Carpenter at L687; Sister to Mark Emery, Pension member, 39 year IBEW membership; and Grandmother to George Costigan V, Apprentice Pipefitter at L636; **Edward Machleit**, Pension member, 66 year IBEW membership; **Thomas Newbold**, Pension member, 46 year IBEW membership; Brother to Larry Newbold, Pension member, 50 year IBEW membership; Brother-in-Law to Timothy McDonald, Pension member, 48 year IBEW membership.

financial matters. There is a great discount program for goods and services as well as free identity theft protection. To find out more, go to lifeadvisor.com or call 800-448-8326.

**Upcoming Night Class Schedule:**

**Jan. Welding** January 5<sup>th</sup> thru January 29<sup>th</sup>. Mondays and Wednesdays. 4:30pm – 7:30pm.

**Med Gas** January 5<sup>th</sup> thru February 26<sup>th</sup>. Mondays and Thursdays. 4:30pm – 7:30pm.

All classes and test days can be signed up with the Training Center at 810-720-5243 Ext 15 or at training@ualocal370.org

**2021 Plumbing Code Books** now available. Cost is \$85. Check, money order or Credit Card.

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, January 13<sup>th</sup>,2025 at 4:00pm  
FMR Committee – Tuesday January 13<sup>th</sup>,2025 at 4:00pm  
PAC committee – Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>,2025 at 5:00pm  
Executive Board –Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>,2025, at 5:00pm  
Building Committee – Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>,2025 at 6:00pm  
Finance Committee –Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>,2025 at 6:15pm  
JATC Committee – TBD

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

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

Sub/Sick checks will be

processed 8:00am – 11:30 am and 1:30pm – 4:15pm daily.

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

**Attention All Active Members in Good Standing.** The Joint Apprentice and Training Committee voted to reimburse any active member of Local 370 that takes and passes any training, testing or certification that may be required to perform their work. This includes Riggering, 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](http://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  
(Continued next column)

a 3% fee for all other transactions.

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 by-laws. Dues will be accepted up to 6:45 on union meeting nights.

Members wishing to take the U.A. welding certification test can contact the Training Center 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](http://www.shopunionmade.com).

T.I.C. fringe administrators' toll free no. is 1-888-797-5862.

*“To be conscious that you are ignorant is a great step to knowledge.”*

–Benjamin Disraeli (1804 - 1881)

*“Be brief, for no discourse can please when too long.”*

–Miguel de Cervantes (1547 - 1616)

*“Purchase not friends by gifts; when thou ceaseest to give, such will cease to love.”*

–Thomas Fuller (1608 - 1661)

*“A lot of people like snow. I find it to be an unnecessary freezing of water.”*

–Carl Reiner (1922-2020)

*“What may be done at any time will be done at no time.”*

–Scottish Proverb

**CASH FOR \$CRAP METAL**  
**Aluminum • Copper • Brass  
Nickel • Alloys • Carbide  
Radiators • Lead • Batteries**

**McNichols**  
**Scrap Iron & Metal Co.**  
6500 E. McNichols (near Mt. Elliott)  
[mcnicholsscrap.com](http://mcnicholsscrap.com)  
**(313) 365-6100**

**Detroit**  
**Iron & Metal Co.**  
8300 Dix (corner Lonyo)  
[detroitironandmetal.com](http://detroitironandmetal.com)  
**(313) 841-5100**

As the holidays arrive, SMACNA Detroit celebrates with Local Union 80 and the generations of skilled professionals who uphold our tradition of quality.

*SMACNA Detroit Contractors and Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 work together through our jointly managed funds to capture growth, ensure productivity and maintain fund longevity.*

**Joint Trust Fund Management Trustees**

**Central Coordinating Committee**  
Nick Colone, *HM White*  
Todd Hill, *Ventcon*  
David Karl, *Mechanical Sheet Metal*  
Mike Wiedbusch, *Allied Ventilation*

**Insurance Fund**  
John Johnson, *Macomb Mechanical*  
David Karl, *Mechanical Sheet Metal*  
Ian Switalski, *Limbach*  
Mike Wiedbusch, *Allied Ventilation*

**Pension – Annuity Fund**  
Nick Colone, *HM White*  
Matt Cramer, *Dee Cramer*  
Todd Hill, *Ventcon*  
Phil McShane, *McShane Mechanical*

**Supplemental Unemployment Benefit Fund**  
Geoffrey Kimmel, *EW Ensroth*  
Randy Pagel, *Bumler Mechanical*  
Ian Switalski, *Limbach*  
Mike Wiedbusch, *Allied Ventilation*

**Joint Apprentice & Training Committee**  
Nick Colone, *HM White*  
Todd Hill, *Ventcon*  
Phil McShane, *McShane Mechanical*  
Glenn Parvin, *CASS Sheet Metal*

**SMACNA Detroit Staff**  
Mark Saba, *Executive Director*  
Jaime Bochenek, *Administrator*

**WE WISH YOU A SAFE AND PEACEFUL HOLIDAY SEASON!**



**Local 85**  
**Plumbers & Steam Fitters**

UA Local 85  
SAGINAW – The next **Union Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2025**, at the Union Hall, at 3535 Bay Road at 7:00 PM. This meeting will also be a special order of business.

**Contact Information:**  
Justin Pomerville, Business Manager (989) 799-5261 x 8513 [jpomerville@ualocal85.org](mailto:jpomerville@ualocal85.org)  
Tim Danielak, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 8514 [tdanielak@ualocal85.org](mailto:tdanielak@ualocal85.org)  
Clint Steele, Business Agent (231) 499-7330 [csteele@ualocal85.org](mailto:csteele@ualocal85.org)  
Andre Alexander, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 8515 [aalexander@ualocal85.org](mailto:aalexander@ualocal85.org)  
Bobby Anderson, Organizer (989) 799-5261 x 8512 [rjanderson@ualocal85.org](mailto:rjanderson@ualocal85.org)  
Kristin Tuthill, Office Professional (989) 799-5261 x 8511 [ktuthill@ualocal85.org](mailto:ktuthill@ualocal85.org)  
Please check the [ualocal85.org](http://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](http://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 No. If you should have any difficulties logging in, please call Kristin at (989) 799-5261 ext. 8511.

**Social Media:** Like us on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, @UALocal85. Facebook has our Members Only page for updates at UA Local 85 Members Group.

**JATC News:** Work continues to be very busy, please keep a close eye on the website for upcoming classes. We need to continue to be trained and certified for many of these upcoming projects. If there is a specific class you need, please reach out to Training Coordinator Robert Mead at (989) 799-5261 ext. 8519.

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

**Where to submit documents:** Address: UA Local Union 85 SUB, 3535 Bay Road, Saginaw, MI 48603 Fax: (989) 791-3468 Email: [SUB@ualocal85.org](mailto:SUB@ualocal85.org)  
**SUB Application for Benefits:** Must be on file in order to receive SUB Check. Available at the Hall.


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

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

**NOTE TO ALL MEMBERS:**  
**Address & Phone Update:** Please call the Union Hall to update any address or phone number changes at (989) 799-5261.  
**Beneficiary Cards:** Please call the Union Hall for any changes in beneficiary information at (989) 799-5261.  
**Website Address:** Please visit [www.ualocal85.org](http://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 CHECKSTUBS** 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.

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



**Plumbers Local 98**

UA Local 98  
DETROIT – *Membership of Plumbers Local 98.* The officers and staff at Local 98 take this time to wish you and your families a very magical and safe holiday season. May love and happiness be yours during this festive time. Here’s to a new year and the endless opportunities, cherished moments, and the courage to chase your dreams.

**We’d like to congratulate Rob Moses** on his well-earned retirement after 37 years with Plumbers Local 98. You’ve served this union with grit and heart – as a delegate, as vice president, and these last six and a half years as our organizer, you fought for our members every single day. Enjoy the next chapter – you’ve more than earned it. Cheers to a great career and an even better retirement!

**New UA Membership Cards:** New cards will be arriving soon. Please watch our webpage and social media for updates.

**Our next regular monthly union meeting will be held on Thursday, Jan. 8, 2025 at 6 pm.**  
**The next board meeting is Thursday, Jan. 8 at 4:30pm** prior to the regular monthly meeting. The Executive Board meetings are *generally* held the first Thursday of the month at 4:30pm and before all Union Meetings.

Beginning Jan. 5, 2026 and ending Jan. 23, 2026, we will be accepting resumes for our full-time organizer position. If you’re ready to stand up for workers, help grow our membership, and fight for fair wages, benefits, and safety on the job, we want to hear from you. This is a hands-on-role – organizing drives, outreach, membership recruitment and representing skilled tradespeople. Deliver your résumé along with a brief cover letter outlining your labor-organizing passion and experience to Business Manager Gary Glaser. Join us — and help build a stronger, united workforce.

**Retiree Luncheon** has been postponed until March 2026. The retirees have decided to forego the monthly lunch meetings for January and February 2026 meetings. The monthly luncheons will resume for the spring in March 2026. Please watch the Tradesman article, check the Local 98 website and Facebook page. Any question, please contact retiree Dave Schroeder.

**Annual Wrapping Party:** Another successful wrapping party is in the books. Thank you to our members and their families who came out to help us in preparation for our children’s party. We especially thank our officers Gary Glaser, Dan Nixon, Jimmy Cools, Rufus Hamilton, Jeff Kavalier, Rob Moses and Paul Smith. In addition, members and retirees; Chuck and Josephine Berthet, Bill and Stacey Briggs, Dominick Fanto and Patricia Dodge, Rob Kremhelmer, Keifer Mack, Dave and Donna Schroeder, Jeff and Linda Wacker, Tom and Norma Washburn; Christine DenDoooven and Donna Proctor along with apprentices Markus Blankenship, Robert Burk Ben Carter Benjamin Dora Cody Flint Cristian Magana, Joseph Makowski, Benjamin Randall, Connor Socrates, and Anthony Thompson.

**Children’s Christmas Party** was on **Tuesday, Dec. 2.** Santa and Mrs. Claus were very excited to visit Local 98! The boys and girls were overjoyed with the surprises and presents from Santa. We thank our officers, staff, retirees and members who donated their time to help with our event. Thank you to our members and their families for bringing their children to be a part of the magic of Christmas. Please visit our webpage and social media pages for photos of the event. “Don’t wait until Christmas to be Santa Claus.” “Seeing isn’t believing. Believing is seeing.”

**Apprentice Clothing Drive:** Join us in helping our apprentices get the work clothes they need to succeed! Drop your donations off at the hall during business hours. Apprentices can pick up what they need at the December, January and February monthly meetings.

**Membership Dues Reminder:** Friendly reminder to stay up-to-date on your membership dues. Local 98 will be offering members who pay in full for the 2026 calendar year, or sign up for automatic deductions, a complimentary gift. Members may mail payment, pay online, come into the hall or call the hall to make a payment.

**Snowbirds:** If you would like to temporarily change your address for correspondence from Local 98, and BeneSys, please call the hall to avoid delays in receiving your mail.

**SUB Apps/Out of Work List.** SUB You have 48 hours to report being out of work and to fill out a SUB App whether you qualify for SUB or not. It is your responsibility to check your location on the Out of Work List. *We have a dedicated email to send your unemployment certifications and/or backup documents to receive SUB pay. Please email correspondence to: sub@ualocal98.org by Thursdays at 3:00pm to ensure ample time to process the payments.* 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 Rufus Hamilton.

**In Memoriam:** Let us remember our family, friends and brothers and sisters who have passed or lost a loved one during the upcoming holiday season. Brother Edward Griffith a 56-year member, he was initiated on 3-27-1969.

**Benefits.** \*We have dedicated BeneSys employees at the Union Hall to help with the following issues: Health Insurance, HRA, SUB, Short Term Disability, Eligibility, and Claims. In order for them to best track all issues **PLEASE CALL BENESYS at (248)641-4988 or (866)646-8919.** If they are on the other line, please leave a message and they will get back to you promptly.

**Worker Assistance Program.** Work Life Strategies, LLC. Are available to members and their families to provide counseling services and when needed, a referral to other professionals. All this is confidential and lead by our health professional C.J. Harrison, you can reach her on her cell @ 313-580-6887.

**The hall will be closed on Christmas Day, Dec. 25, 2025 and New Year’s Day, Jan. 1, 2026 to observe the holidays.**  
Applications are now being accepted for our apprenticeship program. Learn more at [www.plumbers98TC.org/apprenticeship](http://www.plumbers98TC.org/apprenticeship). Additional information can be found at [www.ualocal98.org](http://www.ualocal98.org), Facebook and Instagram.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** Hall Operating Hours 8am to 4pm  
Gary Glaser, Business Manager (313) 580-0148 [gglaser98@ualocal98.org](mailto:gglaser98@ualocal98.org)  
Dan Nixon, FST (248) 752-3702 [dnixon98@ualocal98.org](mailto:dnixon98@ualocal98.org)  
Rufus Hamilton, Business Agent (313)542-2758 [rhamilton98@ualocal98.org](mailto:rhamilton98@ualocal98.org)  
Jim Cools, Business Agent (248)762-9221 [jcools@ualocal98.org](mailto:jcools@ualocal98.org)  
Paul Smith, Business Agent (313)938-2477 [psmith@ualocal98.org](mailto:psmith@ualocal98.org)  
Jeff Kavalier, Business Agent (313)938-1554 [jkavalier@ualocal98.org](mailto:jkavalier@ualocal98.org)

**In solidarity, Gary Glaser, Business Manager Plumbers Local 98!** Protecting the health of Metro Detroit since 1893.

**TRAINING CENTER NEWS.** Phone # 248-585-1435. [www.Plumbers98tc.org](http://www.Plumbers98tc.org)  
Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all of you from the staff here at the PIT!

