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SHORT CUTS



Good momentum for U.S. building

The Dodge Momentum Index for U.S. construction grew a scant 0.9 percent in April, but the DMI was up 22 percent when compared to year-ago levels.

“Despite an uptick in April, the bulk of the DMI’s growth was driven by a surge in data center planning, while momentum in other nonresidential sectors lagged behind,” said Sarah Martin, associate director of forecasting at Dodge Construction Network. “Owners and developers are navigating heightened economic and policy uncertainty, which likely bogged down much of this month’s planning activity.”

The DMI is a monthly measure of the value of non-residential building projects going into planning, shown to lead construction spending for nonresidential buildings by a full year.

Solid jobs hike for U.S. construction

U.S. construction sector employment increased by 11,000 positions in April as rising wages enabled the industry to add workers more rapidly than other sectors, according to an analysis of new government data released May 2 by the Associated General Contractors of America.

“The construction industry continued to add workers at a faster clip than other sectors in April as the industry boosted pay more than other private employers,” said Ken Simonson, the AGC’s chief economist. “But uncertainty over tariffs and other policy reversals may cause a halt to many projects and employment gains.”

U.S. construction employment in April totaled 8,316,000, seasonally adjusted, an increase of 11,000 from March. Better yet, headcount rose by 218,000 building industry jobs, or 2.7 percent, during the past 12 months. That’s better than the 1.4 percent growth rate in total U.S. nonfarm payroll employment.

Moreover, average hourly earnings for production and nonsupervisory employees in construction – covering most onsite craft workers as well as many office workers – climbed by 4.5 percent over the year to \$36.96 per hour. That gain exceeded the 4 percent rise in pay for such workers in the overall private sector.

Federal judge slaps Ann Arbor Starbucks

A federal appeals court on April 17 upheld an National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) decision against Starbucks, finding the coffee giant committed unfair labor practices by disciplining workers for union activity – including wearing union-themed T-shirts – and improperly enforcing its dress code.

The ruling from the D.C. Circuit Court followed a long-running dispute involving Starbucks workers at a store in Ann Arbor. Workers there alleged they were fired or disciplined for union organizing efforts, and the NLRB found Starbucks violated several federal labor laws.

The case comes as Starbucks faces growing scrutiny nationwide over its handling of unionization efforts. To date, Starbucks Workers United reports they have organized 570 stores and 11,000 workers.

Quotable

“Wisdom is not a product of schooling, but of the lifelong attempt to acquire it.”
—Albert Einstein (1879-1955)



A RENDERING of the completed University of Michigan Innovation Center is shown on the western edge of downtown Detroit at Grand River and West Columbia Street. The project, proceeding under the project management of Walbridge, will not only help diversify business downtown, it will help fill in the area’s sea of parking lots. The 200,000-square-foot building will be the first of three erected on the site, with the other two – an incubator space and a residential building shown here as placeholders – developed at a future date.

Rendering:
U-M/Kohn, Pedersen, Fox

New innovation center marks major U-M move into Detroit

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

DETROIT – A former parking lot is being transformed into a nice addition to the western edge of the city’s downtown.

The University of Michigan Center for Innovation is rising on a two-acre site at Grand River and West Columbia Street, two blocks west of the Fox Theater. Construction of the six-story, \$250 million project is being managed by Walbridge. One of its partners on the project, Ideal Contracting, announced on May 2 that structural steel erection has

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THE FIRST STEEL began to fly earlier this month at the U-M Center for Innovation project, with the work handled by Ideal Contracting. The entire project is being managed by Walbridge.

Photo credit: Ideal Contracting



THE U-M Center for Innovation jobsite last month. The project broke ground in December 2023 and the structural steel began to rise earlier this month. The project is expected to be complete in the spring of 2027.

Consumers Energy’s shift to clean power a boon to Michigan trades

By Marty Mulcahy, Editor

LANSING – Consumers Energy is going to be powering a significant amount of employment for building trades union workers in Michigan over the next few years.

The work will be driven by new natural gas, pipeline, solar and wind projects – as well as projects associated with demolition of existing coal-burning units. The good news was delivered by Consumers Energy Senior Construction Manager Doug Wunder, who addressed delegates to the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council’s 63rd Legislative Conference on April 22.

“The original plan for the next five years” for Consumers Energy, Wunder said, “was to spend roughly \$5 billion in capital work in new generation, and in maintaining our existing fleet.” Now, with increasing demand from commercial and industrial customers, he told the delegates, “those numbers are going to double. Next year you’ll see another plan rolled out

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Death on the job: Michigan is average; but what the hell Wyoming?

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

LANSING – The culture of construction has led to various norms and truths that are tied into the industry’s heightened level of suicide.

The jobs are more dangerous than most, and there is time pressure to get the work done and find solutions to problems. There are higher levels of alcohol and drug use among the trades than in other jobs. Construction workers typically don’t talk about their

Michigan’s on-the-job fatality rate for workers is nothing to brag about – our state is close to average compared to the other 49.

Then, there’s Wyoming. Every year since at least 2018, Wyoming has led the country with double-digit death rates per 100,000 workers.

The national death rate was 3.5 deaths per 100,000 workers in 2023, a figure that’s held rela-

tively steady for at least six years. Nationally, 5,283 workers died on the job in 2023, 203 fewer than the year before.

Those are some of the numbers that came via the release last month of the AFL-CIO’s depressingly titled, *Death on the Job*, an annual report that for decades has tracked on-the-job fatalities among the states. It takes so long to compile the numbers that the

Judge blocks Trump’s try at union-busting federal workforce

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C. – A federal judge on April 25 blocked President Trump from ending collective bargaining with unions representing federal workers, temporarily halting a component of the president’s sweeping effort to strip more than 1 million civil servants of union job protections.

Judge Paul L. Friedman of the District Court of Washington, D.C., ruled in favor of the National Treasury Employees Union, which represents tens of thousands of federal workers across the government. Trump’s executive order, issued in late March, would strip collective bargaining rights from about two-thirds of the federal workforce, effectively banning them from joining unions.

‘This was the most significant attack on workers’ rights in history’

“We commend the court for recognizing the Trump Administration’s executive order stripping collective bargaining rights for what it was: illegal, retaliatory union-busting,” said AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler. “This was the most significant attack on workers’ rights in history, and if Trump was allowed to do it to federal workers, he would be able to do it to every worker in America, in every workplace and every industry. So this ruling to restore federal workers’ collective bargaining rights and reinstate their existing contracts – even if temporarily while the case continues in court – is an important first

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AFL-CIO’s Shuler: Time to fight back – ‘Democracy does not defend itself’

By Mark Gruenberg
Press Associates

WASHINGTON, D.C. (PAI) – Declaring “the labor movement does not fall in line for autocrats,” AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler laced into President Donald Trump at a conference, with like-minded organizations, on Trump’s first 100 days in the Oval Office.

Shuler keynoted the April 29 session by discussing how workers in general and organized labor in particular are fighting back against the attempted destruction of unions, workers and programs people depend upon, through protests in the streets and lawsuits in the courts.

“Democracy means rule by the people,” Shuler began her address. “Organized labor believes

in that idea at our very core. Fifteen million working people,” the members of the AFL-CIO’s 63 unions, “know ‘my voice matters.’ It is because of that belief in democracy that we stand up every day against the concentration of wealth and power that exists in our country right now.”

Many of the union-brought court cases fighting Trump’s executive orders have been successful, at least in obtaining judicial

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Deported tinknocker Garcia tops union agenda on May Day

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

When it comes to celebrating workers, Labor Day in the United States is the undisputed, go-to-a-parade, first-in-line holiday.

But in much of the rest of the world – where the first Monday in September is not a national holiday – May 1 is International Workers’ Day – or May Day. In many nations, May 1 is a national workers holiday, celebrating and supporting many of the same labor issues that are important in the U.S. (Although, that May 1 date has also been linked with government-backed celebrations in present and former Communist countries).

Labor supporters and other social activists in Detroit and numerous other cities made an effort on May 1 to rekindle the International Workers’ Day holiday, with a march and rally at Roosevelt Park in front of Michigan Central Station. About 500 people were in attendance, and by reading their signs, protesting the anti-worker

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CONSUMERS Energy’s Doug Wunder: “We can’t do this without you and your workforce.”

Suicide is pervasive in the trades. Researcher offers ways to address it ‘You good, man?’

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

LANSING – The culture of construction has led to various norms and truths that are tied into the industry’s heightened level of suicide.

The jobs are more dangerous than most, and there is time pressure to get the work done and find solutions to problems. There are higher levels of alcohol and drug use among the trades than in other jobs. Construction workers typically don’t talk about their

feelings. Such factors have led to the creation of a culture that statistically, where occupations are reported, construction workers account for nearly one-fifth of all U.S. suicide deaths.

“When someone is injured on the job, we have no problem jumping into action,” said Dr. Michelle Keys, a University of Michigan clinical psychologist, therapist, educator and researcher

specializing in studying suicide. “But whenever something in mental health might come up, we tend to walk the other way. And that’s not just you, that’s everybody. Most people walk the other way.”

Keys was invited to talk to delegates on April 22 at the 63rd Legislative Conference of the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council. The

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IT’S ADMITTEDLY NOT NORMAL for construction workers to open up to each other up about mental health struggles. But just checking in with a co-worker – asking how they’re doing if something seems off – can be a lifesaver. That was the message of Dr. Michelle Keys, a researcher on mental health at the University of Michigan, who made a presentation to the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council’s 63rd Legislative Conference.

Viewpoints

Cheaters shouldn't prosper

Imagine, for a moment, that you're starting a business in the construction industry. After years of honing your craft and learning from your employers, you know what it takes to succeed.

You register your new business with the state of Michigan and obtain an Employer Identification Number to begin withholding employment taxes. You purchase general liability insurance and pricey workers' compensation coverage. You establish relationships with local supply houses to secure preferred contractor pricing on materials. You retain an attorney to help draft contracts that will define your business relationships, scope of work, pricing and payment terms.

Maybe you sign with your local skilled trades union to access world-class training, a dependable labor pool and to take care of your employees with healthcare and retirement plans. Maybe you don't because you decide to provide training and benefits directly, and you've already hired a dedicated crew of men and women you used to work with. Based on your experience, you know what it takes to deliver a job. Whether union or nonunion, you are confident that your team can execute at a high level with safety, efficiency and quality – you are ready.

So you begin bidding on jobs. And you lose bid after bid after bid, often by 20 percent or more. You wonder how it could be possible to lose by that much or how anyone could break even when bidding so low. It turns out, the only mistake you made was being an honest contractor in an industry plagued by dishonesty and trapped in a race to the bottom.

Materials generally cost a set amount. So, when the competition undercuts bids by double digits, it isn't because they are that much smarter or more efficient. It's simply because cheating contractors are willing to exploit those who work for them by engaging in payroll and insurance fraud. After all, why pay employment taxes, unemployment and workers' compensation when it's so easy to misclassify employees as independent contractors? When that isn't enough, why not shortchange workers' pay by shifting between hourly and by-the-foot rates? And when that isn't enough, why not employ labor brokers willing to traffic undocumented workers who are more vulnerable to these kinds of exploitation?

With these practices as a playbook, the worst players in our industry exploit weaknesses in the law to evade accountability, pushing their liability onto shell companies or the very workers they exploit. By shedding costs that responsible employers must pay, cheaters steal work from the rest who play by the rules. But those costs don't just go away. Instead, they're merely shifted onto the rest of us: the employers who pay higher workers' compensation premiums and who lose work; to the taxpayers who subsidize safety net programs relied on by exploited workers to make ends meet; to communities that miss out on tax revenue; to the workers who pay more in self-employment taxes or who outright lose eligibility for Social Security, and who are at risk of suffering a physically and financially devastating injury; and to all of us who pay higher healthcare costs to cover uncompensated care.

All told, construction industry tax fraud costs billions every year while harming workers, honest contractors, and the rest of us. As long as that's the case, we will remain vigilant in calling out the bad actors and fight against the race-to-the-bottom by upholding area standard wages negotiated by workers. Also, we will champion new laws to crack down on payroll fraud, insurance fraud, labor trafficking and wage theft.

We must restore a level playing field where honest contractors can succeed based on their merits instead of failing to those willing to compromise themselves and exploit their workers.

Tom Lutz , Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters and Millwrights
(from The Detroit News' Labor Voices, April 22, 2025)

Innovation center marks major U-M move

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commenced on the site.

“UMCI will bring together the best of the University of Michigan to catalyze economic development in the city of Detroit,” said U-M Provost Laurie McCauley. “It will house a robust portfolio of academic programs, including new interdisciplinary graduate degrees and certificate programs aligned to the skills of the future needed to attract startups as well as major employers to the region.

“UMCI will also host a

multitude of community engagement activities for the residents of Detroit, ranging from K-12 programs like the Michigan Engineering Zone to the Detroit Neighborhood Entrepreneurs Project and many more.”

The first two floors of the project, according to the University of Michigan, will house public programs, a cafe and shared office space for the U-M Detroit Center, admissions office, School of Environment and Sustainability Clinic and others, while levels three through six

are planned for multidisciplinary graduate research.

The center will add diversification – and warm bodies – to the downtown real estate market, which, like most city centers, has been hit hard by the work-at-home trend which began during the Covid pandemic.

The center will be funded by a \$100 million gift from donor Stephen M. Ross, \$100 million from the State of Michigan, a land donation from Olympia Development of Michigan, and an additional \$50 million to be

raised from donors. The development represents U-M's largest investment in downtown Detroit.

Construction is proceeding via a memorandum of understanding between Walbridge, U-M and the building trades to make it an all-union project.

Local 25 iron workers and Local 324 operating engineers started the steel erection process, which, Ideal said, “represents exciting progress toward the completion of what will be a dynamic addition to both the city and the University of Michigan's growing presence in Detroit. Ideal Contracting is proud to be partnering with Walbridge and the University of Michigan to erect the structural and miscellaneous steel for this transformative building in the heart of the city.”

THE FIRST STEEL has been set by Ideal Contracting at the U-M Innovation Center project in Detroit.

Photo credit: Ideal Contracting

Consumer watchdogs unclear on their mission

By Jim Hightower

Top officials of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau erupted in cheers this month.

How odd. The cheers were for a federal court that had just ruled in favor of letting big banks gouge us with exorbitant fees when we're late making a credit card payment. Bizarrely, agency officials joined jubilant bank executives in declaring, “This is a win for consumers.”

Huh? The court's blatantly plutocratic ruling lets financial giants slap us credit card customers with punitive fees of \$32 or more for every late payment.

The court is legalizing their consumer robbery, allowing credit card lenders to pluck an extra \$10 billion a year in excess fees from our pockets. Adding to their shame, the profiteering bankers will mainly squeeze this windfall from low-paid working families who're living paycheck to paycheck, having to rely on credit to make ends meet.

So why in hell are the government's consumer protectors cheering this? Because these officials are no longer “ours,” but corporate operatives been installed by Trump's brigade of billionaires. The supreme goal of their autocratic government is to further empower the rich over the rest of us.

Indeed, displacing consumer protectors with agents who'll protect corporations from consumers was an explicit goal of

Project 2025. That extremist manifesto was co-authored by Russell Vought, a fanatical right-wing politico from the Christian Nationalist cult. What's he doing now? Trump has put Vought in charge of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

Thus, a national agency meant to help average consumers have a bit more of a fighting chance against financial greed has been perverted by Trump into just another tool helping moneyed elites rip off working families. How great does that make America?

Consumer Reports and the Consumer Federation of America are both working to save the CFPB; additionally, a lawsuit has been filed by Gupta Wessler, a high-stakes litigation firm in D.C., on behalf of the National Treasury Employees Union, and National Consumer Law Center.

Just joking

A cop was patrolling a neighborhood when he saw an old lady dragging two full trash bags down the street. He noticed money was falling out of one bag and blowing across the road.

He picked it up and approached the elderly woman, and saw that the first bag was stuffed with cash. “Ma’am, that’s an awful lot of money to be carrying around in a trash bag, do you mind if I ask where you got it?”