The Apprenticeship Application process is currently open. The application deadline for the next class is Friday, January 2nd, 2026. Applications are submitted online. Go to our website and read all requirements for the ap-

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

**Monthly Code Class** – Next class is Dec. 17 at 4:30 pm. This is **not** a code update class. 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 Baker** at the Training Center at 248-585-1435 ext. 123 to register.

If you are a member that has the practical portion of the state test scheduled for Feb. 3, 2026, we have an available evening to come in and practice for it, Wednesday, Jan. 21, and Jan. 28. **Call** the Training Center if you are interested in attending either of these sessions, or both. You will be required to bring all your supplies as you would for going to the actual test.


**OPEN WELDING – Open welding is available on Wednesday evenings and the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of the month.** Please call Chris Opalka 248-585-1435 ext.146 for any welding related inquiries and to check on booth availability. For those that can’t find time to get in during the weekdays, open welding will be available on the first Saturday of the month, call to get a booth.

**CALL THE TRAINING CENTER TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CLASSES OFFERED IN 2026.** *All classes are register and pre-pay by check or money order only. All classes are offered in Spring and Fall.*  
All Spring classes will begin the week of March 2, with a deadline to register by Feb. 13.  
All Fall classes will begin the week of Sept. 14, with a deadline to register by Aug. 28.


**ASSE Backflow Tester Certification:** *Please be sure to check your expiration date, it is now required that you complete your update class prior to your expiration. This class is offered quarterly.* \$100  
**4 hour recert class** January 20 & 21 Deadline is December 19  
**4 hour recert class** April 21 & 22 Deadline is March 20  
**4 hour recert class** July 21 & 22 Deadline is June 19  
**4 hour recert class** October 20 & 21 Deadline is Sept. 25  
**ASSE Backflow Tester (Full 40 hour):** \$200  
**ASSE Repairer: \*\*\* Prerequisite: Must hold a current 5110 Tester Certification** \$100  
**ICRA and Water Quality: \*\*\* Prerequisite: Must Have OSHA 10 or 30 -** \$200  
**Medical Gas Installer (Full 40 hour):** \$200  
**Hydronic Heating and Cooling:** \$100  
**Steam Fundamentals for the Repair Plumber:** \$100  
**CAD/BIM:** \$100  
**2025 brazing and welding sessions will be scheduled on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month.** If your brazing or welding certs are ready to expire, call to schedule an appointment. The next **Welding and Brazing sessions** will be Jan. 10, 2026. \*\*You must call to schedule your brazing OR welding tests at least 3 days prior to the test. Please note: All members must be dressed appropriately to be in the shop area.

**OSHA Training - OSHA 10**, available as an online class for \$59 at [www.careersafeonline.com](http://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 on-

(Continued next column)



**UA Local 704**  
SOUTHFIELD – The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday, Jan. 14, at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.  
Congratulations to Anthony St.Andre and his family on the birth of their son Walker Riley St.Andre born December 6<sup>th</sup>.  
The hall will be closed for Christmas Wednesday Dec. 24 at noon and reopen Dec. 29 at 7:30 AM and closed Dec 31 at noon and will reopen Jan. 5 at 7:30 AM  
Nominations for delegates to the 41<sup>st</sup> UA convention will be at the February meeting which will be on Feb. 4, 2026 at 5:30 PM. The election will be held on March 11. Further details to follow.  
As a reminder, your dues payment is due the last day of the month. Please sign up for MDLIVE. There is no cost for you or your family to use this App. You will be able to download it from the Apple Store or Google Play.  
**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 subject to a fine.  
It is the members’ responsibility to notify the Union Hall when they return to work.  
Phone numbers to remember: NASI is 1-800-638-2603 for information regarding Health and Welfare or Pension fund questions.  
TIC International: 248- 645-6550 for D.C. Fund distribution questions.  
Jason May (Merrill Lynch): 248-540-2091 for D.C. Fund Investment questions.  
A reminder to please update any change of address or phone number changes with the Local Union Hall.  
A speedy recovery for all our sick and injured members.



**Local 357**  
**Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service**

UA Local 357  
KALAMAZOO – **UNION MEETING:** The next regular Union Meeting will be on **Tuesday, Jan. 13** at 6:30 pm. Other meetings that day will be the Finance Committee at 4:30 and the Executive Board at 5:30.  
**OPEN ENROLLMENT:** If you missed a life event in 2025 ... such as the birth of a child or a marriage ...or something changed, now is the time to add dependents to the Health Insurance Plan. Please contact Lori Hatfield, Benefit Liaison, at 269-679-3708 or email [lhathfield@ualocal357.com](mailto:lhathfield@ualocal357.com) to get the form required along with further instructions. Note that activation will be as of Jan. 1, 2026, if all required documents are returned by Dec. 31, 2025.  
**K-WINGS HOCKEY NIGHT:** Local 357 will be participating in a “night out” K-Wings Hockey Game on **Saturday, Feb. 7, 2025, at 7 pm.** Tickets will be at the K-Wings WILL CALL window. Please call Lori at (269) 679-3708, or email her at [lhathfield@ualocal357.com](mailto:lhathfield@ualocal357.com) on or before **Monday, Feb. 2**, to reserve your tickets.  
**UNION DUES REMINDERS:** Phone call reminders to pay your dues will not be made. Cash is 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](http://www.ualocal357.com). Note that you must add a 4% fee for using this site.... so, if you are paying a month of dues at \$34.00... you need to pay \$35.36. Other ways to pay include sending a check, stopping by the Union Hall, dropping off a payment in the drop box outside the front door or calling Lori at (269) 679-3708 and paying with a credit card.  
**RETIREE MEETING:** Retiree lunch meetings will now be **BREAKFAST** on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of every month. Breakfast will commence at 9 am at **The Crew** located at 5200 Portage Rd, Portage, MI. The phone no. for the location is (269) 337-9800.  
**CHANGE OF STATUS:** If you have a change of status for example: married, divorced, remarried, birth, death, workers comp, address change, etc., please call Lori at the Union Hall. It is very important that we keep all our records up to date and you only have 30 days from the date of the event to make the change. (*See Pages 6 and 27 in the Summary Plan Description Booklet for clarification*).  
**CONGRATULATIONS:** Congratulations to Cody Hatfield and family on the birth of a son, Liam.  
**CONDOLENCES:** Condolences to Lori and Cody Hatfield, Skylar Sinclair and the rest of their family on the recent passing of her husband and their dad.  
Condolences to the family of retired member, William “Joe” Worley, who passed away recently.

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**Merry Christmas!**

**And have a safe and prosperous 2026!**

Season’s greetings from the finest electricians in the Upper Peninsula  
**\*IBEW Local 906\***





# Local 190

## Plumbers, Pipe Fitters, Service Technicians, Gas Distribution

**UA Local 190**  
**ANN ARBOR – UNION MEETING:** The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, Jan. 12 at 6 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI. All members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

**A BIG THANK YOU – CHRISTMAS COMMITTEE:** This year our annual children's Christmas party was a big success! We thank the following members who are part of the Christmas committee, for putting this wonderful event together, a very special thank you to Janie Anderson, Brian Keating, Randall Whitaker, Melissa Wood, Pat Duffy, Ralph Booth, Nathaniel Knapp for organizing this party. We also thank all of the volunteers who helped out this year wrapping the gifts and helping out the day of this party, we could not have done it without the help of all of our fantastic volunteers!!

**ATTENTION GAS DISTRIBUTION APPRENTICES:** who that are planning on taking the journeyman upgrade test: you need to get your Letter of Intent sent to Roy Musgrove, Pat Duffy or the Gas Distribution Examining Board members. The letters are due by the end of December. Please mail to Local 190, 7920 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, MI 48106 Attn: Pat Duffy.

**GAS DISTRIBUTION APPRENTICES DOWN HILL WELDING TRAINING, HELPER AND FUSER TRAINING:** Will begin Monday, Jan. 5 and run for 2½ months. This class will be held at the training center Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. *In order to take the journeyman gas distribution weld test, you must attend this training as a prerequisite. Please note that 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> year gas apprentices have preference to sign up for this welding training.* Limited space is available so please contact Pat Duffy 734-368-4423, Roy Musgrove 734-646-8838 or Ralph Booth at 734-369-1432.

**UNION HALL CLOSED:** For the Christmas holiday the office will be closing at Noon on Wednesday, Dec. 24, we will all day on Thursday, Dec. 25 and will also be closed all day, Friday Dec. 26. Merry Christmas to all of you and your family members.

The office will close at Noon on Wednesday, Dec. 31, we will be closed all day, Thursday, Jan. 1 and all day Friday, Jan. 2. We wish everyone a Happy New Year.

**PAY UNION DUES ONLINE:** Members can now pay your union dues online. <https://mtp.ua190.org/mtpweb> Username will be your full social security number, temporary password is the last four digits of your social security number. There is a 3% fee charged. Feel free to call the hall for a QR CODE.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS - LAID OFF OR BACK TO WORK:** 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 contractor 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.

**MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION JOURNEYMAN:** If you are currently laid off and you would like to work building trades, please contact Kristyn at out Training Center to get information on a UA21 Weld Certification. 734-426-3700 Ext. #1 for Kristyn

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

**MICHIGAN GAS 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](http://www.michigan.gov/bcc). Feel free to stop into the Union Hall and pick up a copy of the instructions. The link is now on the website in the “Members Only” section under “Helpful Member Forms”

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

**Bernadette Maus will be available by phone Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or in person Monday's and Wednesday's at Local 190's office from 7:30 a.m. until Noon and 1:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m., please contact her directly at (888) 390-7473 to schedule an appointment.**

**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. Office hours of operation are Monday through Thursday 8am. to 5 pm. Friday 8am. to 4 pm. We will be closed for lunch from Noon to 1pm. Closed for Holidays. Please give Kristyn a call with questions regarding certifications and training schedules or visit us on UA190.org members only section under training to register for classes online. The Training Center will no longer accept cash payments, we will accept checks or credit card payments only. We are following CDC, OSHA, MiOSHA, MD-HHS, and Washtenaw County Health Department guidelines.

**Check your Certifications to make sure that you are current!**

**Please submit all continuities, certifications and licenses to the Training Center, so we can keep your profiles up to date. Email: kristyn@190jtc.com or mail to 8040 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, MI. 48103**

**Available Journeyman classes:**

**OSHA 10/30 Online:** Members interested in taking the **OSHA 10- or 30-hour** training online should contact Kristyn to register. Participants will need internet access through a computer or tablet.

**M.U.S.T Safety Online:** Members interested in taking **M.U.S.T Safety** training modules online should contact Kristyn to register. Participants will need internet access through a computer or tablet.

**Welding Fundamentals (40 hrs):** This class is designed for apprentices & journeymen who have little to no welding experience and want to learn the fundamentals of SMAW (Stick), and GTAW (TIG) welding. This course will cover welding procedures (WPS), UA certifications (UA-21, UA-22, UA-41), basic metallurgy, weld process selection, machine setup, welding symbols, welding positions, welding electrodes and consumables, weld preparation, shielding gasses, and welder safety. Participants will receive training on the Lincoln Virtual Welding Machine (VR), before heading into the welding lab. **Call the Training Center to secure your spot, dates to be announced later.**

**Welding Lab:** Currently open welding lab is **Monday through Thursday 4pm to 8:30pm. Saturday's 7am to 3:30pm.** There is limited space and first come first served. Welding tests will be scheduled after participants are approved by welding instructors and the training coordinator.

The Greater Michigan UA Local 190 JTC is hiring for the full-time position of HVACR instructor. The position includes teaching day and night classes year-round for apprenticeship and journeyman upgrade classes. The instructor will be responsible for HVACR curriculum development utilizing the equipment being serviced and installed by contractors in the Southeast Michigan area. The ideal candidate must be knowledgeable in all aspects of the HVACR. Strong communication, math, and computer skills (Microsoft word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint, and CANVAS) are required with a background in teaching.

This position will be paid at UA 190 Journeyman foreman rate with full benefits package, paid vacation, and earned sick leave. Please submit a copy of your resume, transcripts, and

(Continued next column)



# Local 174

## Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & Service Trades

West Michigan UA Local 174  
**COOPERSVILLE – MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** The monthly membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2026 at 7 pm in our Assembly Hall at 1008 O'Malley Dr in Coopersville. The front office will remain open until 6:55pm.

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

**Retiree Breakfast:** will still be held **Thursday, Jan. 8** at 9am at New Beginnings Restaurant in Coopersville.

**The office will be closed** the following days as the holiday season approaches:  
Dec. 25 & 26 - Christmas  
Jan. 1 & 2 – New Years

**Condolences:** It is with sadness we report that brother Daniel Finch passed away 11/20/25. Please keep Jason and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

**Union Strong Phone App:** If you have not downloaded our app and would like to, reach out to the front office for the link or QR code.

**Plumbing Law Changes:** Starting March 20, 2025, anyone performing plumbing work in Michigan must either be registered and in good standing with the State as a plumbing apprentice or hold a current journeyman or master plumbing license. The new legislation also establishes a ratio of one journeyman for every two apprentices, with significant penalties, including steep fines and the suspension or revocation of a plumbing contractor's license for non-compliance.

This is excellent news for our industry and presents a great opportunity to expand our market share in West Michigan. Make sure that your license or apprentice registration is up to date with the State. If your license has expired or you need to register as an apprentice, you must contact the State Licensing Division at 517-241-9316.

**Contract Ratification:** At the special called meeting on July 1, the members voted to accept the bargaining committee's recommendation and ratify the new three-year collective bargaining agreement. The new agreement is as follows:

1st year \$4.20/ 2nd year \$3.30/ 3rd year \$3.30  
\$10.80 over 3 years.

Language changes:  
Section 13.2 - reduces the number from issuing orders from 4 to 2 to receive foremen pay.  
Section 10.2 - Health care will be on hours paid not hours worked.  
\*The contractors will now be administering the ESTA benefit.

**Organizing Update:** *An update on Moore Mechanical. It looks like we are going to get to a campaign. Anytime you can get to a campaign with a contractor, it's a success! The worker's morale is very high, the constant support from our members has been amazing! We look forward to this election and to get these workers a contract! Again, thank you everyone for your support, wishing everyone the best holidays for you and your family!*

*Better wages, benefits, insurance you don't have to pay for, and a defined pension - the message is clear; all workers deserve a UNION! Work safe, Johnny Ortiz: (616) 307-8551*

**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.

**Contact Information:** If you need to change or verify your

## Local 190, con't

other certification documents to The Greater Michigan UA Local 190 JTC by December 31st, 2025, to kristyn@190jtc.com or mail to 8040 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, MI. 48103 All candidates will be contacted for a scheduled interview after the December deadline.

**RETIREE MEETINGS – PLEASE JOIN US:** Due to the New Years Holiday, no Spades meeting will take place in January. The next Spades meeting will start at 9 a.m. and be held on Thursday, Feb. 6 at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and coffee.

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

contact information, PLEASE CONTACT THE UNION OFFICE as soon as possible so we can keep our system up to date.

**FRINGE PLAN THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR: (SOLXSYS).** West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters and Service Trades Local No. 174 Fringe Benefit Funds, 5600 New King St, Suite 330, Troy, MI 48098 (855) 407-5862

**Health Insurance Contact Info: Active and NON-Medicare Retirees**

Aetna: (855) 878-4101  
EAP: (888) 238-6232  
Save-Rx: (800) 228-3108

**Medicare Retirees:** Retiree First: (616) 345-0788

**Current Health Insurance Prem ums:**

Active Member/Working Retiree \$1,110.33  
Non-working Pre-Medicare Retiree \$791.10  
Medicare Single \$123.63  
Medicare Couple \$ 2 4 7 . 2 6  
Medicare with Pre-Medicare Spouse \$497.13  
Medicare Surviving Spouse \$126.67

**Solxsys, Aetna, Retiree First:** If you have issues with any of our fund service providers, contact Ryan Bennett at [rben-nett@ua174.org](mailto:rben-nett@ua174.org). Please try to remember who you spoke with; this will help the company fix the problem.

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

**Autopay for Window Dues:** As a result of the rising postage expenses and the significant number of members who have opted for autopay, we have made a change in the way receipts are delivered. Going forward, members will receive their proof of payment via email instead of traditional mail. If you are currently enrolled in autopay but do not have an email address on record and would like a receipt, please contact our office to update your information.

**Dispatch:** We have split 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 of: [dispatch@ua174.org](mailto:dispatch@ua174.org) which both offices have access to. The dispatch phone extension will switch between the two offices depending on who is on dispatch.

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

**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.

**Training News: PIPEFITTER FUNDAMENTALS:** Starts January 12<sup>th</sup> 5-8pm Class falls fast

**ASSE BACKUP TESTER/RECERTIFICATION:** 40hr class begins Jan. 5. Recertification and testing will be Jan. 28. Repairer will be start after this class completes

**FIRST AID:** First Aid/CPR/BBP class will be the second Thursday of the month (every month – unless otherwise noted), from 5-9 pm.

**ORBITAL WELDING:** Scheduled to begin Monday, Dec. 15, 2025 @ 5pm. The class dates are as follows: Dec. 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 29, 30, Jan. 5, 7, 19, 20 and 21 @ 5-9pm. Test will be done on Wed., Jan. 21.

**OPEN WELD:** Closed due to lack of participation. Look for a new schedule after the holidays.

**WELD TEST:** Test Events will be the second week of every month. Capabilities will be



# Local 111

## Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service

UPPER PENINSULA –  
**UNION MEETING:** The next Union Meeting will be held in **Escanaba** on Thursday, **January 29th** at 7:30 PM. It will be a special-called meeting to vote on referral rule changes. All members are encouraged to attend.

**WORK OPPORTUNITIES:** Members interested in 1-day shutdowns should contact Business Agent/Dispatcher Scott Pendergraft in the Escanaba Office. Call the Escanaba or Marquette Office for updates: Layoff Line – Extension #7; Job Line – Extension #8.

**MRA FUND:** The IRS requires substantiation for all MRA debit card transactions. Many members have received request letters from Zenith American Solutions. It is YOUR responsibility to submit the requested documentation promptly. Failure to re-

## Local 174, con't

Tuesday nights with weld tests on Thursday nights. In the event of a union meeting being that Tuesday, we will move capabilities to a Wednesday.

**WELDER CONTINUITY:** If you have weld certifications and have submitted your continuity, your **welder certification status cards are now being emailed** instead of sent via USPS mail. If you have turned in your continuity but have **NOT** received an updated status card, please contact the Training Office to verify that we have your current email on file.

Please contact Chris Phillips or Nicole Schumaker if you have questions. Call the Training Office @ (616)837-0222 x16 (Chris) / Nicole @ (616)837-0222 x30. Or via text Chris (906)322-1592 / Nicole (231)206-4213.

spond will result in suspension of your card until documentation is received. You can review transactions and upload documentation through the Zenith Portal or App. For assistance, call 1-866-823-4730, ext. 1.

**988 CRISIS HELPLINE:** If you or someone you know is struggling, call or text 988 anytime to connect with trained counselors for mental health or suicide prevention support.

**MEMBER RECORDS:** Please keep your records current by contacting April or Rose with any changes to your address, phone number, email, or family status.

**LAYOFF REMINDER:** Report layoffs immediately; the day you call is the date you are placed on the Out-of-Work List.

**APPRENTICES:** You are required to attend four union meetings each year.

**WELDERS AND CERTIFICATIONS:** UA Welder Qualification Continuity Report forms are available on our website under Training or at the Hall. Certifications expire every six months, and it is YOUR responsibility to ensure forms are turned in on time. Please also update all Non-UA Certifications (Plumbing License, MUST, OSHA-30, MSHA, etc.) by sending a copy to the Union Hall.

**DUES REMINDER:** Check your dues records regularly; a \$50 reinstatement fee applies once you are three months behind. Members are automatically expelled after six months of non-payment.

**SAFETY TRAINING – LOCAL 111 WEBSITE:** Visit [lu111.com](http://lu111.com) and click Safety Links to complete your online safety training. Members must complete training for each site; trainings are valid for one year.


**MSHA TRAINING:** Registration and cancellations are handled online at upconstruction.org under the MSHA Calendar.

*“It is easier to exclude harmful passions than to rule them, and to deny them admittance than to control them after they have been admitted.”*

– Seneca (5 BC - 65 AD)

*“Believe nothing against another but on good authority; and never report what may hurt another, unless it be a greater hurt to some other to conceal it.”*

– William Penn (1644 - 1718)





930 W Ann Arbor Trail  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
Cell: (734) 664-9090  
Office: (734) 459-6222  
Email: [louwasik@remerica.com](mailto:louwask@remerica.com)  
Website: [hometownmoves.com](http://hometownmoves.com)



**Lou Wasik**  
Realtor


Longtime member of Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25





## From Elevator Constructors Local 36

**Michael R. Waker, BM/FS**  
**Russ O'Donnell, President**  
**Dave Kuras Jr., Vice President**  
**Brian Breznai, Treasurer**  
**Ken Bazner, BA/RS**



**Executive Board**  
**Rob Akers**  
**Dave Boyd**  
**Myles Boyd**  
**Jon Bujan**  
**Justin Smith**

**Trustees**  
**Mark Moreno**  
**Paul DiPiazza**  
**Dan Kuras Jr.**

**Warden**  
**Matt Combs**

*To all our members and friends in the Building Trades. May your hearts be full of the peace and joy of this festive season.*



### Local 671

#### Plumbers & Pipe Fitters

UA Local 671

MONROE – The next meeting will be held on Dec. 18, 2025, at 7pm. The Executive Board will also have a meeting on Dec. 18, 2025, at 5pm. If anyone would like to come to the E-Board, please contact the Union Hall.

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

Also, please refer to our website <https://www.unitedassocationlocal671.com/> and its calendar for the latest updates.

**Retiree Health Care:** Attention to all retiree’s, please be advised that the self-pay amounts will be increasing beginning Jan. 1, 2026. For information on what your new self-pay amount will be, please contact Carly at the Union Hall.

Please be advised that our Retiree Health Care is changing from United Health Care to Humana. You should have already gotten a notice in the mail and there is an informational meeting at the Union Hall on Dec. 18, 2025, at 12 pm. Please RSVP so we can plan for refreshments and seating.

**Health Insurance:** You should have received your MRA/Wex card in the mail by now. You can use this card to pay for medical bills or Dental and Vision. If you use it for Dental or Vision, make sure you inform Carly at the Union Hall. It is important that you retain and keep track of all receipts when using your MRA card. If you need assistance with your card, you can call TIC at 517-321-7502. Make sure you only use your card for qualified purchases or payments related to medical care.

**Condolences:** It is with heavy heart that I inform you that James (JW) Hill passed away on Dec. 4, 2025. JW was a 66-year member of the UA and Local 671. He will be remembered as a steady mentor whose guidance shaped many young Pipefitters and whose easy laughter and sense of humor made every moment outside of work feel like time well spent. Whether he was solving problems on the job or lining up a putt on the green, JW brought the same calm genuine spirit. His legacy lives in the lessons he shared, the kindness he showed and the many people whose lives he quietly touched. Rest in peace Pappy, you will be missed by all who knew you.

**Congratulations:** We would like to congratulate Brother Brandon Sortman and his wife Kelsey on the birth of their son Hunter Michael Sortman on Dec. 4. We wish the Sortman family complete health and happiness on their new Baby boy.

**Local 671 App:** To keep up with the latest information, make sure you download Local 671 App. If you have questions or issues getting logged on contact Mike at the Union Hall.

All upcoming courses and certifications have now also been added to the App under the Training tab. Please contact Justin to register for any training opportunities.

The next Weld Test will be on Jan. 8, 2026. Please contact Justin to sign up ahead of time.

If you are not receiving the Push Notifications from the App, please contact Mike!

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

In Closing: I would like to wish everyone a Blessed and Happy Holiday. We will be closed on December 24th at noon and December 25th for the Christmas Holiday. If you have any questions on concerns during our time closed feel free to contact me direct.

Mike Jewell: email: [mike@ualocal671.com](mailto:mike@ualocal671.com)

Kirk Lavoy: email: [kirk@ualocal671.com](mailto:kirk@ualocal671.com)

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

*“In politics, absurdity is not a handicap.”*  
–Napoleon Bonaparte (1769 - 1821)



### Local 636

#### Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters, Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Service

UA Local 636

DETROIT – December’s regular Union Meeting is a special called meeting for our Annual Awards Banquet scheduled for Dec. 16, 2025 at PENNAS OF STERLING 38400 Van Dyke Ave Sterling Heights, MI 48312. Doors open at 6:30 pm with awards and dinner to follow. We look forward to seeing you all there. **There are three other special called meetings. Jan. 6 for nominations for UA Delegates to the UA Convention, Jan. 20 for a vote on an amendment to a by-law, and Feb. 3 is the election for UA Delegates.**

**Toys for Tots Collection Drive** is at 2 locations; **The Union Hall** 30100 Northwestern Hwy Farmington Hills, MI 48334 and **The Training Center** 636 Executive Dr. Troy, MI 48083. We will have a box at the Union meeting if anyone wants to bring an UNOPENED toy to donate.

January’s regular/special called meeting will be held Jan. 20, 2026.

**PIPEFITTERS LOCAL 636 ONLINE MERCHANTISE STORE IS LIVE!** Sign into the members section on our website [www.pipefitters636.org](http://www.pipefitters636.org) and click the link.

**REMINDER:** Please open all correspondence with the Local Union, BeneSys, and Insurance Providers you receive in the mail.

Following is a list of recent Retirees who have passed their tools and knowledge to the next generation. We thank them for their time in the field advancing our trade and the Brother/Sisterhood they continue to show in our local. **Congratulations on your retirement!**

**Dec. 1, 2025;** Lloyd Tanner. **Jan. 1, 2026;** Todd Valiquette.

**Deceased Members** – Lifetime Member Blaise Moscardelli Nov. 29, 2025; Lifetime Member Andrew Gore Nov. 29, 2025; 45-Year Member Gerald Bauerschmidt Nov. 28, 2025; 47-Year Member Joseph McNamara Nov. 28, 2025.

**Our Condolences to Brother John Abdo** on the passing of his father William Abdo on Nov. 17, 2025.

**Get Well Wishes to** Zen Adams, Rebecca Blair, Gregory Firth, Alan George, Jason Howe, James Juracek, Ronald Karstens, Raymond Kuhowski Jr, Clifford Liptak II, John Lilly, Charles Lozon, Eric Mondro, Daniel Mosey, Jason Murdoch, Dung Phan, Roger Pruitt, Fred Stiehr, David Stone, Andrew Wisneski.

**DUES – 4th Quarter Dues are due now.** Please call the Local to update your email and phone numbers. As a reminder AUTO PAY is available.

**The Ulliance Member Assistance Program** is available to all members and retirees. This benefit includes free and confidential mental health counseling, coaching, and 24/7 crisis support. In addition, there are free 30-minute consultations for legal and financial matters. There is a great discount for goods and services as well as free identity theft protection. Go to [lifeadvisor.com](http://lifeadvisor.com) or call 800-448-8326.