“You see officer,” she said, “I live beside the 8th hole of the golf course, and although I have a privacy fence for my garden, those bloody golfers are constantly peeing on my hydrangas. There’s a knot hole in the fence and those inconsiderate louts just step up and pee through it!”

“So every time I see a willy sticking through, I grab my hedge clippers, clamp down on it and yell that it’s gonna cost \$100 if you want to keep it!”

“Oh, I see,” said the officer, taken aback. “That explains the money, but what’s in the other bag?”

The old lady shrugged. “Not everyone pays.”

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The grim evolution of asbestos HISTORY IN THE MAKING

By Marty Mulcahy

Today, asbestos has a well-deserved reputation as a silent killer, responsible for the deaths of 90,000 people per year around the globe, according to the World Health Organization. Over the past century, the substance has also ruined the quality of life for countless others who have been exposed to it – inhaling asbestos fibers causes lung-related diseases like asbestosis and mesothelioma that can lead to cancer, shortness of breath, and often, loss of life.

Often, symptoms don't appear until decades after exposure. Here in Michigan, with all its industry, thousands of building trades workers across the spectrum of crafts have been exposed to asbestos, and not just the stuff in 1950s and 60s-era floor tiles that are considered safe unless it's removed.

In the 1970s, knee-deep in asbestos that was knocked off of old boilers that were being demolished in a project he was working on, a retired Heat and Frost Insulators Local 25 retiree once told us, "It was everywhere. We didn't wear masks. We used to make snowballs out of asbestos and throw it at each other." Today, the jurisdiction for performing tasks like duct and pipe insulation on Michigan job sites falls mainly to Heat and Frost Insulators Local 25 and Local 47 members, both of which were known decades ago as "asbestos workers."

The danger of asbestos lies in its microscopic fibers, which can become airborne when disturbed and pose severe health risks when inhaled or ingested. Asbestos comes from a family of six different fibrous silicate materials.

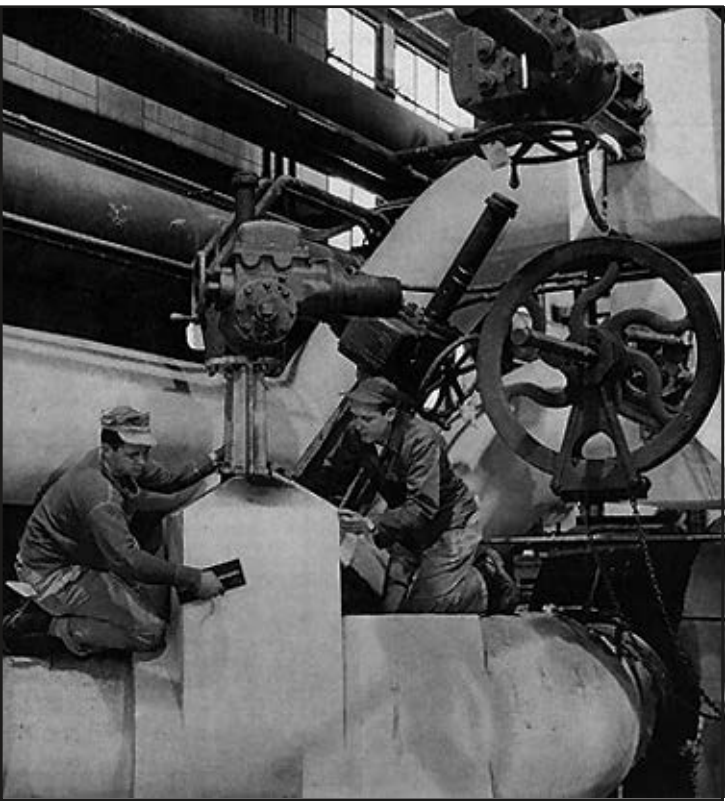
From *Mesothelioma.net*: "Though asbestos has been used since ancient times, its use as a component of insulation began in the United States in the late 1800s, when the company that would eventually become Johns Manville first started selling the product. Asbestos insulation offered significant improvements over previous options, which included everything from horsehair and hay to wool and textiles. While these products formed a barrier, asbestos' physical properties and the structure of its fibers slow the transfer of heat and cold, helping buildings to maintain indoor temperatures.

"At the same time, its resistance to fire helped protect the structures and equipment that it was insulating, and the material's strength and durability meant that it could last for decades without deteriorating. It represented a cost-effective, long-term solution."

Modern insulation materials are essentially just as effective as asbestos, and of course they come without all the potentially horrible side effects.

"Through much of the 20th Century, asbestos was an integral component of insulation that was used for residential, commercial, and industrial applications," wrote Drs. Luis Agote-Green and Paul Sugarbaker, in medically reviewed comments for mesothelioma.net. "Though it was extremely effective and provided remarkable resistance to fire and heat, it was also responsible for countless illnesses and deaths."

It's difficult to come up with a substance with a history similar to asbestos, which has morphed from being a darling of commerce and industry and even homeowners, to a pariah that has spawned an industry and skilled workforce (we're looking at you, Taylor-based Abatement Workers Regional Local 207) devoted to its safe removal and disposal.



ASBESTOS-BASED insulation is applied to refrigeration units at the U.S. Capitol, date unknown.

Photo credit: Mesothelioma Center

Today, asbestos is a pariah – people buying or selling a home want nothing to do with it on their property, and the same can be said for owners and buyers in commercial and industrial building transactions. But that wasn't always the case – even during the 1980s, asbestos wasn't quite yet a dirty word.

A 1982 trade magazine ad by Montreal-based Asbestos Corporation Limited featured a photo of the World Trade Center's twin towers in New York City, with the logo, "When life depends on it, you use asbestos." Uncomfortable to read today, the ad bragged "the bigger the building, the more important fireproofing becomes. That's why today's buildings have asbestos-cement walls and even floors containing asbestos. You'll also find asbestos sealing plumbing joints, insulating heating pipes, electric motors, and emergency generators." The EPA's ban on fireproofing in 1973 during the towers' construction meant that only the first 40 floors of the North Tower were sprayed with the fireproofing.

In 1982, publishing the above ad with "asbestos" in bold print was close to the end of a decades-long era when asbestos was celebrated for a variety of uses.

One historic oddball connection to asbestos was a group of low-level, brick and wooden buildings erected in the late 19th Century along Burdick Street in Kalamazoo. It was known locally as "Asbestos

Row" because of their fire-resistant qualities. The row was demolished in 1928, and in fact, was never beset by a fire.

In 1925, Johns Manville suggested in an ad aimed at homeowners that "Improved Asbestocel saves coal" when the product was used to insulate boilers and their pipes.

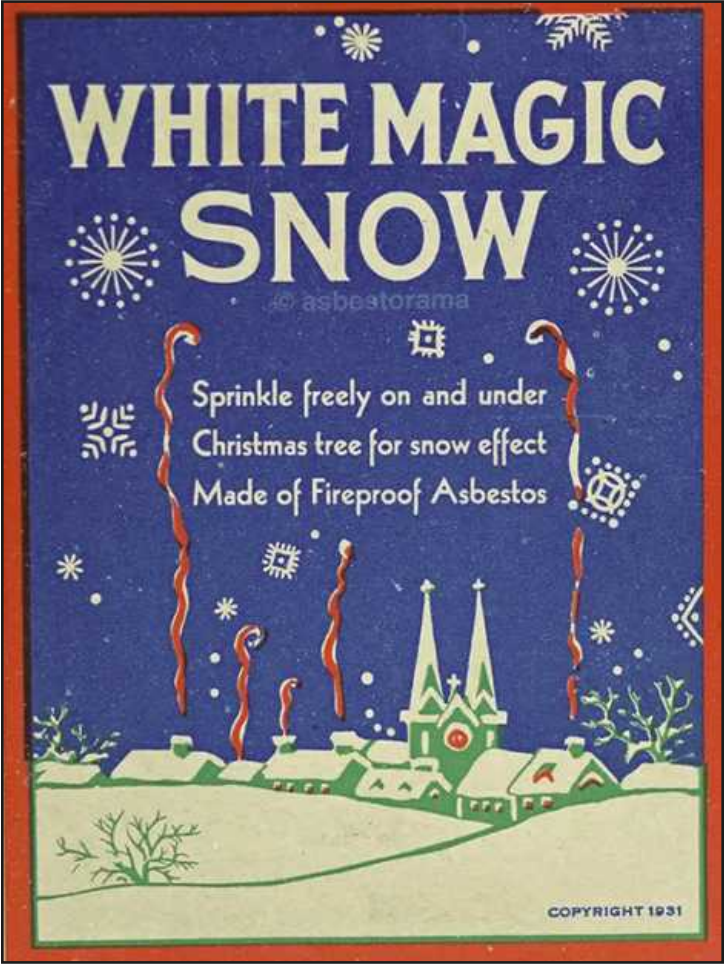
Then in August 1955, Johns Manville – here they are again – advertised their exterior sheathing called "asbestos flexboard" as "the fireproof building sheet which has helped revolutionize home design."

"The original use for asbestos in 1890 was for fireproof roofing material," wrote Kathleen Hess-Kosa, in *Environmental Site Assessment Phase I: A Basic Guide*. "Later in the 1890s, this expanded to engine gaskets and boiler insulation. In the 1900s, uses expanded to acoustical and thermal insulation, hot and cold, and by 1935 it was being used in everything from baby blankets to cement. More than 3,600 commercial products have been manufactured with asbestos since its creation."



INHALED ASBESTOS fibers can be carcinogenic.

Photo credits: RareHistoricalPhotos.



WHAT BETTER WAY TO brighten the 1931 holiday season than with a box of "fireproof asbestos," which could be sprinkled liberally to imitate snow under your living room's Christmas tree.

The Asbestos Protected Metal Co.

Asbestos Protected Metal has been successfully used for the Exterior and Interior of

Acid Houses, Brass Foundries, Coal Handling Plants, Car Barns, Chemical Laboratories, Clay Products Plants, Dry Kilns, Dock Sheds, Enamelling Plants, Forge Shops, Furnace Buildings, Foundries, Gas Houses, Generator Buildings, Garages, Gas Producer Houses, Heat Treatment Buildings, Ice Storage Buildings, Machine Shops, Oven Buildings, Pickling Plants, Pent Houses, Power Plants, Pattern Shops, Railroad Freight Houses, Rolling Mills, Retort Houses, Round Houses, Sulphuric Acid Plants, Transformer Houses, Turbo-Blower Buildings, Tipples, Tempering Plants, Vulcanizing Rooms, Viaducts, Water Works

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Wm. R. Frazier, District Manager 1950 Penobscot Building, Detroit Phone Main 3684

YOU MIGHT SAY they had a few good uses for "protecting metal" using asbestos, as seen by the applications in this ad in the June 1916 edition of *Michigan Contractor and Builder*. The use of asbestos would grow in the ensuing decades – good for industry, not so much for the workers exposed to the hazardous fibers.

Death on the job: Michigan is average; but what the hell Wyoming?

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the job daily, but that figure is an understatement, as usual, the AFL-CIO said, because it "does not include workers who die from occupational diseases, estimated to be 135,304 each year."

Released ahead of Workers Memorial Day, April 28, Shuler said workplace safety is threatened by the extreme cuts introduced by President Trump's Department of Government Efficiency. DOGE just fired 200 researchers at the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health.

And Trump indicates he will repeal crucial worker safety regulations, and give billionaires like Musk the power to access and even manipulate OSHA whistleblower records," Shuler warned. "We can't bring back the thousands of workers lost each year, but we can fight to prevent more devastation to working families...and demand the Trump administration reverse course."

Some other numbers from the report:

- Michigan's 2023 on-the-job fatality rate for workers was 3.6 deaths per 100,000 workers. The 166 workers who died in Michigan that year was the highest since the deaths of 175 workers in 2001. The average number of worker fatalities per year in Michigan since 2000 has been 143.

- What's going on in Wyoming: there were 16 deaths per 100,000 in workers there in 2023 – nearly double the rate of the next-worst state. The report did not delve into why Wyoming's record has been so bad for so long, but several factors stand out.

- Wyoming not only eclipsed its own grim precedent, but also doubled the national workplace mortality rate," says *Farmonaut*, an agricultural technology company. "The state's unique economy (heavy in hazardous mineral extraction work), geographic expanse, and lack of enforcement capacity created an environment where workplace fatalities and chronic occupational illnesses are almost inevitable." With only six safety and health inspectors, it would take them 307 years to get to each Wyoming workplace.

- Other states with high worker fatality rates include second-place West Virginia (8.3/100,000 workers), followed by Arkansas (7.5) and Alaska (7.4).

- The two states with the lowest mortality rates on the job were Rhode Island (1.2 per 100,000 deaths) and Connecticut (2.0).

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE

24/7 CALL, TEXT, CHAT

Researcher addresses suicide in the trades

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stark, elevated numbers related to suicide among building trades workers is prompting a serious effort among labor unions and their contractors to address, using education, an issue that has been swept under the rug for far too long.

"In the construction trades, we not only have construction hazards, because that is the environment in which we've chosen, but we have hazards in the mental health environment," Steve Claywell, an electrician and president of the MBCTC, told delegates. "And the mental health environment is one in which I will admit I don't know a lot about." Inviting Keys to speak to delegates, he said, is part of an ongoing effort to help educate and "provide the proper mental health tools to benefit all of our members."

Keys agreed that mental health awareness is lacking in the trades – in fact, it's a subject that's generally avoided entirely. She said it's very common to talk about physical health – people are often keen to talk about how far they walk, or how much weight they can lift, or what happened at a doctor visit. "The analogy I use is, when do you teach someone to swim?" Keys said. "You don't teach them to swim when they're in the middle of the ocean and you're throwing them a life vest. You teach them beforehand, and the same thing should happen with mental health."

Keys said her talk was especially aimed at leaders in the construction industry – foremen, supervisors – who are in a position to make a difference with workers who are at risk of suicide. The journeyman-apprentice relationship counts, too. And it doesn't take much of an effort. "Historically the culture of your industry – and I say this with kindness in my heart – there is a culture and an expectation of tough it out, suck it up, man up – where vulnerability can equal weakness," she said. "To say I have a mental health condition, to say I am struggling, is to admit that weakness."

With that in mind, she said leaders on construction projects only need to take some small steps to make an effort that could literally save a life. That involves noticing a change in a worker, and speaking up, not in a group setting, but one on one.

"Most often there's a behavior change," Keys said. "The person is different than they were before. If you remember nothing else today, that's the one thing I want you to remember. The best way to tell if somebody is struggling with mental health, is that something is different." A worker who has anxiety or is depressed – two frequent precursors of suicide – might be habitually late to work, hungover, or exhibit consistent signs of irritability and distraction. Other red flags, she said are people who might talk about what a burden they are to others, or ending it all.

"If you see those kinds of comments, please act. But what do you do?" Keys said. "First thing I'd say is, don't say something in a group. Don't do that to a person. Respectfully pull someone aside and say, 'hey I wonder if I can talk to you for a couple of minutes.'"

She continued: "We did a study a few years back about people who were thinking about making a suicide attempt. The No. 1 thing that kept them from making that attempt was somebody saying, 'you good man? Something seems off.' It is incredibly powerful to somebody who is struggling to be seen, and to be given that space to be seen." Then, Keys suggests that those workers should be "guided, without pushing," to mental health resources available with a phone call.

Changing the culture of construction jobsites is part of the potential for change. Posters can be placed with mental health hotlines. Leaflets can describe related benefits in workers' health care plan. Toolbox and safety talks can include acknowledgements about mental health. In the military, which also suffers from high rates of suicide, Keys said the culture is changing wherein leadership is openly discussing their own mental health issues with other soldiers.

"One of the terms we like to use is changing the mental health culture. How do people act about mental health? Can we get people a little more comfortable with being uncomfortable and shifting the culture just a little bit?" Keys said. "We have tools for the job. Let's work on these mental health tools as well."