**988 crisis help line.** The UA and the MCAA have made a joint investment to spread awareness on the way we approach mental health and suicide prevention. With the implementation of the Department of Health and Human Services 988 Lifeline, new resources are now available. When people call or text 988, they will be connected to trained counselors who will listen, understand how their problems are affecting them, provide support, and connect them to resources.

**CALLING ALL RETIREES!** The next meeting will be held Jan. 15, 2025. The Retiree Association is looking to recruit more retirees to their meetings. The meetings are a great place to catch up, find out helpful information and enjoy very informative guest speakers. **The Retirees will be meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month at 11am** at Local 636 Union Hall.

**SUBPAY - NEWS.** Participants should continue to send all applications and weekly proof to the SUB Fund office for review and processing by emailing [subpay@pipefitters636.org](mailto:subpay@pipefitters636.org). For direct deposit information, please contact the Union Hall or BeneSys.

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

**Financial Advisor Jason May** with Merrill Lynch Wealth Management has a new contact number 248-540-2091 or email him at [jason.may@ml.com](mailto:jason.may@ml.com)

**Defined Contribution Pension Plan.** The number for the Voice response unit is 877-410-9984. Plan provider number is 7526. You can login to your Defined Contribution account on the Local’s Website, while logged in as a member Just click on the “Defined Contribution login here tab” and it will take you to the website [www.accountplanaccess.net/benesys](http://www.accountplanaccess.net/benesys). Your initial login information is as follows: Username – Social Security number, without the dashes. Password – Full birth date, without the slashes, (mmd-dyyyy). You will be prompted to update your username and password after initial login. Upon login, the site will take you to the “My Dashboard” page.

**Considering Retirement?** Any member may meet at the office during business hours with Jake Regits, Financial Secretary-Treasurer, to begin the process. Jake can be reached at ext. 5, to schedule an appointment so that he can get all of your paperwork in order, or if you prefer, contact our Members Phone Line 888-646-8920 at BeneSys for your retirement paperwork. **Please allow a 60-90-day notice that is necessary** to adequately process paperwork.

**Are you “Work Ready”?** Have any of your safety modules expired? Is your Drug Test current? Check your report card at [mustbsafe.org](http://mustbsafe.org) and if it is time for renewal call the Training Center 248-585-0636 and they will register you. Be “ready” when the calls come in. Safety modules and drug tests are paid for by the Contractors Association. **WHEN YOU STAY CURRENT WITH YOUR SAFETY MODULES, DRUG TEST AND FIRST AID, from Jan. 1 – Dec. 31 you will be eligible for your ready to work payment.**

**Training Center News.** Local 636 JATC will begin accepting construction apprenticeship applications on Dec 1-20, 2025, all applications must be completed online, see our webpage, [pipefitters636tc.org](http://pipefitters636tc.org)

Regular night welding runs through Winter; Monday and Thursday nights from 4pm till 8pm.

Certified Brazing class Monday and Thursday Nights 4 till 8. Starting Mon. Jan 5 from 5-8pm for 5 weeks: CSD-1 with Kevin.

Starting Mon. Jan 5 from 5-8 for 5 weeks with Jason: Controls 2. Starting Thurs. Jan 8 from 5-8 for 5 weeks: Hydronic piping and design with Kevin.

Starting Thurs. Jan 8 from 5-8 for 5 weeks: VFD with Jason. Starting Wed. Jan 14 from 5-8 for 5 weeks:

The World’s best power burners class with Todd. Starting Wed. Jan 14 from 5-8: Chiller teardown class with Dan.


Starting Thur. Jan 15 from 5-8 for 5 weeks: Revit 1 and Trimble 1 classes with Eric and Alex.

HDPE fusion class Sat. Jan.10, 7am for 8 hours with Doug.

Mon. and Thur. Nights starting Jan 12th from 5-8 for 5 weeks: Certified Rigging class with Doug

MES class is available on Mon. And Thur. Nights. Call Kim at the Training Center to sign up.

Orbital class, GMAW and Downhill classes in Jan 2026, call Mike to sign up.



### Local 333

UA Local 333

LANSING – December’s union meeting will be held December 17, 2025, at the Lansing Training Center, 16180 National Parkway, Lansing, MI. 48906. Dinner will be served at 6:00pm.

**January’s union meeting will be held January 21, 2026 at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing, MI. 48911 at 6:30pm.**

**The 2026 UA General Convention will be held in August 2026. Nominations of delegates will be held at the Feb. 18, 2026 union meeting, elections will be held March 18, 2026 at our union meeting. All members that are eligible to be nominated and vote will receive a letter in the mail.**

**UA Sec 15:** All delegates to the convention shall be elected by secret ballot. Nominations of delegates shall be held by a Local Union at least 25 days prior to the election. At least ten days prior to the nomination meeting, notice shall be mailed to the last known address of all members in good standing of the Local Union setting forth (1) the date and place of the nomination meeting, and stating that the delegates to a convention will be nominated at the meeting; (2) the notice shall also state the date, time, and place of secret ballot election of delegates to the convention; and (3) The notice should state also that in the event of a tie and a runoff election is necessary, then the date, time, and place of the runoff shall be so stated.

Protests of an election of delegates to the United Association Convention shall be processed under the provisions of Section 125 of this Constitution.

**UA Sec 16:** The candidate or candidates receiving the highest numbers of votes in the delegate election shall be declared the elected delegate or delegates. The candidates receiving the next highest votes shall be alternates, by descending numerical order, and shall act in case of the inability of any regular delegate to attend the convention.

**UA Sec 17:** No member shall be eligible as a delegate or alternate unless he shall have been a good standing member of the Local Union which he is to represent for at least two continuous years previous to his election and he remains in good standing from the date of his election through the period of the convention.

**UA Sec 18:** The duties of weekly salaried elected officers of Local Unions shall also include serving a delegate to the United Association convention for his Local Union.

Note: The interpretation of this section shall not mean that all weekly salaried elected officers are automatically delegated to the United Association Convention if the number of weekly salaried elected officers in a given Local Union exceed the number of Delegates the Local Union is entitled to. As defined in Section 12.

**UA Sec 19:** The Recording Secretary of each Local Union shall, after the election of a delegate or delegates, immediately forward the to the General Secretary-Treasurer upon the official credential form and names, card numbers, and addresses of the members elected, and the General Secretary-Treasurer shall submit same to the Credentials Committee of the United Association.

New membership card will be arriving soon. You must pay into 2026 before receiving your new membership card.

Please remember to sign up before attending classes. We have limited space, and only those who sign up will be allowed to attend welding class.

**Weld classes will be cancelled until the second week of January due to the holidays.**

Orbital Welding: Signup online, and you will be contacted. Rigging Certification, Backflow re-certification, and Med-Gas recertification will be scheduled once we have enough members signed up.

Pipefitter Math, Advanced Pipefitting, CPR/First Aid, Backflow and Med-Gas will be scheduled when we have 6 or more signed up. You will be called when the class is scheduled.

**PLEASE NOTE FOR ALL CERTIFICATIONS:** Per the UA as of January 1, 2019, all Braze and Weld certifications must be updated within 120 days of their expiration date, or you will lose your certification. Check the dates on your certifications and if they have expired call Diana at the Lansing Training Center 517-323-0333. Even though the Training Center sends everyone’s continuities to be renewed, between changes of addresses and the Post Office, there is plenty of room for error. It is the member’s responsibility to make sure their certifications are current.

**Please sign up on the website or call the Lansing Training Center at 517.323.0333.**

**Battle Creek Retirees’ Breakfasts** are held on the fourth Thursday of every month at Lux Café. 2587 Capital Ave, Battle Creek, MI. at 9 am. Please spread the word.

**Retirees’ Breakfast in Jackson:** Retirees meet the third Tuesday of every month at 10:00am at the Alpha Coney Island at 1188 Jackson Crossing, Jackson, MI. **PLEASE NOTE:** The restaurant is located at the west end of the Jackson Crossing Shopping Center.

*“The Ulliance Member Assistance Program is available to all members and their families. This benefit includes free and confidential mental health counseling, coaching, and 24/7 crisis support. In addition, there are free 30-minute consultations on legal and financial matters. There is a great discount program for goods and services as well as free identity theft protection. To find out more, go to [lifeadvisor.com](http://lifeadvisor.com) or call 800-448-8326 or call your respective agent or Dustin at the Union Hall*

**DO NOT opt out of health care coverage on your auto insurance. If you are injured in an auto accident our health care coverage will not cover you.**

We would like to remind everyone that if you have had a life change: address, phone number marriage, divorce, etc., please contact your region office with updates or requesting new beneficiary paperwork.

## Plumbers & Pipe Fitters 333

We would like to take this time reflect on 2025. The brothers we have losted that we have had and to acknowledge those who have retired and have completed the JATC apprenticeship program.

**Our deceased members:** David Hindenach, Michael McCarty, Richard Thornburg, Ronald Underhill, Larry “Rex” Vinson, Alfred “Bud” Walters, William A. Williams.

**Congratulation to our Life Members:** Gale Amon, Gordon Curtin, Bruce Marfio, John McCarty, J.M. Reed.

**Congratulation to our Retirees of 2025:** Kevin Bach, Dale Barr, Bruce Behrens, William Bensinger, Jason Buckner, Craig Cole, James Gray III, Jacob Jackard, Larry Kain, David Kipp, Jeff Kiss, Robert Klon, Geoffrey Madden, Joseph Michilizzi, Stanley Nastally, Gregory Paksi, Michael Phipps, Mike Pierce, Edwin Secor, Kenneth Stevens, Jeff West, Michael Wingard, Dean Wood, Todd Zeller.

**Excellent work and congratulations to our Apprentices who have completed the JATC program and are now Divisional Journeyman or Building Trades Journey. Thank you for your dedication to completing this program. Good luck in the future.** Wyatt Baird, Joshua Billings, Jonathan Bomia, Ethan Burgess, Lee Esch, Kody Mundt, Anthony Sailer, Bryan Schultz, Blake Scroggie, Coy Simon, Forrest Slagel, Grant Smith, Cooper Soltis, Claudell Taylor, Bryan Toomey.

Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 333 would like to announce and congratulate Diana Lake’s retirement as Administrative Assistant of our JATC program. Diana has been at the Training Center for over 10 years. She has done a tremendous job at the training center supporting the instructors and helping our apprentices navigate through the program. Local 333 is wishing her the absolute best in her new adventures, as her last day at the training center will be December 31, 2025. Congratulations Diana!! We are going to miss you.

The Officers, Instructors & Staff would like to wish every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

*“Technology is a way of organizing the universe so that man doesn’t have to experience it.”*  
–Max Frisch

*“Bureaucracy defends the status quo long past the time when the quo has lost its status.”*  
–Laurence J. Peter (1919 - 1988)

*“Happiness makes up in height for what it lacks in length.”*  
– Robert Frost (1874 - 1963)

### SEASON’S GREETINGS!



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# HAPPY HOLIDAYS

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LOCAL UNION 252



Ryan Husse - Business Manager/  
Financial Secretary

Mike Cox - President  
Jeff Burdick - Vice President  
Lisa Grove - Recording Secretary  
Stacie Butler - Treasurer

Geoff Morning - Business Representative  
Rick Plisko - Business Representative  
Mike Cox - Business Representative  
James Johnson Jr. - Business Representative  
Erik Kane - Organizer

Executive Board  
Dan Beck, Jake Church, Geoffrey Morning, Rick Plisko,  
Erik Randall Jr. and Travis Stachlewitz

Examining Board  
Dennis Locks, Merrill Collins and Jason Shuster

Offices:  
7920 Jackson Road, Suite A, Ann Arbor, MI 48103, (734) 424-0978  
3101 Allied Drive, Jackson, MI 49202, (517) 783-2533



**Laborers Local 1191**  
DETROIT — (2161 West Grand Boulevard).

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!: The Executive Board, Officers and Staff of Laborers’ Local 1191 wish you a happy and prosperous 2025 holiday season!**

**LABORERS RISING:** Laborers Rising is a powerful initiative focused on building power and making a difference with our fellow sisters and brothers. Through Laborers Rising, Laborers Local 1191 will be asking its Membership to volunteer their time to support various issues that enhance the lives of working families. If you wish to join our Laborers Rising volunteer list, please call the Local Union at (313) 894-2241 M-F 8 am-4 pm to provide necessary contact information.

**Regular Membership Updates:** Please check out our website at [www.laborerslocal1191.org](http://www.laborerslocal1191.org) and the “Laborers Local 1191” Facebook page for important information about your Local Union.

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

**Monthly General Membership Meetings:** All General Membership Meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Local Union, located at 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208 (except for holidays), unless the Membership receives notice of a meeting cancellation, rescheduling and/or a venue change. **The last General Membership Meeting of 2025**

**was held on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December, 2025. General Membership meetings will resume in 2026 on January 9, 2026 in observance of the New Year holiday.**

**Monthly Retiree Council Meetings:** Retiree Council meetings are the last Friday of each month. The meetings are held at 11:00 am at the Local Union, located at 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208. **The Retiree Council does not meet in November or December 2025. The Retiree Council Meetings resume beginning in January 2026, on January 30, 2026.**

**Union Dues For 2025:** Regular monthly dues are **\$35.00 for Active Members**. Retiree monthly dues will remain the same **\$8.00**. Members can now Pay Dues online 24/7 on our website at [www.laborerslocal1191.org](http://www.laborerslocal1191.org)!!! To make online dues payments, click the “Pay Dues” tab in upper right-hand corner and follow the instructions.

**Important Notice Regarding Dues Payments:** According to 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 will be suspended by the International Union without notice. **To better serve our membership, the Local accepts in-person Cash, Credit and Debit payments.**

**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. **FYI: Members who sign up for Vacation deduction and pay (6) months at a time will receive a 1-month rebate!!!**

**New Projects:** Members are urged to report the start of any/all new projects 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.

**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 to 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. **FYI: It is the Member’s responsibility to regularly notify the Local Union of any changes to his/her skillsets. It could mean the difference of being sent to work or not!**

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

**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 by visiting the training school website at [www.mltai.org](http://www.mltai.org) to schedule appointments for modules. You can also contact the Local Union office at (313) 894-2241 to use a Local Union computer to complete required modules.

**Training:** Check out the training classes available to you at no cost. Journeymen and Apprentices may still obtain training

through MLTAI’s online training at <https://lms.mltai.org>. Types of training you can take include, but are not limited to: OSHA 30, Asbestos Awareness, Silica Awareness, Infectious Disease Awareness, Respirator Awareness, Hazard Communication, Blood-borne Pathogens Awareness, and Lead Awareness. The above training and certifications are all available at the training center. **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.

**MUST Safety Awareness Training:** Please check the MUST website at [www.must-safe.com](http://www.must-safe.com) to see how many modules you have.

**IMPORTANT UNION BENEFIT contact information:** Michigan Laborers’ Fringe Benefits Funds (Annuity, Insurance, Pension) (877) 645-2267

\*Website: [www.michiganlaborers.org](http://www.michiganlaborers.org)

\*Delta Dental: (800) 524-0149

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers’ (Pension)

\*Telephone: (248) 641-4942

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers’ (Healthcare)

\*Telephone: (800) 228 0048

# 2026 LOGBOOKS ARE HERE

**Aiello Law Group** has just released our 2026 Construction Worker’s Daily Logbook. We have been providing logbooks to Michigan’s building trades for more than 30 years.

You can pick one up at our office, your union hall, the Building Trades office at 1640 Porter in Detroit, or it can be mailed to you directly by giving us a call at **313-964-4900** or **248-281-4247**.



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THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!**



From the Officers, Members and Staff of  
**Plumbers & Pipe Fitters  
Local 370  
Flint, Michigan**

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS to the men and women of the Building Trades



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## Local 149

### Roofers and Waterproofers

#### Roofers Local 149

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

**Happy Holidays!** Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year, from the Officers and Members of the United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers, and Allied Workers Local 149. May 2026 be a great, safe, and prosperous year for you and your family.

**The General Membership Meeting** is scheduled for Tues., Jan. 6, 2026, at 7 p.m. at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216

**The next Executive Board Meeting** is scheduled for Tues., Jan 6, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216

**Mid-Michigan.** The Mid-Michigan informational meeting is scheduled for Tues., Jan. 13, 2026, at 6 p.m at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420.

An invitation has been sent to the Brothers and Sister listed in the last edition regarding the 2025 Commencement Ceremony luncheon. The annual Commencement Ceremony luncheon will be held at the IBEW Local No. 58 Union Hall Sunday, Dec. 21, 2025, 10 am through 3 pm.

Union Brothers and Sisters, on behalf of the Members and Officers of the United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers, & Allied Workers Local 149, I would like to congratulate and thank you all for your decades of services in our great Union.

This is to remind you that you have come a long way, and your contributions have continued to inspire our Local. We wish you a very Happy Work Anniversary!

2025 Commencement Ceremony & **Retiree's Christmas and Holiday luncheon**

Mark your calendar, the annual Commencement Ceremony and the Retiree's Christmas and Holiday luncheon is scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 21, 2025. The luncheon will take place at the IBEW Local No. 58 Union Hall from 10:00am through 3:00pm.

The IBEW Local No. 58 is located at 1366 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48226. One block east of our Union Hall. An invitation will be sent to the Brothers and

Sister regarding the 2025 Commencement Ceremony luncheon, which honors those receiving their 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, and 65 years of service. Retirees and those receiving their pins need to RSVP. Calling us will give our Hall a count of the food we will need for the catered lunch. Additionally, please let us know if your spouse or a date will be joining us.

**Retirees' Association.** Mark your calendar, the annual Retirees' Christmas and Holiday luncheon is Sunday, Dec.21, 2025. (See the notice above).

Being part of this association, you will be eligible to participate in several different events. Including but not limited to, our annual Christmas party, fall picnic outing, card games, and the camaraderie of the Brotherhood and Sisterhood, to name a few. The Association members are constantly seeking new and exciting things to do.

Being part of this association, it is required for you to pay a yearly fee. The yearly dues will cost you \$40.00, in addition to your monthly Union dues. The Association does not require the surviving spouse of a member to pay the yearly dues. The Members of the Retirees Association vote to set the amount of the yearly dues.

Will you be joining us? Calling us will give our Hall a count of the food we will need for the catered lunch. Additionally, please let us know if your spouse or a date will be joining us.

The Retirees Association has a Chain of Command and every 3 years the association will vote on a President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Trustees, etc. If you are a retired 149 member and you would like to receive any additional information about the Association or would like to join, please contact the Union Hall at 313.961.6093 ext. 0.

**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 we will contact the Local in that area to avoid fines

against you.

**Detroit Training Center Information.** Journeyworkers upgrade classes to improve your skills, your worth, and our Brotherhood/Sisterhood is available at no cost to all Detroit LU 149 members. Dues must be current in order to enter the Training Center. If you are interested in any of these classes, contact the Training Center, 248-543-3847.

**Mid-Michigan Training Center Information.** Journeyworkers upgrade classes to improve your skills, your worth, and our Brotherhood/Sisterhood is available at no cost to all Mid-Michigan LU 149 members. Dues must be current in order to enter the Training Center.

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

**Out-Of-Work.** When contractors call the Union Hall for help, we need to know who is available, and have an up-to-date phone number. All Detroit Area members who are out of work need to call the Hall at (313) 961-6093 ext. 0 to be put on the out of work list. 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.

**Outdoor Life.** If you have any hunting and fishing pictures that you would like to see in the Journeyman Roofing & Waterproofing magazine, please contact the Union Hall at 313.961.6093 ext. 0, for additional information.

**Are you 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.

The publication above is as 12/8/2025, 1:00pm

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

You and your health . . .



**WHEN YOU TRY TO SORT** through who's responsible for rising U.S. healthcare costs, it can feel like a room full of kids shouting, "I didn't do it!" Every party declares they are not responsible, and that they must charge more because of their higher costs. Here are a few examples:

**Hospitals and physician practices** argue for higher rates to cover their rising costs, including advanced technologies which treat illnesses and disease previously untreatable or treated with less success; and high rates of uncompensated care.

**Insurance companies** must pay for higher priced services that include new approaches and technologies to manage chronic disease, complex cancer care and specialty prescription drugs to treat them.

**Employer-sponsored plans, Taft-Hartley funds, and government plans** are hit with the same rising costs—and much (or a portion) of that burden gets shifted onto workers through higher premium contributions, larger co-pays, and steeper deductibles.

#### What They Have In Common

Rising prices are the common denominator among all the parties in healthcare. So what's driving them?

Some costs actually reflect progress. New therapies and cutting-edge drugs can be expensive to develop and deliver, but they often transform care in ways that were unimaginable even a decade ago. Today, gene therapies can cure certain inherited diseases that once meant a lifetime of hospitalizations, and new cancer immunotherapies help patients live longer, healthier lives with fewer side effects than traditional treatments.

These innovations come with a price tag, but they also bring enormous value—offering better outcomes, less suffering, and sometimes, genuine cures.

## The Healthcare Blame Game: Everyone Denies It. You Pay For It.

*Some of the very entities complaining about higher costs are making the problem worse. Big insurers, hospitals, and physician practices have all sought to gobble up other healthcare companies. The result is not for the better.*

But then there are cost drivers that actually threaten the long-term sustainability of healthcare – and it turns out some of the very entities complaining about higher costs are making the problem worse. The topic of consolidations in healthcare might sound boring, but it has real world impacts on how our healthcare system works, and it's not for the better.

#### Making Matters Worse

Every type of big healthcare entity – insurers, hospitals, and physician practices – has sought to get even bigger in recent years by gobbling up as many healthcare companies as possible. While some argue that consolidation in the healthcare industry creates efficiencies that can improve healthcare, unfortunately there are many examples to the contrary:

- A doctor office visit in a facility affiliated with a hospital system may now incur a "facility fee" in addition to the doctor charges. And charges for specific procedures such as infusions performed in hospital-affiliated facilities can be billed at higher rates than in those not affiliated with a hospital system.
- Maternity services in some rural areas can now only be accessed by driving long distances to a provider when before there were local resources for this type of care. As smaller systems are bought by larger ones, consolidating service is more profitable, even though it results in maternity care deserts.
- Medicare spending on colonoscopies increased by an average of \$3,851 per year from 2012

*AEPC is a labor-management purchasing coalition with a proven track record of delivering the best price, service and expertise for benefits. For more info about our programs and health and wellness information, visit our website: [www.aepc.us](http://www.aepc.us) or on Facebook, Twitter, or LinkedIn.*

through 2015 when gastroenterologists consolidated with a hospital, according to a study cited in a 2025 U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) report.

- In at least 35 states, three or fewer insurance companies control 80 percent or more of the market. Medicare Advantage markets are similarly dominated by just one or two carriers, especially in rural areas. Another U.S. GAO report published in 2024 cites strong evidence that this type of concentration is associated with higher consumer premiums.

#### Stop! I Want to Get Off!!

How do we stop this madness? Health spending in the U.S. was \$74 billion in 1970. By 2000 it had gone up to \$1.4 trillion. In 2024 healthcare spending was \$5.2 trillion. A survey of employers done by the business analysis firm Mercer indicates employers expect their healthcare benefit costs to increase 6.7 percent in 2026, so there is no anticipation of a slowdown in costs.

#### The Will To Make Change

Our collective will to make change in healthcare should start with the moral fortitude to assure economic resources are available for the well-being of all. AEPC helps unions and employers navigate healthcare's current-day complexities. But systemic change is needed to address the upward spiral of prices in our healthcare system. Stopping anti-competitive consolidations would be one place to start.

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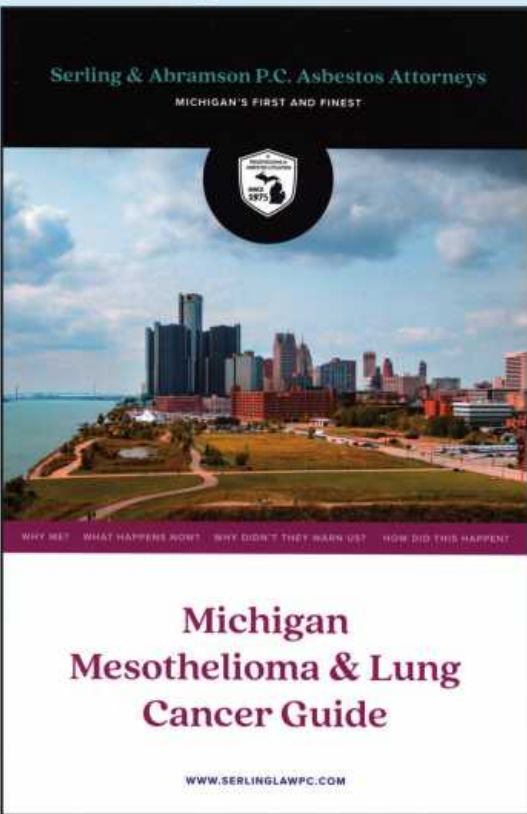
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From the Officers & Members of IBEW LOCAL 58

We wish All Trades and their families a



Jimmy Soosik  
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

---

Kimberly L'Heureux	Andrew Currie	Felicia Wiseman	Jeannette Bradshaw
President	Vice President	Treasurer	Recording Secretary

Executive Board

Kevin Mack, Chairman  
Kevin Mackey Angela Panicucci  
Pat Burns Brian Price

Business Representatives

Andy Dueweke, Asst. Business Manager  
Michael Bellhorn, Dispatcher  
Tim Scott, Office Manager  
Ben Jones Steven Schwartz Dejuan Moss  
Byron Osbern Don Thieke Jeanette Caldwell Justin Steenbergh  
Kurt Boardman Paul Ledsworth Phil Terrill Ric Preuss Scott Glaza  
Synnia Williams Tom Diederichs

Examining Board

Jason Fournier Joseph Wiemer Sonya Hulett  
James Melton Jeff O'Donnell



# THE BUILDING TRADESMAN

Second Section Front Page



## Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

BAC Local 2  
WARREN – UPCOMING MEETINGS.

MARQUETTE CHAPTER: Monday, Dec. 15, 2025 at 7:00 PM, 119 S Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

HOUGHTON MEETING: December Meeting - CANCELLED

BRETT GIERAK - Due to the U.P. Christmas Party, which is scheduled on the same day

METRO DETROIT CHAPTER: Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2026 at 5:30pm, 21031 Ryan Road, Warren, MI 48091

ANNARBOR CHAPTER: Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2026 at 6 pm, 8225 Dexter-Chelsea Road, Dexter, MI 48130

FLINT CHAPTER: Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2026 at 7:30pm, 1701 W. Genesee Street, Lapeer, MI 48446

LANSING CHAPTER: Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2026 at 6:00pm, 3321 Remy Drive, Lansing, MI 48906

KALAMAZOO CHAPTER: Thursday, Jan. 8, 2026 at 6:00 PM, 11847 Shaver Road, Schoolcraft, MI 49087

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OF THE MEMBERS OF BAC LOCAL 2!

U.P. MEMBERS – SAVE THE DATE: BAC Local 2's Annual U.P. Christmas Party, Thursday, Dec. 18, 2025! Vierling Restaurant Sample Room, 119 S Front St, Marquette, MI 49855 at 6:00pm. GOOD STANDING MEMBERS ONLY!