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The Building Tradesman

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Deported tinknocker Garcia tops May Day union agenda

(Continued from Page 1)
policies of the Trump Administration was their primary goal.
“We’re not going away, we’re not going to be silent,” said Abayomi Azikiwe, who helped organize the effort. “International rights for working people, for oppressed people. We oppose the Trump/Musk program of laying off federal agency employees, attempting to privatize the Post Office, and attacks on migrants.”

Frank Hammer, a UAW retiree and an organizer of the effort who works with Southeast Michigan Jobs with Justice, said the May Day effort “is an historic day in Detroit and the rest of the country, as we reclaim the holiday that was stolen from us by red baiters,” or communists. We’re here to fight for the working class.”

One small battle that has had big implications is the imprisonment of Kilmar Abrego Garcia, who was illegally deported to El Salvador. The Trump Administration has acknowledged that Garcia was wrongly deported, but Trump – who has accused Garcia of being a gang member – has so far refused to have him returned to the U.S. Garcia is an apprentice member of Sheet Metal Workers Local 100 in New Jersey.

A group of union sheet metal workers appeared at the May Day rally in Detroit to support the return of Garcia.

He had not been convicted of any crime,” said the group’s spokesman, Local 80’s Jason Grunenwald. “In a March 31 court filing the Trump Administration admitted that he had mistakenly been deported. When deported he had been living with his wife and three children, all U.S. citizens. Since the deportation a federal judge has ruled that the deportation was illegal and the administration was ordered to facilitate his return. The U.S. Supreme Court unanimously backed the lower court’s order, however it has yet to be honored.

“This is a family man. Most alarming if it can happen to one of us it can happen to any of us. With that I say bring our brother home.”



Local 80

Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers Local 80
SOUTHFIELD - This paper serves as official notice for all members and elections.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Next General Membership Meeting is scheduled for May 27, 2025 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, 48076. We will be raffling off Tigers tickets at this meeting!

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: The next executive board meeting is May 20, 2025 at 5 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2nd Floor, Southfield, MI.

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

RETIREE NEWS & MEETING SCHEDULE: 2025 Retiree Meetings: June 16, Aug. 18, Oct. 20 (Holiday Party), Dec. 15th. 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-Thursday from 9-4 pm. To schedule an appointment, call 248-813-9800 ext. 3250

THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE: Matthew Harding, Spencer Gall, Chazz Castelluzzo, Mitchell Weir, Steven Zabik, Michael O’Hara, Kenneth Palmeri, Kevin McGowan, Daniel Kenny, Katie Smith, Brian Neumann, Steven Rock, Norris Herndon, Nicholas Kiesznowski, Aaron McLain, Michael Porr, Steven Young, Ed Rowley, Blake Grubb, Jacob Rawlins, Richard Anderson, Adam Mayne, Michael Trombley and David Wolfe.

GOLF OUTING: Tickets are SOLD OUT! Please contact the hall if you would like to be added to the waiting list.

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.

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 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

LAYOFFS: All members must report to the Union Hall immediately upon lay-off. You must be on the out-of-work list to collect SUB 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 September 1 through September 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.

MEMBERS ASSISTANCE 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.

SAVE THE DATE: • Golf Outing – July 12 • Picnic –Aug. 9.



THE MAY DAY RALLY in Detroit included a banner and a few words in support of Kilmar Abrego Garcia, a Sheet Metal Workers Local 100 apprentice who was illegally deported to El Salvador, where he is imprisoned. The U.S. Supreme Court upheld a lower court order that the Trump administration “facilitate” the return of Garcia, but the administration has declined to act. Speaking at the rally, center, is Sheet Metal Workers Local 80’s Jason Grunenwald, and with him (l-r) are fellow members Frank Livingston, Tim Mulligan, Eric McPherson, Dave Angelo and Scott Lewis.



Local 292

Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers Local 292

TROY – MEETING NOTICE: ****NEW LOCATION**:** Troy Community Center 3179 Livernois, Troy 48083 1 block north of Big Beaver on the west side of Livernois. Use the Banquet Entrance.

The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, **June 11, 2025, at 6:00 pm**. Member meetings are held every 2nd Wednesday of the month. Due to a scheduling conflict, the E-Board/Stewards meeting will be held on **May 27, 2025**, at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall. The regular E-Board/Stewards meeting schedule will resume in May.

RETIREES NOTICE: The next Retiree Luncheon will be held on 6/5/25 at 12:30 pm at Madhouse Bar and Grill, 32787 Stephenson Hwy, Madison Heights, 48071. It’s always nice catching up and staying connected. Please contact the union hall via our website www.sheetmetal292.com, click on the “Contact Us” page if you would like to be added to the **retiree email list**.

JIMMY JOHN’S OUTING: Join us for a fun-filled evening at Jimmy John’s Field! Enjoy a night out with your fellow Local 292 members and their families. Friday, June 6, 2025, at 7:00 pm. Includes free buffet & soft drinks. Cash bar is available. Children’s play area, Group photo, kids can run the bases after the game, and a free Fireworks show at the end of the game. Reserve your spot by contacting your Shop Steward or call the Union Hall to sign up. Spots are still available!

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 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.

SMOHT 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.

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; 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, please get in touch with the Union Hall and we will make the change.

TRUEARING: This benefit of premium hearing aids is available to active eligible participants, dependents, and Pre-Medicare retirees. To get started, contact 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 are required to be paid in advance of the month for which they are due. The union hall is not open on Saturday or Sunday, therefore, if you pay dues on either of those days, it will not be processed until Monday. If you are on suspension warning, your dues are 60 days late. To avoid suspension, dues must be paid online or at the union hall by 4 p.m. on the last business day of the month. Payments received after 4 p.m. on the last business day of the month will not be processed and you WILL go suspended. All members are responsible for making sure any required fees, i.e. late fees or service fees, are included if paying online (sheetmetal292.com).

ADDRESS UPDATES: If you move, please get in touch with 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 will have hard copies in the near future for members 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 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

THE 4 PLUS MEMBER PROGRAM: The “4-plus” member program is for any Local 292 member who has achieved four (or more) welding certifications. These certifications can be in any welding process. Members who qualify will receive a shirt (one shirt for every four 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 member interested in a Saturday welding class May 3, May 10, May 31, June 14 & 21. 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 regis-

(Continued next column)



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 June 12, 2025, at 6 p.m.

*Zone 1 July 10th at 6:00 p.m.

*Zone 2 May 20th at 6:00 p.m.

*Zone 3 July 9th at 6:00 p.m. (Freeland)
*Zone 3 June 19th at 6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)
*Zone 4 July 8th at 6:00 p.m.
*Zone 5 June 5th at 10:00 a.m.

Please register on our website at www.sheet-metal7.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.labelitscanitreport.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).

ZONE 1 Training Center Info. There are new changes to the testing procedure in Zone 1. Applicants will need to register for the Zone 1 entrance exam. Registration will open at the beginning of the exam month. You will receive your exam time during registration. Please contact the training coordinator to register (269) 781-7183.

ZONE 1 Monthly Retiree Meetings:
1st Wednesday of each month 8:00 am located at Bob Evans 1725 N W Ave, Jackson

2nd Tuesday of each month 1:00 pm located at Rocky Top 1900 Lansing Ave, Jackson

2nd Wednesday of each month 12:00 noon located at The Beamery 879 E Michigan Ave, Battle Creek, (Retirees, please notify Vance or Eric of any changes or additions you would like)

– **In Solidarity, Eric Farrington and Vance Saunders**

ZONE 2 Info: Our next scheduled Zone 2 meeting is Tuesday, May 20th at 6:00 pm VFW Post 3195, 5209 Grand Haven Road, Norton Shores, Mi. The Local 7 picnic is July 19th at Timber Ridge Campground in Traverse City, and the Local 7 Golf Outing is September 6th at the Lynx Golf Course in Otsego, Mi.

Please keep in mind that dues are always due prior to the first of the month. If your employment status changes, please let me know.

In Solidarity, Your Brother, Mike Adams

ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw) Next Zone 3 meeting is July 9th at the Freeland Hall.

This year’s Local 7 picnic will be at Timber Ridge in Traverse City on July 19th, if you’re interested in booking camp sites call (231) 947-2770.

Please make sure to call the Lansing office (517)882-4064 if you have changed your address or phone number. Please make sure your dues are current they are due before the first of the month.

Retiree meeting is June 24th at the Ponderosa in Bay City on Wilder Rd.

In Solidarity, Joe Dotson

ZONE 3 Info: (Traverse City) Our next meeting will be on June 19th at 6:00pm at the Mill Pond Event Center. The Local picnic will be on July 19th at Timber Ridge in East Bay Twp. The work outlook will be busy for the summer with a shortage of manpower. We will be hosting a hiring event in Gaylord, Kalkaska and Alpena in the first week of June if you have anyone interested. Many still have not activated the active HRA account from SASMI, if you need help with it, contact me. Work safely and keep an eye out for others next to you, make sure we all go home at the end of the day.

In Solidarity, John Amalfitano

ZONE 4 Info: Work in Zone 4 continues to stay strong with a good outlook for summer. I would like to congratulate this year’s two fourth year graduating classes on a job well done! Don’t forget forms have been sent out regarding the summer picnic this year in Traverse City contact the Lansing office with any questions. Don’t forget to sign up for upgrade classes when you receive notice, they fill up fast. I hope everyone has a safe and fun summer.

Thanks, your brother, Scott Brotherton,

ZONE 5 Info Work in the U.P. remains steady and should stay that way through the rest of the year. There is a lot of mine work coming up in the next several years so if you don’t have your mine safety training make sure you get signed up for that at upconstruction.org. I would like to thank everyone that came out to the contract vote on Saturday and a big thank you to the negotiations committee for the hard work they put in over the last month.

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

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

Local 7 Officers:
Samual Fuller (Business Manager/Financial Secretary-Treasurer) **517-882-4064**

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

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, continued

tration fee that will be refunded on the completion of the class. These deposits are NON-Refundable if you do not show up for the classes. You can drop off the deposit between the hours of 7:00 and 3:00 at the Apprentice School.

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



Local 85 Plumbers & Steam Fitters

UA Local 85

SAGINAW – The next **Union Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, May 21, 2025**, at the Union Hall at 3535 Bay Rd. at 7 PM.

NEW DATE: The next Northern Union Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 11, 2025, at 7 PM at the Grayling Eagles.

The offices will be closed Monday, May 26th in observation of Memorial Day.

Contact Information:

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

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

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

Andre Alexander, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 8515 aalexander@ualocal85.org

Bobby Anderson, Organizer (989) 799-5261 x 8512 rjanderson@ualocal85.org

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

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

The **new website** is up and running. Please check out www.ualocal85.org. Click on Local 85 Members to access members only information. Login information is username: first initial with full last name. Password is 00 with your UA Card No. If you have difficulties logging in, please call Kristin, (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, (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

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: Please call the Union Hall to update any address or phone no. changes at (989) 799-5261.

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

Website Address: Please visit www.ualocal85.org.

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

RETIREE LUNCHEON: The next retirees' luncheon will be held on Tuesday, June 10, 2025 at 12:00 Noon at UA Local 85 Administration Office located at 3535 Bay Road Saginaw, MI (Continued next column)



Local 370 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters and HVAC Service

UA Local 370

FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday June 10, 2025 at 7:00pm.** and has been designated a **special called meeting for Election results of officers and trustees.** This meeting has also been designated as a refreshment meeting.

Election will take place Tuesday, June 10, 2025 at UA Local 370 assembly hall at 2151 W Thompson Rd Fenton, MI. The polls will open at **2:00pm and close at 7:00pm.** In the event of a tie vote a runoff election will be held June 17, 2025 at UA Local 370 assembly hall at 2151 W Thompson Rd Fenton, MI. The Polls will open at 2:00pm and close at 7:00pm.

The following positions are up for election:

(1) Business Manager/Financial Secretary/Treasurer

(1) President

(1) Vice President

(1) Recording Secretary

(1) Inner Guard

(4) Executive Board

(2) Pension/Insurance Trustee

(3) Finance Committee

(3) Sub/Sick Trustee

(3) Building Fund Committee

(2) Scholarship Trustees

(6) FMR Fund Committee

(4) Examining Board

(6) 2026 UA National Convention Delegate

Per section 121 of the U.A. Constitution:

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

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

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 for 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 or call 800-448-8326.

Scholarship Applications for the 2025-2026 school year are now available on our website at ualocal370.org. The applicant must be a son or daughter of a member in good standing of UA Local 370. Complete lists of qualifications and applications are also available at Local 370 hall. Applications are due by the end of May

Retiree Breakfast will be on Monday, May 12th at 9:00 am.

Golf Outing Saturday, July 19th at Flushing Valley. 8am registration. 9am shotgun.

2nd Annual Labor Day Parade: Come be a part of this Family Fun Event and help support not only our union but all unions in Genesee Co. Monday Sept. 1.

Upcoming Night Class Schedule:

STAR Prep June 3rd, 4th, 5th, 11th & 12th 5pm-7pm. Test will be June 12th @ 5pm.

First Aid & CPR September 17th, 2025 at 4:30pm

Local 85, con't

48603. We ask if you are able, please bring a dish to pass.

Condolences: Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Frant Whitehill who passed away on May 3, 2025.

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

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 or money order only.

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, June 10th, 2025 at 4:00pm

FMR Committee – Tuesday, June 10th, 2025 at 4:00pm

PAC committee – Tuesday, June 10th, 2025 at 5:00pm

Executive Board – Tuesday, June 10th, 2025, at 5:00pm

Building Committee – Tuesday, June 10th, 2025 at 6:00pm

Finance Committee – Tuesday, June 10th, 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. Members 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 Rigging, Med-Gas, Back flow or any work-related training or certification expense. Members will be reimbursed after successful completion and verification of the cost. Lost wages will not be covered by the JATC. Plumbing license renewal is still the responsibility of the member. If you have any questions, please contact local 370 JATC.

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

Our web site is up and running: ualocal370.org.

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

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

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

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

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

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

"I merely took the energy it takes to pout and wrote some blues.

—Duke Ellington (1899 - 1974)



UA Local 190

ANNARBOR – A MONTHLY UNION MEETING: will be held on Monday, June 9 and will start at 6 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, MI. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

PAY UNION DUES ONLINE: <https://mtp.ua190.org/mtpweb> Username will be your full social security no., temporary password is the last four digits of your social security no. There is a 3% fee charged.

MICHIGAN GAS JOURNEYMAN: Requalification testing for Consumer Energy and Semco Energy will start **Monday, June 2 and end Friday, June 13.** Testing will be held at our training center. Please contact Ralph Booth 734-369-1432 for more information and to schedule your testing date.

51st ANNUAL GOLF OUTING: will be held on Saturday, July 26. Our event will be held at **Whitmore Lake Golf Links, Whitmore Lake.** Mark your calendar for this special event. Tickets are available to purchase at the union hall. Check or cash payments only, no credit card payments. If you have any questions please contact Karen at (734) 424-0962 Ext. 210.

Union hall closing: Our office will be closed at Noon on Friday, May 23 and all-day Monday, May 26 for Memorial Day.

SCHOLARSHIPS:

There are two scholarships available. One from Local 190, due back no later than June 27, please mail or return to the union hall. The UA scholarship is now available at the union hall for distribution, this application must be postmarked no later than June 12 and mailed to the UA Office in Annapolis, MD.

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

MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION JOURNEYMAN: If you are currently laid off and you would like to work building trades, please contact Kristyn at our Training Center to get information on a UA 21 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 LICENSE RENEWAL: Plumbing license renewals are done online **ONLY!** For detailed instructions and requirements, please visit: www.michigan.gov/bcc. Feel free to stop into the Union Hall and pick up a copy of the instructions. The link is now on the website in the "Members Only" section under "Helpful Member Forms"

CREDIT CARD MACHINE: to pay your union dues or purchase merchandise by credit card or debit card. We accept Visa, MasterCard and Discover. A surcharge of 3% is added to your card on the transaction amount.