THANK YOU to all of our members who attended BAC Local 2's Annual Christmas Party on Saturday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> in Livonia. Nearly 600 members were in at-

tendance with laughs and good cheer all around.

Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother John Gray** (Pointer Cleaner Caulker) who passed away on 11/27/2025. Brother Gray had been a member for over 61 years.

APPRENTICE HOURS PORTAL: Turning in hours monthly on the Engage Portal is a requirement of your apprenticeship in order to keep up with your raises. This is all completed online must be filled out with details of what you have done for the month. If you need assistance getting access to the portal or need help on how to turn in time there are resources available online or please contact Nate Nestor at (313) 467-5382. They can be found at <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org>

BAC LOCAL 2'S TRAINING CENTERS: Both of Local 2 Training Centers are open to our members. To make your appointment for your annual RESPIRATOR FIT TEST, or for other scheduled appointments at the Warren or Lansing Training Center, please contact Nate Nestor directly at (313) 467-5382. Go to <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org>, to view the Apprenticeship and Training website and register for future 2025 training classes.

UNION DUES: Pay 9 months, get 3 free. To receive the discount, you must be current on dues. Members will only be able to pay 2 years in advance.

TEXTING PROGRAM: 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 text message.

You must be signed up to receive these messages. You can sign up via the following: Text 2MI to 50607

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!

CRAFT WORKERS 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.

MEMBERSHIP ASSISTANCE: The IUBAC Member Assistance Program has a number of services available for free or at a discounted rate to BAC members and their families. These confidential services can be seen at <https://bacweb.org/member-service/member-assistance-program-map> and are also available via telephone at 1-833-MAP TALK (1-833-627-8255) Monday – Friday 8 am – 7 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."

PENSION AND HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION. BAC of Michigan Health & Welfare Fund – (248) 828-6000 Cement Pension & Vacation Funds – (248) 645-6550

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

Metro Detroit Bricklayers Pension – (248) 641-4954 Michigan BAC Pension Fund (Outstate) – (248) 641-4954 Michigan BAC Vacation Fund – (248) 828-6000



## Local 514 Cement Masons & Plasterers

Operative Plasterers and Cement Masons Local 514

DETROIT – The January membership meeting is cancelled. Membership Gold Cards- Congratulations!

To all our Local 514 members, we send our warmest wishes for a wonderful holiday season and a healthy, happy new year! From the Officers and staff of Local 514

Marcus Martinez is the new Apprenticeship Coordinator; he can be reached at (313)-350-0389 or by email: [mmartinez@opciami.org](mailto:mmartinez@opciami.org)

Please contact the local at 248-548-0800 or you can email your updated information to [abest@opciami.org](mailto:abest@opciami.org) Please send your updated information in a timely manner.

MUST Safety Awareness Training: Please check the MUST website at [www.Mustb-safe.com](http://www.Mustb-safe.com) to see how many modules you have. You must create a new username and password. We will send ALL MUST drug authorization forms to members email address.

Please activate your Blue Cross Blue Shield account. To activate your Blue Cross member account online go to [bcbsm.com/register](http://bcbsm.com/register) and select register now.

Beneficiary Reminder: Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice especially after a divorce on all your OPCMIA Local 514, 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.

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.

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.

Attention all Apprentices, now you will need to go to the website: [www.micementplasterertraining.com](http://www.micementplasterertraining.com) to enter your work hours. When you get to the website click the link "About" and then click on "Apprentice"

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](http://www.opcmiami.org).

Please refer to the website for updated information.

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

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

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

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

all of the fund offices.

Important Notice For Plasterers and Detroit Commercial Cement Masons: You are able to find out more about Fund investments, change your investments, obtain your balances, and, during regular business hours, speak to a representative by contacting Principal either via its website, [www.Principal.com](http://www.Principal.com) or by telephone, 800-547-7754.

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

As always, if you have any questions or need help on any matter relating to the Fund, you can contact the Fund Office for assistance at (248) 645-6550 or 5600 New King Dr. Ste 330 Troy, MI 48098 48025-4524 The Fund Office's business hours are 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Plasterers and Cement Masons: It is your responsibility to fill out reciprocity forms if you plan on working out of the local 514 area. This will ensure that your hours are sent back to your home fund. If you have any questions, or need any forms, please contact the Local.

Please make sure your beneficiary information is up to date.

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.



Iron Workers Local Union No. 25 wishes you....

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Best Wishes to all our Members, their family, and to all our Union Contractors!

Michael Randick, Business Manager / FST  
Dennis Aguirre II, President  
Jimmy Horvath, Vice President/BA  
Jeff Hamric, Recording Secretary

### Business Agents:

Douglas Craig Washburn  
Rich Stricklin  
Mark Ellul  
Ben Dodson  
Wayne Coffell  
Mike Christensen  
Tim Brennan

### Executive Board:

Rich Witzke  
Scott Patterson  
Joe Patterson  
Eric Aguirre



### Union Trustees:

Don Litterini  
Chad Cox  
Paul Becigneul

### Examining Board:

Doug Shaffer  
Todd Foreman  
Paul Becigneul

### Conductor:

Danny Fogg

### Sergeant-At-Arms:

Terrence Howery





## Elevator Constructors Local 36

Elevator Constructors Local 36  
DETROIT – **ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED;** Our next regular membership meeting will be **Dec. 22, 2025, 5:30pm** at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216. Our next Executive Board meeting will be held on **Dec. 15, 2025, at 5pm** at the same location. Anyone interested in being a mentor, our next Probationary meeting will be **Jan. 5 at 5pm** at the hall. Any changes to this schedule or venue will be in the Building Trades Article or sent via email.

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

**Attention All Members:** If you are unloading a job and you find the fishplates already attached to the rail, predrilled holes on machines/beams, door equipment already installed, or any other violation, take pictures and send them to the hall via email or text with the address of the job.

2026 wage rates, zone sheets and dues card increases were mailed out a few weeks ago. If you didn't receive them, contact the hall and we will get you copies.

The latest changes (inserts) to the Local Constitution and Bylaws are available at the hall.

**4th quarter dues** are due at the end of the month, don't wait till the last minute to send them in.

The **Picnic assessment** will be (\$45) per member and be assessed with 4th quarter dues.

There is a \$25 Death Assessment per member for the Death Benefit Fund that will be assessed with 4th quarter dues.

The International has set up The Veteran Assistance Program to help veterans navigate the VA benefits they deserve. The email is [vap@iuec.org](mailto:vap@iuec.org) or contact Jason Gray, IUEC National Chairman

@ 404-290-1012 or Ryan Donnell, EIWP National Co-Chair @ 410-312-1474.

IUEC Local 36 has started a Veteran Assistance Committee. Scott Erison was appointed to chair the committee and will be working directly with Jason Gray, IUEC VAP National Chair. Once we get a schedule figured out, we will have monthly meetings to get information out to our veterans. Contact Scott Erison (586)482-0768 or email him at [sanosire1973@gmail.com](mailto:sanosire1973@gmail.com) if you would like to get involved.

**If you move or your address changes, call the hall and make sure you fill out the address change form on the NEIBP website. Mail a copy to the fund office and one to the hall.**

If you are going to be off with an injury (work related or non-work related), surgery or illness for a prolonged length of time, call the **fund office (800)523-4702** and inform the hall. When you are off and go back to work. The weekly Income Benefit through the international has increased to \$715 weekly after the one week waiting period.

If you start a new job in MOD/construction, you **MUST** report those jobs to the hall! If you are going to be working a 4/10 job in construction or MOD, it **MUST** be submitted in writing to the Local Business Representative per Article VII Par. 2A. and Article VIII(A) Par. 2A. **When starting a new job please email the hall @ [Local36@iuec36.org](mailto:Local36@iuec36.org) with job name, address, names of mechanics and apprentices on job, mechanic's phone numbers, how many teams, type of equipment installing, how many stops and jobsite hours.** This will help

us keep track of jobs easier than just calling the hall.

**Attention All Mechanics,** just a reminder to Mechanic's that passed the Mechanic's Exam **on or after July 9, 2022**, starting Jan. 1, 2023, and each calendar year thereafter, each mechanic shall be required to successfully complete at least eight hours of online continuing education from the curriculum published annually by NEIEP. If you passed the mechanic's exam in 2025 you are not **required** to complete it till 2026 but we encourage you to complete it so you can get in the habit of doing it.

NEIEP will monitor compliance for all participants and upon successful completion will pay the participants' Mechanic rate for their home local (excluding benefit contributions). **Required Mechanics (including assistant mechanics) that do not comply with the continuing education requirements shall not receive the wage rate increase until completion of the required continuing education curriculum.**

**Attention All Apprentices,** If you are scheduled to sit for the Mechanic's exam, you must fill out your OJTs till you get your passing results. Kenny and I thank all of you for keeping up on your OJTs, schooling, and commitment to your future. Check your NEIEP emails frequently. OJT forms need to be filled out **COMPLETELY** by the 9th day of the following month. **There is NO excuse for these to be late!!!**

**Attention All Temporary Mechanics,** your Temporary Mechanic's Agreement **MUST** be signed by the end of each month **at the Union meeting.** If you can't make the Union meeting

(for good reasons) to sign your agreement, then come down to the hall **NEXT MORNING.** If we continue to have problems getting these signed, you will be called down in front of the Executive board. If you are put back to Apprentice status, **your personal tools MUST** be taken

**off the job, out of your vehicle and notify the hall.**

**Attention All Retirees,** if you requested an Honorary Card and have not received it, please contact the Hall.

**If you are NOT receiving my emails, contact the Hall so I can put you on the email list.**

We would like to wish a speedy recovery for the Brothers and Sisters on our sick and injured list.

Thanks for working safely and keep your mind on safety throughout the holidays and have a happy & healthy Holiday Season!

## BEST WISHES this HOLIDAY SEASON



From the Officers,  
Members and Staff  
of

Pipefitters, Steamfitters, Refrigeration  
& Air Conditioning Services Local 636

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# Boilermakers Local 169

*Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas  
& a Prosperous New Year!*

*Michael D. Card, Business Manager*  
*Donald M. Fajardo, President*  
*Scott Ivey, Vice-President*  
*Tony Herrera, Recording Secretary*  
*Jamie Ratliff, Trustee Chairman*  
*Matthew Chase, Trustee*  
*Jay Howard, Trustee*  
*Michael A. Dodson, Inspector*



From the Officers and Members of

*Local 333*

We wish you

*Happy Holidays*  
&  
*A Prosperous New Year*

Dustin Howard  
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Chris Keck  
Asst. Business Manager

Brandon Snyder  
Business Agent

Nick Asher  
Business Agent

Jason Brown  
Business Agent

Jeremy Garza  
Vice President

Dave Mull  
President

Tim Hicks  
Recording Secretary

Executive Board Members:  
DeShon Leek, Rob White, Issac Brugger, Joe Hardin





Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers  
Local 2 of Michigan

**Wish All of You a Safe  
and Happy Holiday Season!**

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS

**Brett Gierak - President**  
**Chad Morrison - Secretary Treasurer**  
**Sean Griffin - Vice Chairperson**

Field Representatives

**Nacho Amoles**  
**Andy Bradley**  
**Chris Fillmore**  
**Trevor Grace**  
**Greg Lobodzinski**  
**Aaron Pistor**  
**Adam Saari**  
**Tony Scavone**  
**Jose Serratos**

OFFICE STAFF

**Colleen Dunn**  
**Melissa McClelland**  
**Kelsey Dodd**

TRAINING STAFF

**Howard Hipes - Statewide Director**  
**Eric Rice - Lansing Instructor**  
**Nate Nestor - Detroit Instructor**  
**Dave Palo - Detroit Instructor**  
**Tamma Dennis - Lansing Administrative Assistant**

**SKILL • PRIDE • UNIFIED**

**“Like” us on Facebook**  
**Bricklayers Local 2**

**Website: [www.bricklayers.org](http://www.bricklayers.org)**  
**Offices in Warren and Lansing**

# Season's Greetings!

From the Brothers  
and Sisters  
at IBEW Local 557,  
Saginaw

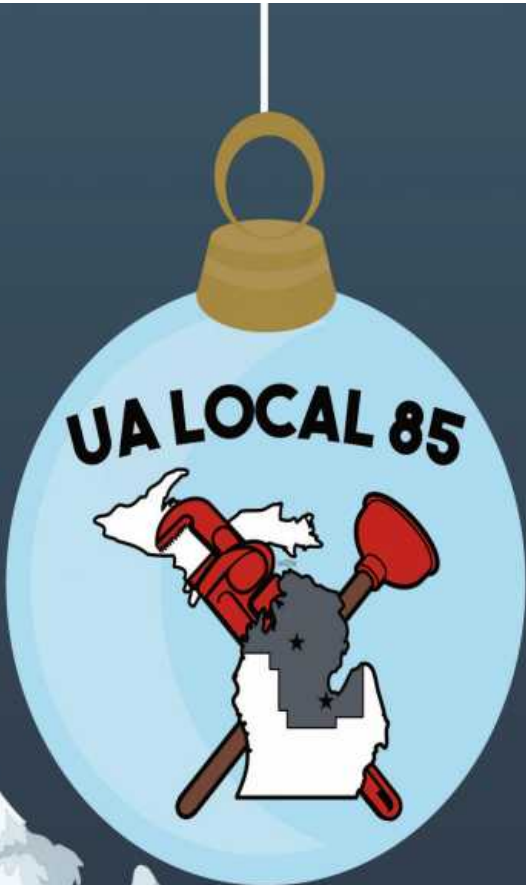


IBEW Local 557 thanks all the members from throughout the country who have taken calls at Project Phoenix in the past year.

Local 557 would not have been able to make this project a success without the help from all the other Locals represented on the Megasite.