INFORMATION - FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: **ANNUAL PHYSICALS 2025:** Annual physicals need to be completed by Oct. 31, 2025. Please remember to bring in the 2025 Annual Physical Verification Form and email the completed form to Bernadette Maus bmaus@ua190.org. This form is on our Local 190 website UA190.org and also the Benefits website UA190benefits.org

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

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 p.m. Friday 8am. to 4 pm. We will be closed for lunch from Noon to 1pm. Closed for Holidays. Please give Kristyn a call with any questions regarding certifications and training schedules or visit us on UA190.org members only section under training to register for classes online.

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.

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.

Lead/Asbestos/Blood-borne Pathogens Training (4 hrs): Please register through the website: ua190.org **2025 Schedule - Mondays – July 21, and Sept. 29, 2025.** Each class will start at 5 pm.

First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs): Please register through the website: ua190.org **2025 Schedule – Mondays – July 28, and Oct. 6, 2025.** Each class will start at 5 pm.

Michigan 2021 Plumbing Code Class (48 hrs): Journeyman members who are registered with the State of Michigan as **Apprentice Plumbers** with a **minimum of 3 years and 6,000 hours** of documented work experience **under a Master Plumber**, can register for the Michigan 2021 Plumbing Code Class. This class will prepare members for the written code and practical sections of the State of Michigan Plumbing Test. Please contact the Training Center to reserve your spot. Dates will be announced once the class is full. Members must meet all the requirements to sign up.

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.**

Currently open welding lab is Monday through Thursday 4pm to 8:30pm. There is limited space and first come first served. Welding tests will be scheduled after participants are approved by training instructors and the training coordinator. Welding lab will be closing May 22 until Sept. 2 for the summer.

ASSE Backflow Certifica-

tion (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become an ASSE Certified Backflow Tester (5110). **2025 Schedule:** The second course starts **Sept 9.** Courses run on **Wednesday and Thursday** for 5 weeks and are limited to 8 participants. Call the Training Center to secure your spot or register through the website: ua190.org

ASSE Backflow Re-Certification (8hrs): ASSE **PRICE INCREASE** ASSE has increased the retesting fee to **\$85** for this recertification. Re-certification for the ASSE Backflow Tester (5110). **2025 Schedule:** The third course starts **Oct 14.** Courses are on Tue and Wed and start at 5 pm. Each course is limited to 8. Call the Training Center to sign up for one of these courses or register through the website: ua190.org

Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs): This is a mandatory 40-hour class to be Med Gas certified. You must have a minimum of 4 years, documented experience in the plumbing and/or piping industry. **2025 Schedule:** The second course starts **Sept. 2.** Courses will run for 5 weeks, Tue and Thur. These courses are limited to 16 participants. Call the Training Center to sign up for one of these courses or register through the website: ua190.org

Med Gas Installer Up-Date (8hrs): This is a two-day course. **2025 Schedule:** Second course starts **Oct. 7.** Courses will be on Tue and Thu and are limited to 24 participants, per course. Call the Training Center to be put on the list for the next class or register through the website: ua190.org

ASSE 12010 ICRA Certification for Infection Control and Risk Assessment for Construction Workers (16hrs): This is a four-day course. **2025 schedule:** course to be announced later.

EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be **Winter/Spring 2025.** The class size is limited to 8. Register through the website: ua190.org

EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs): This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. **Course dates to be announced later.** Please register through the website: ua190.org

RETIREES:

Our next Spades meeting will start at 9 a.m. on Thursday, June 5 at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and coffee.

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 maintains offices in Sterling Heights, Livonia, Southgate and Novi. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

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

www.ssdfighter.com





Local 636

Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters,
Refrigeration &
Air Conditioning Service

UA Local 636
DETROIT – Our next regular Union meeting is May 20, 2025 at St. George Romanian Cultural Center 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. (Southfield Service Dr.) Southfield, MI 48075
A Special Called Meetings will be held May 20, 2025 for the reading of our yearly financial report.

Office Hours are 8:30 am – 4:30 pm Monday – Friday.
Special Announcement as of 1/1/2025 all active, retired, and opt-out members are being enrolled in vision coverage through Delta/VSP Vision. For details please contact the Union Hall 248-538-6636 or VSP member services 800-877-7195 or Member Portal www.memberportal.com for dental and vision benefits.

The Second Annual Local 636 Scholarship Golf Outing will be held on Saturday, June 14 at Mystic Creek Golf Course in Milford is SOLD OUT! Proceeds benefit the Detroit Pipefitters Benevolent Fund.

Softball players, the 636-softball league started on April 14 and every following Monday at 6:30 pm – 7:45 pm until June. The games are at Canton Sports Arena 46555 Michigan Avenue in Canton. Give Jeff Selph a call if you want to join the team. (269)598-6942

Attention Retiree Golfers: The 636 Retiree Golf League is hoping you'll join us this season. We play on Thursdays, usually around 11 am, spring through fall on a different course each week. All skill levels are represented and there is no obligation to play each week. Most courses played are in Macomb County and Oakland County. If you are interested, simply call Jim Dunn at 248-709-7036 or Joe Bourgeois at 313-590-0448.

CALLING ALL RETIREES! The next meeting will be held June 19, 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. They will be meeting on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 11am at Local 636 Union Hall.

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

Deceased Members – Lifetime Member Gary Bailey April 13, 2025.

Our deepest condolences to Nicholas Krafczyk on the passing of his wife Marykay; to Daryl & Bryan Cox on the passing of their Mother Sandy Cox; to Nikki Labute on the passing of her sister.

Get Well Wishes to: Marty Sosnowski, Ray Sterna, Larry Cirillo, Ed & Noreen Nys, Rashad Dooley, Don Bagozzi, Chris Fye, David Hochstein, Thomas L. Williams Jr, Justin Morgan, Ron Sarata, Zen Adams, Joshua Allen, Michael Downey, Cory Faust, Gregory Firth, Tanya Holland, James Juracek, Earl Marshall Jr., Steven Miles, Daniel Mosey, Ernie Murphy, Anthony Robinson, Brian Robinson, Branden Rodzik, Ryan Seitz, Patrick Stephens, Bryan Durand, Brian Mierendorf, Robert Filar.

Congratulations to Caleb and Kendall Kimberley on the birth of their son Griffin May 1, 2025.

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!**

January 2025; Greg Curlee, Jeffrey Gillies, Mark Hammons, Leonard Koskodan, Richard Mortz, John Taylor, Thomas Bitler.

February 2025; Robert W Miller, John Pesci.

March 2025; Michael Scriver.

DUES – 2nd Quarter Dues are due now. Your dues receipt will now be emailed to you; this will help us save on the cost of mailing receipts. Please call the Local to update your email and phone no. Local 636 has set up an **auto-pay system** for your dues so you will never miss a payment. Please contact Kim Kavanaugh at the union hall, she will be more than happy to help you with payment made by credit or debit card.

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. To find out more, go to lifeadvisor.com or call 800-448-8326.

New 988 crisis helpline. 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.

S.U.B. -NEW- Direct Deposit is NOW AVAILABLE for SUB-PAY.

Participants should continue to send all applications and weekly proof to the SUB Fund office for review and processing by emailing subpay@pipefitters636.org.

The SUB Fund office will no longer be able to cut checks for walk-ins, only process SUB request.

The SUB Fund office will have all payments entered in the SUB System by 10am on Wednesday.

After 10am every Wednesday, BeneSys will generate the checks in the SUB System and have them printed and mailed from Troy production.

Direct Deposit is now available, members choosing direct deposit will have the payments deposited into their accounts on Fridays. That is the reason for processing being done on Wednesdays.

Direct Deposit Authorization Agreement forms for SUBPAY were mailed by BeneSys and can be found on our website or you can call the Local for one.

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

Defined Contribution Pension Plan. For those members who use the Voice Response Unit, VRU to obtain balance information and transfers funds in your Defined Contribution Pension, the number has changed. The NEW NUMBER for the VRU is **877-410-9984**. Plan provider no. is 7526. You can now login to your Defined Contribution account on the Local's Website. Just click on the "Defined Contribution login here tab" and it will take you to the BeneSys login page. The Defined Contribution **corrected** website is 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, (mmddyyyy). 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. Here you will be able to review a snapshot of your account balance, investments, and recent transactional activity.

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 the requests for paperwork, getting the forms sent to the participant, the member completing it and returning it to the Fund Office for final processing.

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



Local 357

Plumbers,
Pipe Fitters &
HVAC Service

UA Local 357
KALAMAZOO – **UNION MEETING:** The next regular Union Meeting will be on **Tuesday, June 10th** at 6:30 pm. Other meetings that day will be the Finance Committee at 4:30 and the Executive Board at 5:30.

WAGE ALLOCATION: The Raise Allocation will be voted on at the Union Meeting on Tuesday, June 10. If you wish to submit a wage proposal you will need to have it in to the Hall by Friday, June 6th.

SPECIAL ELECTION – H & W TRUSTEE: Nominations will be held at the June 10 Union Meeting for one Health & Welfare Trustee to finish out a six (6) year term. Per the UA Constitution Sec 121, no member shall be eligible to be nominated for office in any Local Union unless he/she shall be a journeyman member and shall have been a member of the United Association and the Local Union in good standing for at least a period of two years immediately prior to the election.

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. 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 1st Monday of every month. Breakfast will commence at 9 am at **The Crew** located at 5200 Portage Rd, Portage, MI. The phone number for the location is (269) 337-9800.

CHANGE OF STATUS: If you have a change of status, for example: married, divorced, re-married, birth, death, workers comp, address change, etc., please call Lori at the Union Hall. It is very important that we keep all our records up to date.

There seems to be a continuing problem regarding notification of divorces. Note that you, the member, will be responsible for any bills incurred and paid on claims of an ex-spouse or dependents. (See Pages 6 and 27 in the Summary Plan Description Booklet for clarification).

CONGRATULATIONS: Congratulations to Trevor Lull on his recent marriage.

CONDOLENCES: Condolences to the family of Retired Member, Joseph Donovan, on his recent passing.

Local 636, con't

will be eligible for your ready to work payment. **Training Center News.** The JATC for the Pipefitters, Steamfitters, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Service Local Union #636 of the United Association will be accepting applications for our Construction Apprenticeship beginning June 2, 2025 through June 20th, 2025 ONLINE ONLY!

Please visit our website at www.pipefitters636tc.org – Qualifications necessary for an applicant to be considered are: 1. Must be 18 years of age or older. 2. Complete the application on our website at www.pipefitters636tc.org. At which time you must: a. Provide a valid driver's license. b. Provide a H.S diploma or high school equivalency (GED) certificate or transcripts. c. There is a \$100.00 testing fee that will be collected when submitting your application online.

You MUST schedule a test at this time for your application to be accepted. This is a drug free Program. An individual tentatively selected for entrance into the Program after testing and interview will be required to submit to a drug test, which will include testing for marijuana. The Pipefitting Industry Training Center is located at 636 Executive Drive in Troy, MI between John R. and Dequindre north of E. 14 mile Road. PH: 248-585-0636

"An economist is a man who states the obvious in terms of the incomprehensible."
–Alfred A. Knopf



Local 174

Plumbers, Pipe Fitters
& Service Trades

UA Local 174
MEMBERSHIP MEETING: JUNE MEETING DATE CHANGE – SPECIAL CALL MEETING. The June membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 10, 2025 at 7:00pm in our Assembly Hall at 1008 O'Malley Dr in Coopersville. The meeting was moved to allow the officers to attend the Michigan Pipe Trades Convention. This is also a special-called meeting for purposes of contract discussion or a potential vote and allocation. The front office will remain open until 6:55pm.

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

Retiree Breakfast: The retiree breakfast will also be moved to **Thursday, June 12, 2025** at 9am at New Beginnings Restaurant in Coopersville.

Office Closed: The office will be closed Monday May 26 in observance of Memorial Day.

Condolences: It is with sadness that brother Dennis Bennett passed away on 4/11/25. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Plumbing Law Changes: Since 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.

Earned Sick Time Act (ESTA): Beginning on March 1, 2025 contractors will contribute 1/30 of your base wage for every hour worked into a Sick Fund on your behalf. Solxsys will set up and administer a fund for each individual member. Starting June 1, 2025 members will be able to fill out a form and request reimbursement for time missed. If you have any questions, please contact the Union office.

Wage Allocation: The 2024 wage allocation was voted on at the June 4, 2024 membership meeting. Results were \$1.27 increase on the check, \$0.05 increase to the Retiree Bonus Program, \$0.60 increase to the Pension fund, and \$0.30 increase to the Training Fund.

Organizing Update: *With contract negotiations coming up and to help get the best contract, we must control the market share! Market share is the work our contractors have. It's exciting times with the workload that we currently have and that we've had for quite some time. Eventually it's going to slow down when we control the market share in both the good and bad times, but you still get the best contract available!*

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 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
E A P : (8 8 8) 2 3 8 - 6 2 3 2

Save-Rx: (800) 228-3108
Medicare Retirees

Retiree First: (616) 345-0788

Current Health Insurance

Premiums:
Active Member/Working Retiree \$1,110.33
Non-working Pre-Medicare Retiree \$791.10
Medicare Single \$123.63
Medicare Couple \$247.26
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. 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 which both offices have access to. The dispatch phone extension will switch between the two offices depending on who is on dispatch.

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

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

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

Lakeshore – 3rd 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:
Memorial Day: The Training Center will be closed Monday, May 26th in observance of the Memorial Day Holiday.

FIRST AID: First Aid/CPR/BBP class will be the second Thursday of the month (every month), from 5:00p-9:00p. The next classes will be held Thursday, June 12th and Thursday, July 10th.

WELD TEST: Test Events will be the second week of every month. Capabilities will be 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. Next capabilities will be Wednesday, June 11th, and the test to follow Thursday, June 12th at 5pm.

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.

Introduction to Refrigeration: This course serves as a gateway into the world of



SPRINKLER FITTERS

704

DETROIT

Sprinkler Fitters Local 704
FARMINGTON – The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday June 11, at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

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 be 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.

Mark your calendars, The Sprinklerfitters Local 704 Golf Outing will be held August 2. We will again be at The Lakes of Taylor Golf Course. You can purchase tickets for the event online. Just go to local704.com and under the About section, click on Events and there is a link to purchase your tickets.

Please keep Brother Neil Woodruff in your thoughts and prayers. Brother Woodruff had a medical event happen to him. We are hoping for a speedy recovery. A speedy recovery for all our sick and injured members

Local 174, con't

refrigeration, where we unravel the principles of refrigeration and mechanisms behind cooling systems that are critical to our industry. The course will focus on the four components that are essential for refrigeration, Latent and Sensible Heat, pressure/temperature relationship with refrigerants and basic refrigeration piping practices. Please call to be put in class.

****WAITING LIST:** Effective immediately, the Training Center will no longer maintain a waiting list for upcoming classes. When a class is scheduled, the dates and times will be announced in the following locations:

- The Building Trades article
- The Local 174 Members Facebook page

- The announcement screens at the Training Center

Going forward, it is your responsibility to call and sign up for a class once it is posted. Please monitor these sources regularly to stay informed about new class opportunities.

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.

"Help others get ahead. You will always stand taller with someone else on your shoulders."

–Bob Moawad

"A boy can learn a lot from a dog: obedience, loyalty, and the importance of turning around three times before lying down."

–Robert Benchley (1889 - 1945)

"The time you enjoy wasting is not wasted time."

–Bertrand Russell (1872 - 1970)

"Be still when you have nothing to say; when genuine passion moves you, say what you've got to say, and say it hot."

–D. H. Lawrence (1885 - 1930)

"What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly."

–Thomas Paine (1737 - 1809)



UA Local 671
MONROE – The Local 671 Membership Meetings have now been moved to the 3rd Thursday of the month. The **next meeting will be held on June 19, 2025, at 7pm.**

The Executive Board meeting will also be held on June 19th, 2025. If any member would like to attend the Executive Board Meeting, please contact the Union Hall prior to the meeting.

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

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

There will be a Special Order of Business at the June 19th Union Meeting for the Election of Officers. The Election Committee will read the results of the election as soon as it becomes available.

Notice: The Election of Officers will be held on June 19th. Polls will open at 7am and close at 7pm. All candidates are welcome to campaign but must follow the elections rules set by The UA Constitution.

Condolences: It is with a sad heart that I inform you of the passing of William (Bill) West on May 2nd, 2025. Bill was a life member of the UA and had 59 years of service as a member and leader on and off the job. He will truly be missed by all.

Phone Scams: I would like to make our members aware of a popular scam going around right now that is cheating thousands of dollars out of people. The scammers pose as Banking Fraud center representatives. The banks will not contact you by phone to address any fraud, so please do not give any of your personal information over the phone. If you have been contacted by these scammers, please contact the Monroe County Sheriff fraud department. If you have any questions or are unsure of anything, feel free to contact me directly.

Apprenticeship: I would like to welcome a new member to our team. Kristina Henry came to us from Monroe Community College and will be our new JATC admin and assistant to Justin McManaway. If you get a chance, please take the time to welcome Kristina to our Local 671 family. We are very lucky to have her.

2025 Service Awards and Apprenticeship Graduation Banquet: I would like to thank everyone who participated in the by-annual awards banquet and apprentice graduation. Special thanks to Tawni Fenech, Carly Neely, and Maddie Neely for helping make the night a success with registration and setting up. I believe it was a good time had by all.

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 Vinnie 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.

Open Weld Shop Nights: The open Weld Shop nights are now **Thursday nights** from 6pm-10pm. A booth will need to be reserved by noon on Friday prior to the practice night. If we have (3) or more signed up, we will hold the practice night. Booths will be first come, first served with whoever is practicing for a UA test getting immediately.

Effective immediately, all UA weld test sessions will be held on the first Thursday of each month. The next UA Weld Test Session will be held on **Thursday, May 1st.**

Wachs Pipe Machining Class: We will be holding another Level 1 Pipe Machining Class on May 24th at 7:30 a.m. We can also hold a Level II Advanced Training session if there is enough interest. Please contact Justin if you would like to attend either class.

Michigan Plumbing Exam Prep Class: We continue to hold classes to prepare Members who

(Continued next column)



Plumbers 98
Membership of Local 98, DETROIT – Congratulations on ratifying and allocating our new four-year contract. Wage increases went into effect on April 28, 2025. Please call your officers if you have any issues with your raises on your check.

Our next regular monthly union meeting will be held on Thursday, June 12, 2025 at 7:00pm.

Retiree Luncheon meeting will be held at the hall on Wednesday, June 11, 2025 from 12:00-2:00pm.

We would like to recognize Plumbers Local 98 apprentices CJ House (John E Green) and Kyle Jent (UPI) for competing in the Michigan Pipe Trades Apprentice Contest at Flint 370's training center on April 24th and 25th. CJ competed as a plumber and Kyle as a fitter. Congratulations go out to CJ House for taking 1st place in the plumbing division and advancing to regionals. Thank you both as well as our training center staff for all your hard work and preparation. We wish CJ well in regionals!

The Executive Board meetings are *generally* held the first Thursday of the month at 5:30pm and before all Union Meetings. The next board meeting is Thursday, June 12, 2025 at 6:00pm due to another meeting on June 5, 2025.

Dues: Thank you to our members who have paid their dues current, in full or signed up for auto deduction. It's not too late to still pay your dues in full or sign up for auto deduction to qualify for this year's gift. The gift is a tee-shirt with our updated logo on the front and back. If you have paid your dues in full or have auto deduction and have not picked up your shirt, please stop by the hall to pick up or call to have it mailed. Shirts are guaranteed through the end of May 2025.

Save the dates: the Plumbers' picnic will be held on June 28, 2025 at Lake St. Clair Metropark (formerly known as Metro Beach Metropark) in Harrison Township. Picnic is from Noon – 4pm. Games, prizes, bike raffle, etc. Burgers, hot dogs, chips and soft drinks provided. Flyer is needed for complimentary entry. Please download a flyer or stop by the hall to pick one up. Any questions please call Business Agent Jimmy Cools.

Local 98 Detroit Plumbers Scholarship Golf Outing will be held at Mystic Creek Golf Course in Milford on **August 23, 2025.** 9am shotgun start. Call the hall to sign up your teams and for sponsorship opportunities.

Attention 98 Softball players: Any Local 98 member interested in playing on the Local 98 Softball Team, please contact Jeremy Pitts (586) 405-9425. We wish Plumbers 98's softball team good luck in Cincinnati for the 46th Annual UA Softball Tournament.

Local 98 Scholarship Committee will be awarding scholarships to children of Local 98 members for the fall 2025 semester. Please address applications to Local 98 in care of President Ryan Lyle. They will be accepted until June 30, 2025.

UA Scholarship deadline is June 12, 2025. More info can be found at the following website: <https://uascholarshipfund.com->

Local 671, con't

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: By the time this article comes out nominations will have happened. I would like to wish every candidate good luck. I believe that our Local Union does a good job at putting the right people in place to lead our Union. I also would like to thank each candidate for running. Taking on the responsibility of a Union Officer is a huge sacrifice, and it should not be taken lightly. We appreciate each one of our Officers' past, present and future.

I have no doubt that we will get a great set of officers after our June elections. I will see you at the polls.

Mike Jewell: email: mike@ualocal671.com
Vinnie Fenech: email: vinnie@ualocal671.com

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

muntyforce.com Scroll down to 2025 United Association Scholarship to view details.

Applications are now being accepted for our apprenticeship program. Learn more at www.plumbers98TC.org/apprenticeship.

2025 Log Books and 2025 Membership Dues pins are available at the hall.

Expelled Members: We currently have two expelled members: Kirk W. Gilson and Christopher Washington.

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.

We are currently looking for Industrial, Residential and Service Plumbers. If you know anyone working Non-Union, have them call our Organizer Rob Moses.

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. Call to talk to a counselor for issues relating to grief, alcohol, drug addiction, bankruptcy depression, marital issues and family counseling. **All this is confidential and lead by our health professional C.J. Harrison, you can reach her on her cell @ 313-580-6887. If you cannot go to her office she can do phone conferences, don't wait ask for help when you feel issues are affecting your life.**

In Memoriam. Our deepest condolences and sympathy to the families and friends of deceased Brother Marvin Czapp, he was initiated on 10-23-1952, he was a 70-year member.

Additional information can be found at ualocal98.org

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Gary Glaser, Business Manager (313) 580-0148 gglaser98@ualocal98.org
Dan Nixon, FST (248) 752-3702 dnixon98@ualocal98.org
Rufus Hamilton, Business Agent (313) 542-2758 rhilton98@ualocal98.org
Jim Cools, Business Agent (248) 762-9221 jcools@ualocal98.org
Paul Smith, Business Agent (313) 938-2477 psmith@ualocal98.org
Jeff Kavalair, Business Agent (313) 938-1554 jkavalair@ualocal98.org
Rob Moses, Organizer (248) 763-2187 rmoses98@ualocal98.org

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

"The world is governed more by appearances than realities, so that it is fully as necessary to seem to know something as to know it."

—Daniel Webster (1782 - 1852)

"Knowledge and timber shouldn't be much used till they are seasoned."

—Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809 - 1894)

"Wars teach us not to love our enemies, but to hate our allies."

—W. L. George

"If you have made mistakes, even serious ones, there is always another chance for you. What we call failure is not the falling down but the staying down."

—Mary Pickford (1893 - 1979)



UA Local 111
UPPER PENINSULA—This paper is to serve as the official notice to the membership.

ATTENTION: The next Union Meeting will be in Marquette, May 29th at 7:30pm.

Training News:
Instrument Tech Level I will take place Monday June 2nd-Saturday June 7th.

To be added to the notification list or to register, contact Training Coordinator John Antonecw.

Anyone interested in **1-day shutdowns**, please contact Business Agent/Dispatcher, Scott Pendergrat in the Escanaba office.

Call Escanaba or Marquette for 111's Lay Off Line; Extension #7 and Job Line; Extension #8.

MRA FUND - This is a reminder that you are required by the IRS to provide proper substantiation for your MRA debit card usage. Many members have received Substantiation Request letters from the Local 111 Benefit Fund office, Zenith American Solutions.

As per IRS regulations, the use of the MRA card must be substantiated or validated as an eligible covered expense under the Plan. **These IRS requirements are mandatory, and the Fund cannot make exceptions. It is YOUR responsibility** to ensure that all requested documentation is submitted to the Fund office in a timely manner. To check whether receipts are required for any transactions, please log in to the Zenith American Solutions Portal website or app.

Failure to respond to these Substantiation Request letters will result in suspension of your MRA card until all requested documentation has been received.

If you have any questions, please contact Zenith American Solutions at 1-866-823-4730 ext. 1 or the Union Hall. **Thank you for your attention to this matter.**

New 988 Crisis Helpline: The UA & the MCAA have made a joint investment to spread awareness on how we approach mental health and suicide prevention. New resources are now available with the implementation of the Department of Health and Human Services 988 Lifeline. Call or text 988 to be connected to trained counselors who will listen & provide support and linked to resources.

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

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

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

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

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

Check your dues records! You are assessed a \$50 reinstatement once you become 3 months behind. You are automatically expelled once you are over 6 months behind.

Safety Training on Local 111 Web Site: When taking the on-line safety training, go to our web site lu111.com and click on Safety Links. Members must take these safety trainings for each site to work at each mill. Please take note they are valid for 1 year.

MSHA Training: To register for an MSHA class please go to **Upconstruction.org** and go to the **MSHA calendar** to register. This website applies for canceling classes also.

May 16, 2025

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN 7



Local 333 Plumbers & Pipe Fitters

UA Local 333

LANSING – May's union meeting will be held Wednesday, May 21, 2025, at 6:30pm at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 48911.

June's union meeting will be held Wednesday, June 18, 2025, at 6:30pm at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI, 48911.

Scholarship applications for the coming 2025-2026 year are now available. If someone you know needs an application, please call Joni at 517-784-1106, ext.# 4 or email her.jthomas@local333.com or by stopping in her office.

Weld classes:

Lansing:

Advanced Weld Class: Monday's & Wednesday's 4:30 – 8:30 pm (10 weeks)

Beginners Weld Class: Tuesday's & Thursday's 4:30 – 8:30 pm (10 weeks)

Jackson:

Advanced Weld Class: Monday's & Wednesday's 4:30 – 8:30 pm (10 weeks)

Beginners Weld Class: Tuesday's & Thursday's 4:30 – 8:30 pm (10 weeks)

Advanced Pipefitting class Tuesday's & Thursday's 4:30 – 8:30 pm (10 weeks)

Battle Creek:

Monday's & Thursday's 4:30 – 8:30 pm (10 weeks)

Weld classes will end June 12, 2025.

Backflow class, new certification class will be in September, the date will be announced

Lansing Orbital Welding: 40 hours. You must have your UA21 and UA41 – Class will begin when 6 members have signed-up. This will be for the fall class.

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. Ultimately 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 Retiree's 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.

Lansing retiree's breakfast will be held on June 25, 2025, 9am at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing. There will be plenty of good food, and friends to visit with. Please spread the word.

"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 for 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 or call 800-448-8326 or call your respective agent or Dustin at the Union Hall

Deepest sympathy to Suzanne McCarty on the loss of her husband, Lansing member Michael McCarty, who is the brother of our member John McCarty. Mike retired in November 2008 and has been a member of Local 333 for 57 years. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this sorrowful time.

Retiree's Golf Outing. Wednesday, June 11, 2025, Binder Park Golf Course, 7255 B Dr. S., Battle Creek, MI. 49014. Shotgun 9am, 18 holes of golf and cart. \$44.00. You can sign up at all three regions. Come join in on all the fun. All teams must be registered by May 30, 2025

If you have any questions please call Joseph Michilizzi, (269)719-7555. *Please spread the word!*

Local 333, Golf Outing. Saturday, August 2, 2025. Eldorado Golf Course, 3750 W. Howell Rd., Mason, MI. 48854. 9am shotgun, (Scramble Format), 18 holes of golf and cart. \$75.00 per person. Lunch, prizes for everyone. *Please sign up at the Lansing office.*

Plumbers & Pipefitter Local 333 would like to thank all our members who attended the awards banquet. Your dedication to Local 333 is what made it possible for the Years of Service celebration.

"Do not pursue what is illusory - property and position: all that is gained at the expense of your nerves decade after decade and can be confiscated in one fell night. Live with a steady superiority over life - don't be afraid of misfortune, and do not yearn after happiness; it is after all, all the same: the bitter doesn't last forever, and the sweet never fills the cup to overflowing."

—Alexander Solzhenitsyn (1918 - 2008)

"If it were done, when 'tis done, then 'twere well it were done quickly."

—William Shakespeare (1564 - 1616), Macbeth

"The man who backbites an absent friend, nay, who does not stand up for him when another blames him, the man who angles for bursts of laughter and for the repute of a wit, who can invent what he never saw, who cannot keep a secret - that man is black at heart: mark and avoid him."

Cicero (106 BC - 43 BC)

"You need only reflect that one of the best ways to get yourself a reputation as a dangerous citizen these days is to go about repeating the very phrases which our founding fathers used in the struggle for independence."

—Charles Austin Beard (1874 - 1948)

"Every moment is a golden one for him who has the vision to recognize it as such."

—Henry Miller (1891 - 1980)

"Sometimes I think the surest sign that intelligent life exists elsewhere in the universe is that none of it has tried to contact us."

-Bill Watterson (1958 -)

"A man does not have to be an angel in order to be a saint."

—Albert Schweitzer (1875 - 1965)

"Time does not change us. It just unfolds us."

—Max Frisch

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IBEW Local 445
BATTLE CREEK – Local 445 Family Picnic. The Local 445 Picnic is scheduled for September 6, 2025. Bring your kids for some good family fun.

Local 445 Golf Outing The Local 445 Golf Outing is scheduled for July 12, 2025. Be sure to get your teams registered.

Paying dues late. If you pay your Monthly/Quarterly Union Dues late, you will be assessed a \$10.00 assessment for each month late. If you do not pay for the Late Fee Assessment, it will be added to your account as a delinquent amount due. If you are unsure if you have an amount due on your account, please call Wanda at the Hall to verify your status.

Death Benefit Assessments. Please contact the Hall to verify if you have any Death Benefit Assessments due on your account before paying your dues so that you can add it to your quarterly due's payment.

Organizing. If you know of any Electricians interested in joining the IBEW, please contact Travis at (269) 339-8377. The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 2022 Constitution states **“The object of the IBEW is to organize all workers in the entire electrical industry.”**

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

2025 due's structure. The Delegates of the 40th IBEW International Convention, which was conducted in Chicago, Illinois, during the week of May 9-13, 2022, approved several amendments to Article IX of the IBEW Constitution.

Accordingly, effective Jan. 1, 2025, there will be an increase of \$1.00 for the IBEW Pension Benefit Fund (PBF) contribution, which applies to “A” members only, and \$1.00 for the IBEW Per Capita. Effective July 1, 2025, there will be an increase of \$1.00 for the IBEW Per Capita.

As of **January 1, 2025, thru June 30, 2025**, the following due's structure:

JIW's:
Monthly \$60.00
Quarterly \$180.00

Apprentices:
Monthly \$49.00
Quarterly \$147.00

As of **July 1, 2025**, the following due's structure:

JIW's:
Monthly \$61.00
Quarterly \$183.00

Apprentices:
Monthly \$50.00
Quarterly \$150.00

IBEW Local 445 App/Website. The new app & website are now live. Local 445 Members can register to access the app. You are now able to pay your dues online via the app or website. Please visit the app & website to access the calendar of events. Please notify the Hall if you have any questions or concerns with the App or Website.

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

Local Website - Please check the Local 445 website for the latest information, including job postings. The Local 445 web address is **IBEW445.com**. Make sure you check out the **Benefits Tab** for important related websites.

2025 personal information. Please keep your address, phone number and email address up to date at the Hall. Also, contact the Hall with marriages, births of children and divorces. You have a limited time frame to add/remove dependents. Beneficiary cards and forms are also available at the Hall when you need to update them.