Wishing our Brothers & Sisters a  
safe and happy holiday season

# Merry Christmas



Justin M. Pomerville

Business Manager/ Financial Secretary  
UA Local 85 Plumbers, Steamfitters & HVACR

3535 Bay Rd.  
Saginaw, MI 48603  
(989) 799-5261  
[www.ualocal85.org](http://www.ualocal85.org)



## Local 25 Iron Workers

### Iron Workers 25

NOVI – The December Union Meeting is cancelled due to the holiday season. Our Union Halls will be closed on Dec. 24, 25, 31, and Jan. 1, 2026. Members can reach their Business Agent on their cell phones for any urgent matters.

**The Iron Workers Annual Children’s Christmas Party is SATURDAY DECEMBER 13, 2025** at the Novi Union Hall. 25150 Trans X Dr. Novi MI. **Doors open at 10 am. We have a new Magic show starting at 11:30 - PLEASE arrive BEFORE the show starts.** In addition to the show, the kids will enjoy face-painting & crafts; pictures, hot dogs, pop & chips, cotton candy, popcorn, raffles, and of course Santa Claus. **We will have gifts for kids to age 10.**

The Flint Steward Holiday meeting open house will be Wednesday, Dec. 17 at 4 pm. The Saginaw Steward Holiday meeting open house will be Dec. 18 at 6 pm.

**A HEALTH CARE REPRESENTATIVE from the Fringe Benefit Fund office will be at the Novi Union Hall on Tuesday, Dec. 23 from 8 am to 12 noon;** to meet with any member(s), to address health care issues or HRA substantiation concerns Call ahead, or walk-in!

**A FRINGE FUND PENSION DEPT REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE AT THE NOVI UNION HALL on Wednesday Jan. 7 from 8 am to 12 noon.** If you wish to book an appointment or have questions, call 248-344-9494. Walk-ins are welcome also!

*If you have moved please be sure to update the Union Hall 248-344-9494. We will gladly advise the Fringe Benefit Fund office of your move upon request.*

**BY-LAW(S) Proposals will be due in the Novi Union Hall ON OR BEFORE 4 pm Jan. 26, 2026. This meeting will be the first reading of any proposed by law(s) and Union Meeting starting at 7pm. If you plan to mail in a proposal, please make sure it arrives several days earlier than Monday 1/26/2026. We’ve noticed mail has been slow in**

*Michigan, so please be aware! February’s Union meeting will be Monday Feb. 23, 2026 at 7pm.*

This union meeting will be the second reading of any proposed by law(s). The third reading will be during March’s informational meeting Monday March 9, 2026, with the Vote date of March 11, 2026.

Any issues with December vacation checks should be referred to Dennis Aguirre

We continue to communicate through the **PUSH NOTIFICATIONS for alerts & emails.** You can download our APP for android on google play or for iphone at the APP store just search “Iron Workers Local 25” Martinez web shop. **Or sign up via our website (www.ironworkers25.org).**

The ClickSafety program allows ironworker members to meet a myriad of training requirements, offering over 100 online courses in English and Spanish that include many OSHA-authorized courses. Simply log in: <https://sms.cop-perrange.com/impact/sms/login/> The username is the member’s book # and the password is the FIRST 4 digits of your SSN

**The 2026 Dennis O’Dowd SCHOLARSHIP Rules & Application form is available on the member only section of our website and APP; or you can call Mary at the Novi Union Hall to request one 248-344-9494. All requests must be made by Friday March 6 and all completed applications are due by March 13, 2026.** These are for sons/daughters of full dues paying active/working members of Ironworkers Local 25 who are in their senior year of High School. The member must have a minimum of five years continuous membership to be eligible.

**Apprentices:** located under the Apprenticeship Tab you will find “Make-Up Days” & “Welding Test Certifications” where you can electronically schedule your make-up days and welding tests. To view classes at the Local 25 Apprenticeship School, please go to our website (ironworkers25.org); to view the 2025 or 2026 Block Schedule, Roster and Raising Gang Schedule. Please make sure to download the Trade-

School Mobile App to submit your monthly work and school hours. These must be submitted monthly. If you have Facebook or Instagram, please give us a follow. Wixom Training Center Phone: 248-960-2130.

We take Apprentice applications year-round! Visit our website (ironworkers25.org) where you can print your application, make your application appointment & pay the application fee online; you must have an appointment to turn in an application. We take appointments Tuesday – Thursdays! No walk-in foot traffic.

**24/7 CREDIT-DEBIT CARD processing for Union Dues:** Pay via our APP or website [www.ironworkers25.org](http://www.ironworkers25.org). **The phone no. is 866-635-2826. Or 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 7:30 am to 4:30 pm. 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.

If any member is having problems with the HRA substantiation letters please call Dennis Aguirre.

Check your HRA/Benny Card Balance: [my.wexhealthcard.com](http://my.wexhealthcard.com). Check your online benefit information: [ourbenefitoffice.com/iw25/benefits/](http://ourbenefitoffice.com/iw25/benefits/)

**HRA/Benny Card Audit is continuously under way via US Mail – please respond if you have been contacted. You need to save your receipts for three years.**

The Iron Workers’ Local 25 Novi Chapter Retirees’ Club’s meeting/luncheon will be Tuesday Dec. 16, 2025 at 10:00 am. The Retirees’ Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday Jan. 6, 2026 at 8 am. All are welcome.

The West Michigan Chap- (Continued next column)



## Local 169 Boilermakers

### Boilermakers 169

ALLEN PARK – Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will take place on **Dec. 12, 2025, 8:00pm** at Boilermakers Local 169 Union Hall.



MICHAEL CARD

The address is 1755 Fairlane Drive, Allen Park, Michigan 48101. We will be providing food after the meeting. Come and break bread with your union brothers and sisters.

We would like to wish our members and their families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Our monthly dues will stay at our current rate \$55.85 for 2026.

As we approach the holiday season, take extra precautions while traveling.

We will have a special called meeting on Feb. 2 2025 at 7:00pm for nominations of Local Lodge officers. Nominations for delegate to the 35th Consolidated Convention will be held at our regular scheduled Union meeting March 13<sup>th</sup> at the Union Hall.

We are scheduling an MSHA class for the upcoming Tilden Mine work. Any member that requires this training should contact Area 4 Business Agent Jim Calouette or contact the Union Hall to be added to the list. You will be informed of the time and location of the training once the

class is filled.

OSHA 10 and OSHA 30 safety training can now be taken online. Please visit our website – [www.boilermakerslocal169.com](http://www.boilermakerslocal169.com)- for more information.

Any member interested in getting the Great Lakes Safety background check for Corteva please contact Business Agent, Jim Calouette at (906) 428-2880. Any members interested in EPRI Rigging, which is required for working in the Nuclear Plants.

Please contact Tony Herrera at 616-296-9131, or Jamie Ratliff at 313-584-8520. Your name will be added to the list. Once we have a full class, you will be notified when and where to attend. Per your International, any member with EPRI training will not be required to have Rigging 1 through 4 for placement on the BDS.

**Retirees:** Retiree luncheons

**Area 1** Retiree luncheon is on the first Wednesday of every month at 11:00 am at the White Rhino Sports Bar, 4328 Oakwood, Melvindale, 48122.

**Area 2** Retirees hold luncheons on the first Thursday of every month at 11am at Whitlow’s Forerunner Restaurant, at 4610 Airline Rd, Muskegon MI. All retirees and members from all areas are welcome to attend.

**Area 3** Retirees luncheon is the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 11AM. The next lunch will be on Dec. 17, 2025, at The Green Spot Pub. The address is 808 N. Mission Street, Mt. Pleasant, MI. 48858. As always, everyone from all areas is welcome to attend.

**Area 4** Retirees’ lunches are on the first Tuesday of the month at 11am in Rapid River at Jacks Restaurant 7898 S. Main Street, Rapid River, MI. Area 4 retirees also meet in Marquette on the second Tuesday of the month at 11am at Crossroads Bar on the corner of County Rd 553 and County Road 480.

Hoodies have arrived in all sizes at the Union Hall. The cost is \$45.00. Payments can be made with cash or a check. If you live outside 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. The upcoming MSHA training schedule is available at [www.boilermakerslocal169.com](http://www.boilermakerslocal169.com) or on our Facebook page.

The cost of your T.W.I.C. card is reimbursable from the M.O.R.E. Fund. Contact the Union Hall for reimbursement.

Any member needing the services of a Notary Public can do so at no charge at the Boilermakers Local 169 Union Hall. Please call ahead to ensure availability.

Any current apprentice that is eligible to utilize their G.I. Bill should contact their branch of service regarding this benefit. Your apprenticeship training qualifies for reimbursement under the terms of the G.I. Bill. I advise all apprentices who qualify to take advantage of this well-deserved benefit.

## Iron Workers 25, continued

ter Retirees breakfast will meet Tuesday, Jan. 6 at 9 am at Red Rock Grille & Café, 228 N. Ball Creek Rd, NW, Kent City, MI 49330. All are welcome.

The next quarterly meeting for the **Bay City Chapter** will Jan. 15 at the Iron Workers Local 25 Saginaw Union Hall, 11 Bridgeview S. Saginaw Mi 48604 at 12 pm. All are Welcome.

The **Downriver Chapter** next quarterly Retirees breakfast to be held 9 am Jan. 16 at Mom’s Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, MI, 48183. All are welcome.


**Blue Cross Blue Shield**

**Michigan: [www.bcbsm.com/behavioral-mental-health/](http://www.bcbsm.com/behavioral-mental-health/)** Resources on the home page including In-Person Crisis Care options in many locations in the state. BCBS Michigan 877-627-1041, Blue Care Network 800-482-5982 for Substance-use-disorder.

**In Memory:** JIW Robert “Bob” Aulbert #1286411 passed away November 20, 2025 at the age of 63. He was a 25-year member, survived by his daughter Morgan and son Zack. Lifetime IW Richard Corcoran #739250 passed away Oct. 31, 2025 at the age of 84. He was a 59-year sur-


vived by his wife Kathryn. JIW Chris Peach #1253354 passed away Nov. 25, 2025 at the age of 47. He was formerly a 27-year member. He is survived by his Uncle Glen Peach #1135064 and brother Aaron Peach #1313731. He was predeceased by his father Kevin Peach #930221. John Wall #1310695 passed away Nov. 22, 2025 at the age of 60. He was formerly a 22-year member. *Our sincere condolences to all of the family and friends on the loss of your dear loved one(s).*

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (Dec 8, 2025 11:00 AM E.S.T.).



# HOLIDAY GREETINGS

May the warmth of this Holiday Season be with all of you throughout the New Year!



**Joe Troutt**  
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

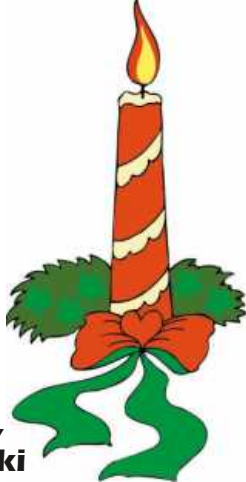
**Kevin Ryal**  
Business Agent

**Glaire Stewart**  
President

**Jeff Gray**  
Vice President

**David Ryal**  
Recording Secretary

**Jason Johnson, Al McCreddie, Adam Novak, Tanner Tringovski**  
Executive Board



## Sprinkler Fitters Local 704

# Seasons Greetings

from



**Randall J. Whitaker**  
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

**Dave Forbes**  
Business Representative

**Roy Musgrove**  
Business Representative

**Dan Jagosz**  
President

**Colin Krasny**  
Training Director

**Patrick Duffy**  
Business Representative

**Trevor Hughes**  
Organizer

**Dave Richardson**  
Vice President

**Ralph Booth**  
OQ Evaluator

**Joel Roberts**  
BT Instructor

### Executive Board

**Kyle Butler**

**Stephen Cook**

**Bernadette Maus**

**Kristyn Goebel**

**Colin Krasny**

**Doug Mayher Jr.**

**Karen Spearin**

**Melissa Wood**

### Office Professionals





# MAKING A ZERO-INJURY CAREER A REALITY

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Royal Oak, MI. 48067

**Bryan Davis** MUST Labor Co-Chair  
MRCC

**Donna Pardonnet** MUST Management Co-Chair  
ACT-Michigan


“What if Christmas, he thought, doesn’t come from a store. What if Christmas ... perhaps ... means a little bit more!” –Dr. Suess, The Grinch, How the Grinch Stole Christmas

“I never thought it was such a bad little tree. It’s not bad at all really. Maybe it just needs a little love.” – Charles M. Schultz, Charlie Brown, “A Charlie Brown Christmas”

“Now, Dasher! now, Dancer! now Prancer and Vixen! On, Comet! on, Cupid! on, Donder and Blixen!” –Clement Clarke Moore (1779-1863) A Visit from St. Nicholas

# Happy Holidays

HEAT AND FROST INSULATORS



LOCAL 47

President: Walter Wilson  
Business Manager: Patrick Welch

“Next to a circus there ain’t nothing that packs up and tears out faster than the Christmas spirit.” –Kin Hubbard (1868 - 1930)  
“Christmas is built upon a beautiful and intentional paradox; that the birth of the homeless should be celebrated in every home.” – G.K. Chesterton (1874-1936)

Wishing you peace and goodwill this holiday season and a prosperous new year.