Executive Board E-Board meets the fourth Monday of each month starting at 4:30 p.m. *Respectfully Submitted, Wanda Secrest Recording Secretary*

“Always be a little kinder than necessary.”
—James M. Barrie (1860 - 1937)

“Everywhere is walking distance if you have the time.”
— Steven Wright (1955 -)



IBEW Local 131

Serving Southwest Michigan Since 1916

IBEW Local 131
KALAMAZOO – The next **General Membership Meeting** will be held on June 2, at 6 p.m.

The next **Renew** meeting will be held on May 28, at RJ's at 5 p.m.

The Executive Board meeting will be held on Monday, May 19, at 5 p.m.

Woman in the Trades Meeting will be held Tuesday, May 20, at Applebee's on Westnedge at 6 p.m.

The EWMC meeting will be held May 28, at R.J.'s, 5 p.m.

The Veterans Group will be meeting on June 5, at 5 p.m.

Brotherhood Night is on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at RJ's from 3:30 to 5:30p.m. 8118 Portage Rd. Portage. Keep an eye out for location changes on the Local's FB page.

The **Work Outlook** continues to be steady. Champion has agreed to pay \$15 an hour over scale. There will be requirements for proof of knowledge in control wires termination, fiber optics termination and LAN terminations. Watch the website for job calls (IBEW131.com). Other work in the local has begun to pick up for schoolwork, the contractors and members are beginning to gear up for shutdowns at the papermills.

Elections: The following officers will be unopposed: President Eddie LeBoeuf, Vice President Tim Haydon, Recording Secretary Nick Leitch, Treasurer-Paul Barrons, Business Manager / Financial Secretary Jonathan Current. Elections for the following officers: Executive Board (6 Members), Examining Board (5 Members), and Delegate to International Convention, will be held on June 2, 2025. To receive a Mail-in ballot, email the election judge at: IBEW131electionjudge@gmail.com or mail to ATTN: IBEW 131 Election Judge, P.O. Box 531, Schoolcraft, Michigan. 49087

Apprenticeship Applications: We often get calls on how to apply to Kalamazoo Apprenticeship Program. To apply, go to www.kalamazoojatec.com and navigate to the application page on the website. If you know of any journeyman electricians interested in joining the IBEW, please contact Ryan at (269) 366-0322 or rlweis@ibew131.com.

Retirees' Lunches at the following locations:

May 21, Lunch at Judy's Restaurant, 120 W Allegan St. Otsego, 49078 @ 11:00.

June 18, Lunch at Roxie's Breakfast & Lunch, 4010 Gull Road, Kalamazoo 49048@11:00

July 16, Lunch at McGonigle's Irish Pub, 3512 East Main St. Kalamazoo 49048

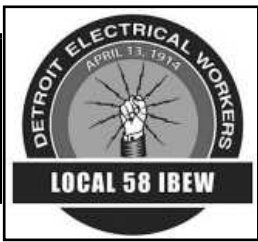
Every Tuesday, a smaller group of Retirees meets at Uncle Ernie's Pancake House, 4005 Portage St., Kalamazoo, MI 49001 @ 10 a.m.

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.

RETIREMENT: NEBF and IBEW PBF applications take at least 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 call the hall and set up an appointment with Christine. You will need to submit copies of your social security card, birth certificate, marriage certificates and divorce decrees for you and your spouse(s) with your applications. Important numbers for you to write down:

NEBF (301)-556-4300
IO Pension (202)-833-7000

American Income Life - Accidental Death Benefit. Recently you may have received a letter in the mail regarding the \$2500 Accidental Death & Dismemberment benefit available through a partnership with the IBEW and American Income Life. All active members are eligible for this benefit. The letter states that you need to return the enclosed yellow card to qualify and name your beneficiary. Please note you are **NOT REQUIRED** to return this card to name your beneficiary; the beneficiaries you have on file at the hall are sufficient. The \$2500 benefit would be paid to your named beneficiary, not to (Continued next column)



IBEW Local 58

DETROIT – The next **General Membership meeting:** will be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2025. Dinner with the brotherhood begins at 5:30 pm and the meeting starts at 6:30 pm. Parking will continue to be tight with the construction project well under way. Your patience is appreciated!

Great News! Every Wednesday from 12 pm – 4 pm you can sign for Sub Pay in Port Huron. You will need to go to the Port Huron Labor Temple located at 2441 W. Water St, Port Huron, MI 48060. If you have any questions, please contact Business Agent Paul Ledsworth at 313-802-4970.

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 who can help people experiencing suicidal, substance use, and/or mental health crisis, or any other kind of emotional distress. Please Call, Text, Chat! IBEW Local 58 Cares! Call 988!

IBEW Local 58 Brick Pavers- are available for purchase, if you would like to purchase a brick, please contact the Union Hall for an Order Form. 7x9 brick pavers can have up to 6 lines of lettering and 17 spaces per line, \$100.00 Donation per Brick. NOTE: No symbols or clipart can be added to brick pavers. To purchase or for questions about the brick pavers please contact Stacy at the Union Hall 313-963-2130, extension 3015.

Attention future retirees! On Saturday, June 28th, a Pre-Retirement Seminar will be held at the IBEW 58 Union Hall from 9 AM to Noon at 1358 Abbott Street in Detroit. Presenters will include Charles Mott, the Retirees Association President, E. Craig Young, Benefits Director and Michele Davis, Assistant Benefits Director of the IBEW 58/NECA Benefit Funds, and Jason Mack, Account Manager with Genex Services Inc.

This Pre-Retirement Seminar is usually held every three years to discuss your Local (Electrical Workers' Insurance Fund, Inside Pension, Sound & Communication Pension and Annuity Fund), National (National Electrical Benefit Fund or NEBF) and International (IBEW Pension Benefit Fund or PBF) retirement benefits and Social Security retirement and disability benefits - prepare for a morning of retirement information to be presented to you. If you are preparing to retire in the next few years, you and your spouse may be interested in attending this educational seminar! Please RSVP to Kelly Lynch kelly.lynych@ibew58.org.

Local 58 Dues Department – Union quarterly dues are increasing starting the Third Quarter of 2025. The amount will be \$148.50 without PAC, and \$152.50 with PAC. Please make any adjustments to your Credit Union and Automatic payments when sending in your dues. You can pay on the APP/Website, send a check, or call and pay over the phone. We ask that you keep the Local up to date with your address, email, and phone number. Thank you

Wiremen's Golf Association (WGA) Members: This year the 2025 Wiremen's Golf Association Tournament will be hosted by Local 139, Elmira, NY on July 29th, 30th, 31st, and Aug 1st, with the optional scramble being held on Tuesday July 29th. The golf courses being utilized for the tournament this year are Mark Twain Golf Course (Elmira, NY), Swain Eagles Golf Course (Horseheads, NY), Willow Creek Golf Course (Big Flats, NY) and the optional scramble on Tuesday at The Club at Shepard Hills

IBEW 131, con't

American Income Life does offer other policies and services. If you are interested in having a representative contact you to discuss available options, you may return the yellow card in the paid envelope provided. If you have questions, please contact the hall on 269-382-1762.

Three Months or more behind in counter dues payments are the following suspended members: Joshua Chopp, Nathan Hoffer, Richard Peebles and Steve Sunlin. *Morris Applebey Business Manager*

(Waverly, NY). The host hotel/tournament headquarters for this year is the Radisson Hotel Corning, NY ((607)962-5000) with the overflow hotel being Hilton Garden Inn Corning Downtown ((607)438-1400). Entry fees for this year are \$275 per man for the Tournament and an additional \$75 per man for the optional scramble. They are anticipating a large showing in Elmira and have strict deadlines to provide a count to all the venues so it will be absolutely necessary to have your entry money for the tournament turned in ASAP this year. *All monies must be received by April 31st *NO EXCEPTIONS. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE YOUR MONEY IN TO EITHER RON KRAJENKE OR BRAD GARRITY BY APRIL 31st YOU WILL NOT ENTERED INTO THE TOURNAMENT THIS YEAR.* If you are mailing your payment please mail to: Ron Krajenske, 20244 Edinberg Drive, Macomb, MI 48044. Any WGA member who is planning on participating in the 2025 Tournament or anyone looking for information or to join the WGA this year can feel free to reach out with any questions to Ron Krajenske at 313-475-0487 or Brad Garrity at 313-850-1837. We are looking forward to a great WGA Tournament this year in Elmira!

Local 58 Senior Softball Team: 55+ Senior Softball. Practices starting in April with games starting May 12, 2025. For more information, please contact Jim Miles at 586-933-3551.

Local 58 Senior Golf: The Senior golf outings are scheduled as follows:

June 12, 2025 – Pontiac Country Club – Waterford, MI - Begins at 9:00 am

July 17, 2025 – Rouge Park Golf Course – Detroit, MI - Begins at 9:00 am

September 11, 2025 – Rackham Golf Course – Huntington Woods, MI - Begins at 9:00 am

October 2, 2025 – Dunham Hills Golf Club – Hartland, MI - Begins at 9:00 am

Jeff Gregory will be running these golf outings from now on. They are open to all Local 58 members and guests. Anyone who would like to participate, please text or call Jeff at 248-240-7449 for reservations. It is important to get a head count for the golf course.

Detroit Electrical Workers Benevolent Fund (DEWBF): The next Benevolent Fund meeting will be Tuesday, June 3, 2025. Just wrapped up the 16th Annual Walleye Tournament on Saturday, May 3, 2025. Great turnout with 17 boats and 64 fishermen. Big thank you to all the participants and volunteers. Special thank you to Dennis Dolan, Steve Weiss and Rob Porter for donating fish, Vince and Lori Leonetti for donating ribs, and Chris at Anglers Point Selfridge for donating the scale to use for weigh in. Winning boats were:

1st Place - Fish hunter
2nd Place - No Name
Biggest Fish – No Name
Battle of the Trades - Four Eyes

Next event is the 24th Annual Jerry Gaudi Memorial Golf Outing. This event sold out in minutes. There are tickets available for the Cooler of Cheer Raffle.

Members of the Community Service Committee: The next committee meeting will be Tuesday, June 10, 2025, 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. to help with food prep, organization, and loading. Questions can be directed to Ray Kujawski at (248) 496-1916 (call, text, leave a voicemail). Local 58 is very active with community service in the Metro Detroit area and has a variety of upcoming projects that require the help of volunteers and helping hands. Contact the Union Hall (313) 963-2130 or Ray Kujawski (number above) for further information about volunteering or participating.

Members of the Entertainment Committee: The next Entertainment Committee meeting will be Tuesday, June 10, 2025 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, May 19, 2025 at 6pm. This will be an

in-person meeting with a ZOOM option. Please make sure your cell phone number and your email address are up to date. The meeting information will be sent out as soon as available. If you are not receiving the notices, please make sure that your information is updated here at the Hall. Please bring any suggestions that you have for EWMC involvement and engagement.

We are moving forward with our Father's Day Basket Raffle. Tickets will be available soon and we will need help selling tickets at the next membership meeting. Several of the other Sixth District Chapters have events happening this summer and we will be trying to support some of their endeavors.

Thank you to both the EWMC and the Women's Committee members who were able to present Sister Phyllis Turner with gifts at the Retiree Pin Party. She was extremely appreciative that we recognized her as a pioneer in the Local and the IBEW. She received her pin for 50 years of service. Well done!

The Golf Outing is scheduled for Friday, July 25, 2025 at Rouge Park Golf Course. We need everyone on board to make this event a success.

Please bring a greeting card (get well/encouragement/thinking of you) to the May meeting so that we can deliver them to Brother Arthur Edge as he continues on his road to recovery.

Stay tuned for more volunteer opportunities in the near future. Volunteers will be needed as we continue with our efforts.

Please bring a greeting card (get well/encouragement/thinking of you) to the April meeting so that we can deliver them to Brother Arthur Edge as he continues on his road to recovery.

Stay tuned for more volunteer opportunities in the near future. Volunteers will be needed as we continue with our efforts.

The Safety Committee meeting will be on Monday, June 9, 2025, at 5:30 PM.

The Veterans Committee - meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm.

Local 58's Women's Committee - The next committee meeting will be Thursday, May 22, 2025, at 5:30p.m.at the Hall and on Zoom. If you have questions, please contact Committee Chair Angela Panicucci (586-291-8014) or Co-chair Liz Gorski (586-921-3087), Email at 58womencommittee@ibewlocal58.org

The Political Action Committee: Political Action Committee: PAC meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of the month via 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.

IBEW Local 58 Retirees Association: There is no board meeting or luncheon for the month of May. The next board meeting is Wednesday, June 11, at 10 a.m. in the main conference room at the local union hall.

The Oral History Project continues, if you haven't been interviewed for this collection, please contact the hall at 313 963-2130 or contact Ray Kujawski at 248 496-1916. If you have a partner you would like to do a joint interview with, that can happen also. Make the call today.

The September Bus Trip is heading to Washington DC this fall. The trip takes place Friday September 12 through Tuesday September 16, 2025. Total cost for the trip per person, \$710, based on double occupancy. Send in your \$75 deposit per person, to hold your spot. A tour of the IBEW International Museum and a tour of the White House are currently being arranged to be included in this trip. Call Dave Riley with questions or for the address to send your deposit, 586 206-8075.

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings take place every Wednesday at the IBEW Local 58 Union Hall, (1358 Abbott St, Detroit, MI 48226), starting at 6:00 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. In the market for a loan? Check out our low rates! New auto as low as 5.25%. Give us a call today to find out how to apply or go online at <http://www.ewcu.com> (Continued next column)



IBEW Local 948
FLINT - Meetings.
Membership Meeting – Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will be June 9th, 2025 at 6:00 PM.

Retiree Meetings – Retirees next meeting will be June 3, 2025, at 9 am.

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.

Work Outlook - 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 Kellogg Dipzinski.

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, Noah Achrem. We look forward to working with you and hope to see you in the field.

Retirees - Congratulations to Doug Childs 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 Larry Braidwood. We are tremendously sorry for your losses and will continue to keep our Brother in our hearts.

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net. Who's your Beneficiary? Here are some tips to help make sure your account is up to date with us. Review your beneficiaries periodically, especially if a life change occurs. Be sure the wording is correct, especially if you name more than one beneficiary. Give us a call and we can check who you have listed. State of Michigan Escheat Law: The law states that any deposit account with no activity for 3 years must be turned over to the State. What can you do? Contact us today to find out your account status. Conduct a transaction by either deposit or withdraw (any amount). Close account.

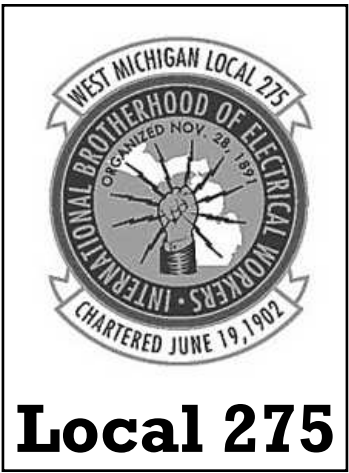
Be sure to keep the Union Hall updated with any changes to your phone number, address, email and beneficiaries.

IBEW Pension: Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: Charles L. Baker, Robert Cadeau, Walter Daugherty, Michael Gretch, Robert Levy, Gerald Miney, Kimberly Palmer, and John VanCamp.

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.

Marcus Hendricks, Pension member, 43 year IBEW membership; **John Liimatta,** Pension member, 58 year IBEW membership; **Christine Lorang,** Widow of the late Pension member James Lorang; **Charles Marentette,** Pension member, 60 year IBEW membership; **Wendie Pridmore,** Former Administrative Assistant at the Electrical Industry Training Center, Daughter to the late Thomas Pridmore, former instructor at the Electrical Industry Training Center, and sister to Todd Pridmore, JIW; **Helen Randall,** Widow to the late Pension member Kenneth Randall; and **Ronald O. Weber,** Pension member, 68 year IBEW membership, Father to Robert “Bob” Weber & Brian Weber, JIW's.