Executive Board

Jason Constantine  
Tom Brown  
Jason Lane  
Jessica Zarna  
Timothy Roberts



Trustees  
Ed Zabik  
David Germain  
Khristopher Andrus  
Chris Peltier, Warden  
Shaun Allen, Conductor

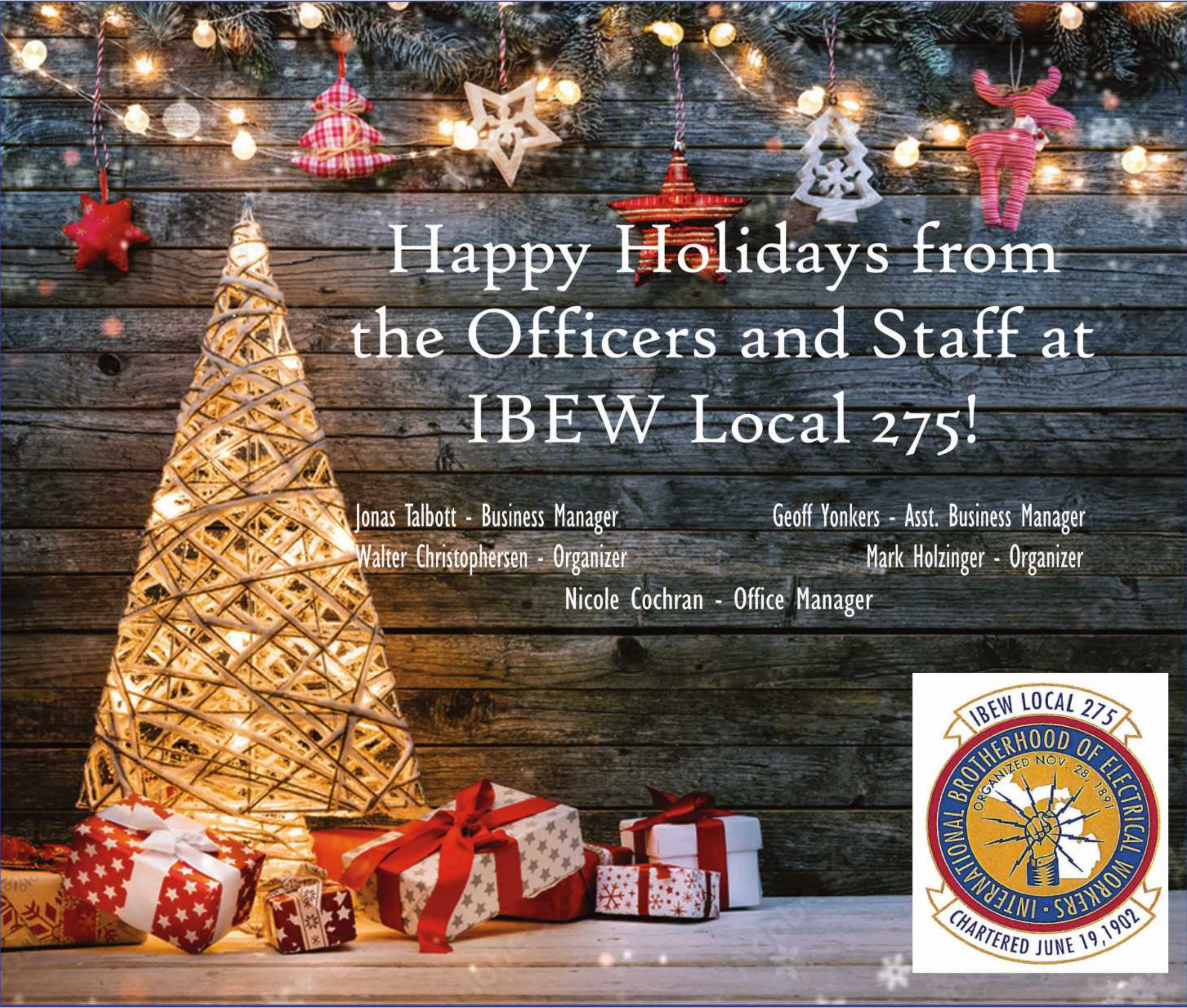
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Jason Grunenwald

Joe Brick, President  
Aaron Griffin, Vice President  
Tony Stocker, Recording Secretary

Business Agents  
Eric McPherson  
David Angelo  
Frank Livingston  
Scott Lewis

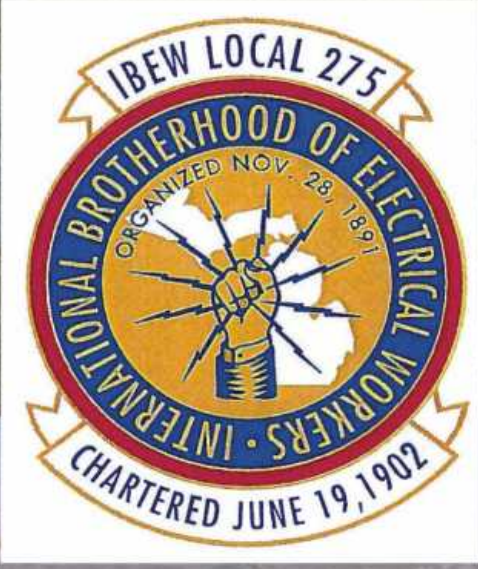
David Hartsuck, Organizer



## Happy Holidays from the Officers and Staff at IBEW Local 275!

Jonas Talbott - Business Manager  
Walter Christophersen - Organizer  
Nicole Cochran - Office Manager

Geoff Yonkers - Asst. Business Manager  
Mark Holzinger - Organizer



# MERRY CHRISTMAS

Business Manager  
**Gary Glaser**

Business Agents  
**Jimmy Cools**  
**Rufus Hamilton**  
**Jeff Kavalor**  
**Paul Smith**

VP/Organizer  
**Rob Moses**

Examining Board  
**Tyler Lovelace**  
**Rob Murley**  
**Clay Terry**

Office Professionals  
**Christine DenDooven**  
**Donna Proctor**

Financial Secretary  
Treasurer  
**Dan Nixon**

President  
**Ryan Lyle**

Executive Board  
**Duffy Callert**  
**Ron Lindsay**  
**Dawn Melancon**  
**Mandy Morrison**

Finance Committee  
**Joe Barnhart**  
**Larry Delehant**  
**Dave Hubbard**

Recording Secretary  
**Scott Huber**

Inside Guard  
**Chris Opalka**



FROM PLUMBERS LOCAL 98



# Happy Holidays!

From the officers and staff  
of IBEW Local 665

Lansing





**Local 25**  
**Heat and Frost Insulators**

Heat & Frost Insulators 25  
SOUTHFIELD – **SPECIAL CALLED MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, Dec. 11, 2025 at 6 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge St., Southfield, MI 48033. This meeting is SPECIAL CALLED for elections. Apprentice attendance is **MANDATORY.**  
We will be having a \$5.00 per ticket 50/50 raffle with the proceeds going to the Breath of Life Foundation to help with the research of Mesothelioma, lung cancer and other asbestos related diseases.

**MEMBERS THAT HAVE GONE BEFORE US:** It is with our sincere condolences that we announce the passing of retired member Thomas Robertson. May he Rest in Peace.

**ELECTIONS:** Elections will take place Thursday, Dec. 11, 2025. The polls will be opened 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The following members are running for the following positions:  
Executive Board- 2 positions, 2-2-year terms; Nominees: Mark Grzelak, Gerald Strunk  
Pension Trustee- 1 position, 1-3-year term; Nominee: Connie Vincent  
Welfare Trustee- 1 position, 1-3-year term; Nominees: Mike Lassen, Connie Vincent, Mark Grzelak

S.U.B. Fund Trustee- 1 position, 1-3-year term; Nominee: Mark Grzelak  
J.A.T.C. Trustee- 1 position, 1-3-year term; Nominees: Zach Hare, Bob Long, Mark Grzelak  
Union Trustee- 1 position, 1-3-year term; Nominee: Connie Vincent

Entertainment Committee- 2 positions, 2-1-year terms; Nominees: Dan Stevens, Connie Vincent  
SGT-At-Arms- 1 position, 1-1-year term; Nominees: Darnion Hunter, Mark Grzelak

**ABSENTEE BALLOTS:** For absentee ballot procedures and information refer to Article XX, Section 13 and 14 of the International Constitution and Bylaws.

**CONTACT UPDATE:** We are now using **admin@heatfrostinsulators25.org** as our primary contact email for all communication with the Union Hall. Please update your contact information accordingly.

**Union Hall Contact Emails:**  
bob@heatfrostinsulators25.org  
eloany@heatfrostinsulators25.org  
connie@heatfrostinsulators25.org  
marty@heatfrostinsulators25.org  
finsec@heatfrostinsulators25.org

**PANCAKES WITH SANTA:** Another successful Pancakes with Santa took place at the Union Hall on Saturday, Dec. 6. Thank you to the Entertainment Committee, Josh Claxton and Dan Stevens for their efforts in organizing this event. We would thank everyone who volunteered to help make this event a success, including Connie Vincent, Gary Gardner, Justin Horton, Jon Skowronek, and Joseph Chacon. A special thank you to Jennifer Scott of Mechanical Heat & Frost Insulation II for reading Christmas stories with the children.

**THE ANNUAL Local 25 Christmas Party** will be held on Saturday, Dec. 13 at Laurel Manor Banquet Center in Livonia from 5:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. We look forward to seeing everyone.

**JOB STARTS:** As stated in Local 25's Constitution & Bylaw's Article III Section 5. Failure to report a job start will automatically result in a fine of \$50. Future failures to report job starts will result in the amount of the fine being levied left to the discretion of the President. **PLEASE** call in all job starts so we can avoid fining members.

**PER CAPITA:** Please be reminded, any member working 32 hours or less during a month must pay their own Per Capita of \$14 per month. Per Capita payments should be made on a **monthly** basis. If a member works as a traveler in another Local's jurisdiction, the member must remit double Per Capita of \$28.00. Please forward your payments **monthly** to Local 25, 21353 Bridge Street, Southfield, MI 48033.

**EMPLOYMENT CHANGES:** All employment changes; hire, lay off, fire, shop change, disability, etc. must be called into the Union Hall within forty-eight hours. This is the only way to guarantee you are on the out of work list and your employment records remain current and correct. Failure to report will result in an automatic \$50 fine.



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

Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 47  
LANSING – **The next Notified Meeting will be held on Friday, January 9, 2026 at 7:30 p.m. and will be held at the Local 47 Union Hall, at 16475 Ingersoll Rd., Lansing, MI 48906. This is a Mandatory Meeting for ALL Apprentices for the Election of Officers. The Purpose of this meeting is for the Installation of New Officers.**

**\*Please make sure to call or text ALL Start/Layoffs to the Union Office. Leave the start/layoff date and the name of the contractor along with your name.**

To ensure all Active Members and Retirees are receiving their Robo calls please make sure you have not blocked the following number: (804) 441-8365. Please notify the Local Union Office with any phone and home address changes. We need the most current member information throughout our system, TIC's, and the with the International.

If you are Non-Active retiree or Surviving Spouse and would like to continue receiving the Building Tradesman please contact the Union Office to let us know.

The Funds Trustees have waived the 79 hour rule for all Retirees effective July 1, 2025.

We would like to wish everyone a Safe and Happy Holidays!

Per the Rules and Procedures:

Members must notify the office within 24 hours of being laid

off or charges may be placed, you can do so by calling or texting the office at (517) 708-0665 with your layoff date and the name of the Contractor you were laid off from.

Members must notify the office before ANY overtime is worked. Pension and Health Welfare: Joshua Kroell (989) 385-2671  
Allied Workers' Local 47 Fringe Benefit Funds, **6525 Centurion Drive, Lansing, MI 48917-9275. (800) 323-8079**  
Email: **joshkroell@insulators47.com**

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: 16475 Ingersoll Rd., Lansing, MI 48906.

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

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, or go online to **insulators47.com** to fill out an Application.

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."

*Wishing you a very*

# MERRY CHRISTMAS

*and a*

# HAPPY NEW YEAR

*Business Manager: Robert Gulbranson Jr*  
*Business Agent: Brian Wilder*

*From:*

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The Officers and Members of

# Operative Plasterers & Cement Masons

## Local 514

*wish you*

# Merry Christmas

# Feliz Navidad

Business Manager  
Financial Secretary  
**Henry Williams**

President  
**Juan Hernandez**

Vice President  
**Lance Ryan**

Office Manager  
**Amber Best**

Business Agents  
**Parrish Hill**  
**Juan Hernandez**  
**Lance Ryan**  
**Mike Stanfield**  
**Keino Walker**

Executive Board  
**Juan Hernandez**  
**Lance Ryan/VP**  
**Joe Roehler Jr.**  
**Mike Stanfield/Recording Secretary**  
**Henry Williams BM/FS**  
**Parrish Hill**  
**Pat Tejkl**





**Michael Aaron – Business Manager**  
**Mikyia S. Aaron – Secretary-Treasurer**

**REGINALD CARNEY**  
PRESIDENT  
BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE  
EXECUTIVE BOARD

**JON BROWN**  
RECORDING SECRETARY  
BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE  
EXECUTIVE BOARD

**ANTOINE BELL**  
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS  
BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE

**SALVADOR SANCEN**  
BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE  
EXECUTIVE BOARD

**CHRISTOPHER CYBULSKI**  
VICE-PRESIDENT  
BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE  
EXECUTIVE BOARD

**JIRMERE MOSES**  
BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE

**JENNIFER DUDLEY-HARRIS**  
EXECUTIVE BOARD

**BRENDA PEEPLES**  
OFFICE STAFF

**OLVIDO DEALBA**  
OFFICE STAFF

**CHRISTOPHER WINTER**  
OFFICE STAFF

**JACQUELINE VAN VUGT**  
OFFICE STAFF

**WILLIE BOLDEN**  
AUDITOR

**JESUS I. JIMENEZ**  
AUDITOR

**JOHN LUKKARI**  
AUDITOR

**LIUNA!**  
*Feel the Power*