BUILDERS LICENSE TRAINING
MIDDLETON
Real Estate Training Inc.
901 Tower Drive, Suite 120
Troy, MI 48068
www.middletontraining.com
248-885-8311



IBEW Local 275
COOPERSVILLE – **Work Outlook:** Work in the jurisdiction remains steady with calls on the job recorder regularly. Please continue to call the job line if you are seeking work in Local 275. As open calls continue we would like to encourage any 275 hands working on the road to entertain the idea of coming home to man the work here.

Upcoming Election 2025: The nominations for all officers of Local Union 275 will be held on Tuesday, May 20th, beginning at 6pm at the Local 275 Union Hall. If you are considering running and accepting a nomination for an officer position please make sure to be at the meeting or submit a letter expressing intent to accept a nomination. You cannot accept a nomination for more than one office.

Also, keep in mind that with the election coming up on June 21st, if you would like your vote to be counted, you must be a member in good standing (no more than 90 days in arrears) at the time of the election. Local 275's election is an all mail ballot, so please make sure your address is updated at the Hall if you have moved recently.

Volunteer Info: Many thanks to those who took time out of there Saturday to help with the food drive. Your service is much appreciated. (Dan Tenhoopen, Nick Arnett, Sebastion Conley, Laban Pollack, Nate Gehringer, Mark Fletcher, Steve Marshall, Mario Gonzalez, Niko Jend and Calvin Tipple)

OMEGA Financial Club: Next meeting will held on Monday, June 23rd, 6pm at the Union Hall. If you are interested in learning more about financial and retirement planning, please make an effort to attend. It is never too early to start planning for you and your family's future.

West Michigan RENEW/EWMC: Next Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 27th, 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. May's meeting will include a candidates meet and greet for anyone running Local Union offices.

Training: Code update will only be available online going forward. Please go to the JATC website at 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.

Anyone interested in signing up for Foreman 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.

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.

We have a list of roughly 30 members who have vacation fund money that has yet to be deposited because of lack of account info. If you have not set up your account info for vacation fund deposits, please call Nicole to get that taken care of. Reminder that May is the last month for vacation fund contributions and July will be the last vacation fund deposit. As a reminder, the Local Union Hall offices have changed their hours. The offices will be open from 8am-12:30pm, 1pm-4:30pm.

Monthly dues will be increasing by \$2 in January of 2025. Please adjust any automatic payments to reflect the new monthly dues amount of \$49.90.

Delinquent Members: At the time of this writing the following members are three months or more behind on dues: Matthew Buikema, Dave Daum, Matt DeJong, Rob DeJong, Nate Dyer, Kevin Koon, Michael Lundberg, Kaleb McAre, and Joe Shields. Please make every effort to become current with your dues as soon as you can.



IBEW Local 692

IBEW Local 692
BAY CITY – **Union Meeting.** The June monthly membership meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, June 2nd, 2025.**

Executive Board Meeting. The May Executive Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, May 19th, 2025.**

Message from the Business Manager. Election Day will be held on Monday, June 2nd, 2025 at the Electrical Trades Building (1300 W. Thomas Street, Bay City) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Remember to fulfill your Union obligation by voting.

One of the greatest privileges we as union members have is the opportunity to select our union leadership every three years. This year is the year where you will have the opportunity to choose your leadership. Please use that opportunity and show up at the polls.

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

Thiel Electric is wrapping up a remodel of the K wing at Delta College.

Motor City Electric has been awarded the new line at Bay City's GM Powertrain site. They will continue to hire for this project.

J. Ranck Electric is continuing work at SK Siltron semiconductor chip manufacturing facility, thanks in part to \$560M which was allocated by the Biden administration as part of the Chips & Science Act. J. Ranck has also secured both phases 4 and 5 on this project and calls are coming in. Ranck is continuing work on their Mission Street Solar project. This is a 250-mw site which will require a substantial number of JIWs from our hall to complete.

Master Electric has begun their work on phase 2 at Bangor Schools.

Countyline Power has ongoing work at the Mt. Pleasant Water Treatment facility and Harrisville Pumpstations. Countyline Power has also been recently awarded a high voltage termination project at Michigan Sugar in Bay City.

Clements Electric has work at Mersen USA. They have also recently been awarded a maintenance contract at Mersen. Work on the Midland Center for the Arts, Bay City lift stations and HL Mechatronics in Midland continues. Clements Electric is also working on an apartment complex in Auburn.

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

Escon Group continues work at Mersen USA in Bay City's south end and is slowing down some within the I-Park.

Superior Electric has a new line out to Bay City Powertrain along with a cooling tower project. An open Job call remains for this project.

Bay Valley Electric has work this summer at Bullock Creek schools.

Zone 2 contractors have been bidding and securing a fair amount of work, doing a great job of keeping their crews busy. Recent storms have led to an increase in service calls across the northern jurisdiction. **John's Electric** has secured a considerable amount of work in Alpena schools along with most recently landing another project at Bayview Park. Work on the CMU Tower building in Atlanta will continue. **Hardie's Electric** has ongoing work in Cheboygan and is nearing completion of the new sawmill in Tower near Onaway. **Northern Valley** continues work at the Holcim Cement Plant. **Pierce Powerline** has secured work in the Oscoda schools for the summer.

A larger Solar Project at Consumers Energy's Karn site in Essexville will be starting this summer. Multiple Prevailing Wage projects in Bay City have been bid or will be bid soon. Another Solar Project will begin later this summer in the Gladwin area.

We do need some wiremen to man our work or market share will be lost. Open calls continue to exist on a weekly basis. We saw this instance play out in our past brothers and sisters, let's not repeat our mistakes. 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.

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge our Local's newest Journeyman Inside Wiremen who have fulfilled their apprenticeship obligations, topping out in April. They are: Blake Carmona, Aaron Cross, Dalton Danielak, Moe Dixon, Isaiah Dole, Sam Gerow, Seth Gerow, Austin Harper, Garrett Miller, Tate Miller, Brandon Pahl, Jeremy Primeau, Tyler Vance, and Jacob Wilson. Please congratulate these 14 stand-up brothers when you see them on the job or at a meeting as they embark on the next chapter of their IBEW journey. Great job, brothers!

In Solidarity,
Ryan Charney
Business Manager / Financial Secretary

Organizer's Report. Visits to non-union job sites and outreach to unrepresented electricians continues. We continue to bring in new members each month. Many new members begin their IBEW careers by accepting calls left open by existing members. Experienced members should do their best to welcome these new members when they meet them on the job site and educate and/or mentor them when possible. Although all new members do attend an orientation session prior to swearing in, the amount of information can sometimes be overwhelming when coupled with the stress of transitioning to a career with the IBEW.

Many of the worries associated with newly organized members (new members breaking down conditions, not being familiar with tool lists, not attending meetings or being familiar with the agreement, etc.) can be best remedied by experienced members doing their part to answer questions and communicate expectations.

This week, Local 692 is participating in the Northeast MiCareer Quest in Gaylord. More than 1,700 area ninth and tenth grade students will have the opportunity to participate in a hands-on exercise, exploring our trade. We'd like to thank apprentices Calvin Keetch, Craig Mischley, and Evan Krawczak for volunteering to assist us in the exhibition. Additional help from JATC Instructor Jason Swinson and Local 498 Membership Development Agent Dylan O'Dwyer is also appreciated.

The Sound & Communications Agreement has been ratified by membership. Thank you to President Brian Walker and Senior Technician Greg Kroening for their assistance in negotiating the contract. In addition to record raises, all members with limited voltage classifications will now have the ability to contribute to the IBEW's National 401(k) plan. Brendon Baranek bbaranek@ibew692.org 989.327.4131

Union Dues. Effective January 1st, 2025, dues increased to \$48.20 per month. Additionally, effective July 1st, 2025, dues will increase to \$49.20 per month.

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

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

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

Important links & numbers

Health Plan & Pension Fund. 855.633.4584 – www.michiganelectrical.org



IBEW Local 498

"Powering Northern Michigan Since 1949"

IBEW Local 498
TRAVERSE CITY – **Meetings.**

Regular E Board- The next regularly scheduled E-Board meeting is set for Monday, June 9, 2025, @ 5:30pm.

Regular Meeting – The next regularly scheduled membership meeting is scheduled for 7pm Monday, June 9, 2025.

Entertainment Committee and Volunteers- We are looking forward to some fun events this year. We need to get a group of volunteers together to brainstorm ideas and host events. Currently we have two events planned for this summer. The Cherry Festival Parade in July and the summer picnic in August. If you are interested in a fun way to get involved with your local, get in contact with Dylan O'Dwyer at 231-943-4980.

CONGRATULATIONS – to these newly topped out Journeyman: Cody Randall, Cody Wright, Trevor Desrochers, Joshua LeClair, Tyler Zaiger, Zach Tallent & Steven owers.

PICNIC – At the Feb 10, 2025 meeting a motion was made and passed to have the annual summer picnic this year. It will be held at Timber Ridge Resort & Campground on **Aug 16, 2025.** Please watch your mailbox for a postcard notice in the near future. For those not familiar with Timber Ridge it is a campground that also has cabins for rent. There are a lot of kid's activities and they will have access to use all of them. You can access more information at their website at www.timber-ridgeresort.net.

Resale Items – The new order of Tee shirts is in, as well as Beanie Hats for resale. Proud Union Home signs are in and available at the hall. Free to members in good standing. There are new Local 498 BBQ Tee shirts for resale. Available sizes include; Youth size \$21 and adult sizes \$25.

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.

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, 2025 – Dues increase to \$161.10/Quarter.
July 1, 2025 – Dues increase to \$164.10/Quarter.

IBEW Local 557's column – See Page 10



IBEW LOCAL 252

IBEW Local 252
ANN ARBOR – **BE SURE TO KEEP BENEFICIARY FORM UPDATED:** A friendly reminder that beneficiary forms are available at the fund office **AND** at the hall for anyone who 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
OHSa 30- (Tuesdays and Thursdays) May 20, 22, 27 & 29. Worth 30 CECs for those that have a current BICSI credential.

CPR- (Tuesdays) June 3 & 10, Sept. 2 & 9, Dec. 2 & 9
BICSI TECH- May 7-Sept. 3. BICSI ITSIMM book is required (\$240 or \$290 digital). Exam certification fee is \$400. BICSI Workbook fee \$115. You must have 3 years of verifiable field ICT experience to sit for the exam. Worth 35 CECs for those who have a current BICSI credential.

BICSI INSTALLER 1-June 2-Aug 25. BICSI ITSIMM book is required (\$240 or \$290 digital). Optional certification fee \$400. BICSI Workbook fee \$115. Worth 35 CECs for those who have a current BICSI credential.

Conduit bending- June 2, 9, 16, 23.
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.

TRUCK FOR SALE: The Training Center is accepting bids starting at \$16,000 for the white 2018 Dodge Ram Big Horn Crew Cab with a 5' 7" bed and approx. 113k miles. Please mail your sealed bids to P.O. Box 152, Chelsea, MI 48118 in care of Chris Parks by May 16. For more information or to view the truck, contact the Training Center at (734) 475-1180.

APPRENTICESHIP COMMITTEE: If you are interested in serving on the Apprenticeship Committee, please contact Mike Cox at the Union Hall (734) 424-0978.

2025 UNION 4 LIFE GUN CALENDAR: Purchase your 2025 USA Union Sportsmen Calendar and enter the USA's 2025 2-Guns-A-Week Sweepstakes for 104 chances to win a firearm in 2025! Beginning Jan. 6, prize winners will be drawn each week for 52 weeks. Sweepstakes entrants are eligible to win multiple prizes! Calendars are \$35 and can be purchased from an apprentice, the training center, or online at www.union4lifecharity.com.

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.

RETIRES 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.

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

The 2025 Union 4 Life Charity Golf Outing will be on Saturday, Aug. 23 at Pierce Lake Golf Course, 1175 S. Main St., Chelsea, MI 48118. Registration at 7:30 a.m., tee off at 8:30 a.m. All proceeds benefit the University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center's Breast Cancer Research Fund. This outing is open to the public. Registration is \$125/ player, \$500/ team and includes green fees, cart, lunch, dinner, and two drink tickets. The tournament will be played in scramble with 4-person teams. To register, visit www.union4lifecharity.com or contact Hope Salyer, (734) 475-1180.

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 ASSISTANCE 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 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.

DUES PAYMENTS – If your dues paid through date shows 03/2025, 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 \$140.25 by cash or check, or \$144.46 by credit card for second quarter 2025. Dues for "BA" members are \$70.80 by cash or check, or \$72.92 by credit card for second quarter for 2025. Please mail your check to 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Your second quarter dues (April through June) are due now.

Payments for second quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Monday, June 30, 2025.

Future Dues Increases:
Effective July 1, 2025: A Members will pay \$143.25/cash or check, \$147.55/credit card. BA members will pay \$73.80/cash or check, \$76.01/credit card.

UPCOMING EVENTS (more information to follow):
• AUG. 16: PICNIC • SEPT. 10: RETIREE'S NIGHT • OCTOBER 29: TRUNK OR TREAT • DECEMBER 13: HOLIDAY PARTY



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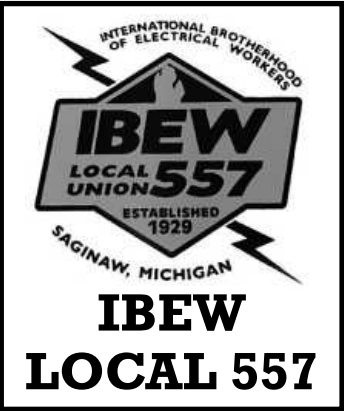


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IBEW Local 557
SAGINAW – UNION NEWS- Reminder – Local 557 Monthly Union Meetings are now starting at 6pm due to a large amount of members working overtime.

MEMORIAL DAY - The next recognized holiday per the Local 557 CBA is Memorial Day, on Monday, May 26. Please take time to recognize the holiday and pay respects to those that served and gave all.

LOCAL OFFICER ELECTIONS- are currently underway Members will be receiving their mail-in ballots very soon. These must be received by the post office by Tuesday, June 3 in order to be counted. Please take time to complete these and return in order for your voice to be heard and counted.

GOLF LEAGUE at Twin Oaks Golf Course continues. Tee times begin shortly after 5:30pm each Thursday night until the end of golf season. If you are a returning golfer or a first timer – all are welcome!

JOBSITE SAFETY - is and should always be #1 on all IBEW jobs. Recently, issues have occurred on the Local's Mega Project in Hemlock. Local contractors Conti and J. Ranck have led the charge to preserve safety for 557 members and travelers. Ongoing OSHA investigations into the recent events are underway and will be taken very seriously by the Local, Contractors and the members involved. This thorough investigation being led by the State of Michigan will get to the bottom of the matter and be done to the letter of the law. No deadline or profit should be placed ahead of the simple fact that members need to go to work and return home in the same safe state in which they were prior to their day of work.

EARNED SICK TIME ACT- Michigan's new law requiring employers to pay their employees Earned Sick Time (ESTA), is now in effect. By now, every member working for an IBEW contractor currently, should have seen a written notice of some sort regarding this matter. Local 557's CBA does not contain any language related to ESTA, therefore, this law will apply to our membership. If your employer is NOT complying with this law you are strongly encouraged to file a complaint with the State of Michigan. The complaint process can be found on the Local's website homepage with the complete process instructions listed. You can also find these details on the State of Michigan's website.

LOCAL 557 ORGANIZING- With work being the best it has been in Local 557 (and throughout the State), organizing is as important as ever. Local contractors will begin work on traditional work throughout the Local this spring which is important to provide manpower for. Whether work in the Hemlock area continues for a prolonged period or not, it is vitally important to keep all other work of the IBEW in mind. Moving forward, Local 557 will be focusing hard on keeping these projects successful. The future of the Local depends on this work.

Rex and Gus are doing great work for Local 557 on the organizing front. Organizing is a tough task in the IBEW and in the trades in general. Some conversations with unrepresented workers are harder than others. Please give Rex and Gus all the help they need to succeed and get results for the Local. If you see something and wish to point it out to them, please reach out to Rex at 989-890-4578 and Gus can be reached at 989-941-8046.

PROJECT PHOENIX- Work on the Mega Project remains steady. As of this writing, there are currently 547 IBEW members referred to the project Most calls have all gone to Book 2 and the Local has essentially been a walk-thru for calls. Stay current on monitoring work in Local 557 by looking on the Job Line website or calling the dispatch telephone option. This is updated throughout the day to provide the latest information regarding calls when they are being filled. If you are on Book 2, please reach out to the Local through the jobline@ibew557.org email address and you will (Continued next column)



Local 149
Roofers & Waterproofers

Roofers Local 149
DETROIT – Attention. This paper is to serve as an official notice to the membership.

General Membership Meeting. The general membership meeting is scheduled for Tues., June 3, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216

Executive Board Meeting. The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., June 3, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216

Mid-Michigan. The Mid-Michigan 2025 Contract meeting is scheduled for May 22, 2025 at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio, MI 48420

Detroit Wage Allocation. The proposals to determine what to do with this year's \$2.50 raise are as follows.

Proposal 1- \$0.71 Check, \$0.50 H&W, \$0.81 Annuity/Retirement, \$0.38 Vacation, \$0.10 DET JATC, \$0.06 Check Off Dues.

Proposal 2- \$0.71 Check, \$0.50 H&W, \$0.38 Annuity/Retirement, \$0.81 Vacation, \$0.10 DET JATC, \$0.06 Check Off Dues.

The Union Hall recommended Proposal 1. If you have any questions regarding the proposals, please contact the Union Hall at 313-961-6093.

Voting on the proposals is scheduled for the Tuesday, June 3, 2025, at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216, from 2:00pm thru 7:00pm.

Nominations of Officers. Nominations for the following officers and trustee:

Business Manager/Financial Secretary (white ballot) Brian Gregg

Business Agent (vote for no more than 2) Joe Gilliam, Gary (Shade Tree) Johnsen, Joe Zsembery

Executive Board (vote for no more than 5) Don Watkins III, Joseph Wimberly, Andrew Sundt, Eddy Perez, Kevin McCaslin, Luke Brown

President (vote for no more than 1) Tom Jaranowski, Jason Dionne

Vice President (white ballot) Robert Colston

Recording Secretary (white ballot) Raphael Hamilton

Trustees (white ballot) Lee Bruner, Walt Connell, Randy Witherspoon

Sergeant-at-Arms (vote for no more than 1) Dean Kucharski, Ramiro Valentin

Insurance Trustee (white ballot) Jonathan Crosby

Please note this is a mail in ballot. All elected Officers and Trustee of this Union shall serve for a period of Three (3) years, Insurance Trustees shall serve for a period of four (4) years

Notice of Election – Mid-Michigan Negotiating Committee. The election result for the 2025 Mid-Michigan Negotiating Committee will be as followed: Robert Coats, Jesse Wangler, and Robert "Buck" Parham

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.

Clearance Cards. Are you scheduled to go out of town for work in another Local's territory? Clearance cards are needed when you are sent out of town to work. Get a clearance card from the Hall and call the Local in that (Continued next column)



MANY THANKS to the Painters District Council 1M members who volunteered their time in the annual effort to help fix up the D Bar A Scout Camp in Metamora.



Michigan Painters District Council

District Council 1M

Business Manager: Robert Gonzalez

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

Place: 14587 Barber Ave, Warren MI 48088 & 419 S. Washington Ave, Lansing MI 48933

Local Union 514

Business Rep: Scott Mikulen
Meeting dates: 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m.

Place: 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI.

Web site: www.iupat-local514.org.

Local Union 826

Business Rep: Rocky Ackerman
Meeting date: 2nd Thursday of every month at 5:30 p.m.

Place: 3115 Joyce St. Burton, MI 48529

Local Union 845

Business Rep – Ed Bracamontes
Meeting date: 1st Thursday of every month at 7 p.m.

Place: 419 S. Washington Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933

Local Union 1052

Business Rep – Jake Fluty
Meeting date: The Fourth Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m

Place: 3115 Joyce St., Burton MI 48529

Local Union 1803

Business Rep: Josh Ovalle
Meeting date: 4th Tuesday of every month at 5:30 p.m.

Place: 7677 Midland Road, Free-land, MI 48623.

Local Union 2352

Business Rep: Jeremy Haviland
Meeting Date: 3rd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

Place: District Council 1M, 14587 Barber Ave., Warren, MI.

Local Union 2353

Business Rep: Tony Parker
Meeting date: 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

Place: District Council 1M, 14587 Barber Ave, Warren, MI.



Local 591
Sign, Pictorial & Display

Sign Pictorial & Display 591

WARREN – The next General Membership Meeting is Tuesday June 3, at 5:30 p.m. Trustees and stewards meet at 5 p.m.

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

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

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

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

Roofers Local 149, continued

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. The next term for all Mid-Michigan Apprentices will be as follows: Every Thursday from 6:00pm – 8:00pm until further notice

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.

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.

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

power running through the Local.

BOOK SIGNING- If you are a Local 557 member and receive a lay-off while working on a 557 referral, you must come to the hall and sign Book 1 in-person. Many Locals throughout the State of Michigan will continue to accept fax/email initial book signings. If you are interested in this reciprocated benefit and



Glaziers & Glassworkers Local 357

Glaziers & Glassworkers Local 357

WARREN – Our next union meeting will be held on Monday, June 2nd, 2025 at 5pm. 14587 Barber Ave, Warren Michigan 48088

This meeting will be a “Special Called Meeting.” At this meeting we will be voting on local 357 Delegates to the District Council. Please make every effort to attend. Glaziers Union Hall 5PM, 14587 Barber Ave., Warren, Mi 48088

We have several Local 357 members currently laid off. Please make every effort to make sure your certifications are up to date. This will help get you back to work.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

– *Busines Rep. Don Stepp*

LiUNA!

Feel the Power

Local 1191

Laborers Local 1191
(2161 West Grand Boulevard, Detroit, MI 48208)

DETROIT – **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 8:00am – 4:00pm to provide necessary contact information.

Regular Membership Updates: Please check out our website at 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.

All General Membership Meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Local Union, 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 next General Membership Meeting will be held on June 6, 2025. July’s General Membership Meeting will be held on the 11th of July, 2025 in observance of the July 4th holiday.**

Retiree Council meetings are the last Friday of each month.

The meetings are held at 11 am at the Local Union, 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208. **The next monthly Retiree Council Meeting will be held on May 30, 2025. The June Retiree Council Meeting will be held on June 27, 2025 Election for Local 1191**

Union Offices: There will be an election for Local 1191 Union officers. All ballots were mailed to Members’ current addresses on file on May 2, 2025. Ballots must be returned via USPS Mail for counting on the 3rd of June, 2025. Please direct questions regarding the 2025 Local 1191 Election to the Local Union.

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! 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. 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.**



Local 25 Iron Workers

Iron Workers Local 25

NOVI – All Union Halls will be closed for the Memorial Day Holiday on Monday, May 26, 2025.

The May Union Meeting will be Monday, May 19, 2025 at 7:00 pm and will be in-person and zoom. All Union Halls will be open for in-person and Zoom will also be available.

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 Lansing Steward meeting will be Monday, May 19th at 6 pm. The Flint Steward meeting will be Wednesday, May 21 at 5:30 pm. The Saginaw Steward meeting will be Thursday, May 22 at 6 pm. All are welcome.

June vacation check schedule: **The last day to call to have your June vacation check pulled is Tuesday, June 3rd at 12:00 pm (Noon).**

Pulled checks will be available at the Novi Hall Thursday June 5, by 2 pm.

All other checks will be mailed to you by the end of business day on Tuesday June 3

All members that a receive ACH deposits, your vacation check will be transferred on Friday, June 6th.

All Vacation checks will be dated Tuesday, June 7, 2025.

The 2025 Iron Worker Picnic will be held on Saturday, June 21, 2025 at the Local 25 Training Center, Wixom Michigan. Starting time approximately 11am. Bounce house, music, food, face-painting, lots of fun!

The 41st Annual International Iron Workers Festival will be held August 8, 9, 10, 2025 in Mackinaw City MI. Please plan ahead and reserve your hotel room(s). For more information, please go to www.mackinaw-chamber.com

Instructor Wanted – The Wixom Training Center is accepting resumes for a Training Instructor. If interested the job description is listed in the member only section of the ironworkers25.org website. Please contact the Training Center to turn in your resume and complete the testing portion. All resumes & testing must be completed by 4:00 pm Friday June 6, 2025.

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 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. **The phone number 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).

A FRINGE FUND PENSION DEPT REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE AT THE NOVI UNION HALL on Wednesday June 4, 2025 from 8:00 am to 12 noon. If you wish to book an appointment or just have questions call 248-344-9494.

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

BENEFIT FOR NEW

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

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.

SavRx Prescription Service as of 4/1/2025; Customer Service 888-662-4766 open 24/7 every day 365. To save you more money on your name brand prescriptions please check for manufacturer coupons on your name-brand prescription drugs or ask for generic whenever possible. It will save you and the “Fund” real dollars!

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

Check your HRA/Benny Card Balance: my.wexhealthcard.com (where you can create a login)

Check you online benefit information: 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 (3) years.

The Iron Workers’ Local 25 Novi Chapter Retirees’ Club: The Retirees’ meeting/luncheon will be Tuesday May 20, 2025 at 10:00 am. The Retirees’ Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday June 3, 2025 at 8 am in Novi. All are welcome.

The West Michigan Chapter Retirees breakfast will meet Tuesday, June 3, 2025 at 9 am at Red Rock Grille & Café, 228 N. Ball Creek Rd, NW, Kent City, Michigan 49330. All are welcome.

The next quarterly meeting for the **Bay City Chapter** will be in July 17, 2025; at the Iron Workers Local 25 Saginaw Union Hall, 11 Bridgeview S. Saginaw MI 48604 at 12:00 pm. All are Welcome.

The **Downriver Chapter** next quarterly Retirees breakfast will be 9:00 am on **August 15, 2025** at Mom’s Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, Michigan, 48183. All are welcome.

Blue Cross Blue Shield Michigan: www.bcbsm.com/behavioral-mental-health/ Resources on the home page including In-Person Crisis Care options in many locations throughout the state. BCBS Michigan 877-627-1041, Blue Care Network 800-482-5982 for Substance-use-disorder.

FindTreatment.gov where you can search by zip code/city. Or call SAMHSA 800-662-4357. MentalHealth.gov provides information & programs about mental health. Dial 988 (National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) For help 24/7 in a Time of Crisis. Call or text 988 if you or someone you know is in danger of suicide or experiencing a mental health crisis. You can also Chat at 988lifeline.org/chat (English & Spanish). Whatever you are struggling with, help is available – its free & confidential.

Suicide Prevention Resources on IMPACT: <http://www.impact-net.org/safety/suicide-prevention-resources>. US Crisis Text Line: Text **HOME** to 741741 from anywhere in the United States, anytime, about any type of crisis. A live, trained Crisis Counselor receives the text and responds, all from our secure online platform. A volunteer Crisis Counselor will help you move from a hot moment to a cool moment.

In Memory: Lifetime IW Carlin “Corkey” Webster #807565 passed away April 22, 2025 at the age of 85. He was a 56-year member of Local 25. Lifetime Rigger, Peter Van-Haaren #676316 passed away April 16, 2025 at the age of 89. He was a 63-year member of Local 575/25. Lifetime IW Steven Schumann #1018294 passed away April 13, 2025 at the age of 79. He was a 45-year member of Local 25. Lifetime IW Ellis R. Hart aka “Bob Hart” passed away April 23, 2025 at the age of 75.

(Continued next column)



Heat and Frost Insulators Local 25

Heat & Frost Insulators 25

SOUTHFIELD – MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, June 12, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge Street, Southfield, MI 48033.

WEEKLY HUMOR: What do you call a girl hanging off the side of a fishing boat? Annette.

APPRENTICE APPLICATIONS: We are entering the next phase of the hiring process for our Fall 2025 class of new apprentices. May 16, 2025 is the last day that applications for the Fall 2025 class will be accepted. Apprentice information and applications can be found on our website: heatfrostinsulators.org.

ANNUAL PICNIC: Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25 Annual Picnic will take place on Saturday, August 2, 2025. The festivities will take place at Willow Metropark, 23200 South Huron Road New Boston, Michigan.

CHRISTMAS PARTY: Save the date for the Annual Local 25 Christmas Party on Saturday, December 13, 2025. The event will take place at Laurel Manor Banquet Center in Livonia.

JOB STARTS: As stated in Local 25’s Constitution & By-law’s Article III Section 5, failure to report a job start will automatically result in a fine \$50. Future failures to report a job start 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.

S.U.B. FUND: The Annual S.U.B. Fund Summary Report will be mailed out in the coming weeks. If you do not receive your copy, please contact the Union Hall to ensure your address is up-to-date. As a reminder, if you are referred a job by the Union at any time while receiving supplemental unemployment benefits and you refuse the job or the business managers call, your benefits will immediately be suspended and no further benefits will be payable to you for the particular layoff that gave rise to your eligibility for benefits.

PER CAPITA: Please be reminded, any member working 32 hours or less during a month must pay their own Per Capita of \$14.00 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.

M.U.S.T. SAFETY MODULES: If you have modules expiring, contact the Union Hall to have the testing authorization turned on. Please keep in mind, any modules completed outside the quarter requested in, will be paid the following quarter.

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 fifty dollar fine.

BENESYS: When calling the Fund Office, Benesys, please be sure to get the name of the person providing you information.

Ironworkers 25 cont’d

He was a 49-year member of Local 25. He is survived by his wife Vallery Jo. Lifetime Rodman Jesse Dunaway #925655 passed away March 27, 2025 at the age of 69. He was a 50-year member of Local 25. He is survived by his wife Teresa. Lifetime IW David Rees #1112277 passed away May 5, 2025 at the age of 64. He was a 40-year member of Local 25 and survived by his wife Wendy and many friends in the ironworking industry.

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

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (May 12, 2025 11:00 am E.S.T.).



Heat and Frost Insulators Local 47

Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 47

LANSING – The next Regular Meeting will be held on Saturday, June 14, 2025 at 11 a.m., and will be held at Fitzgerald Park (Site 5), 133 Fitzgerald Park Dr, Grand Ledge, MI 48837. Please note, this is a Mandatory Meeting for ALL Apprentices.

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

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.

Please make sure to call or text ALL Start/Layoff’s to the Union Office. Leave the start/layoff date and the name of the contractor along with your name.

Local 47 has reserved Site 5 at Fitzgerald Park for this year’s 24th Annual Picnic being held on Saturday, June 14, 2025. You will soon be receiving an invite in the mail. Please make sure you fill it out and send it back in as soon as possible. Do not wait until the last minute. This is also a reminder, the Picnic is considered a Mandatory Meeting for All Apprentices.

Our Golf Outing will be held on Saturday, July 19, 2025 and the cost is \$85/person. If you are interested in Golfing with us this year please call in with the name of your team along with Chicken or Steak for each person. Do not wait until the last minute to call in your team and the spots will fill in fast!

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

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

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

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

Members having questions regarding Pension and Welfare Fund please contact TIC International at the numbers below or log onto their Website: www.ironworkers25.org

(Continued next column)

May 16, 2025

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN 11



Local 169 Boilermakers

Boilermakers Local 169

ALLEN PARK – Our next membership meeting will take place on **June 13, 2025**. This meeting will be at IBEW Local 692, located at 1300 W Thomas St, Bay City, MI 48706

Congratulations to Grant Genaw on winning our local apprenticeship competition. By winning, Grant will now represent our local at the Great Lakes



BOB HUTSELL

Area competition in Indiana this Summer.

If you see Grant, please congratulate him and encourage him on his upcoming event. We are all very proud of him.

Way to go!

Spring is just around the corner, and so are many of our annual events. With our annual golf outing and picnics in all four areas, there are plenty of opportunities to volunteer and attend these events. We need more of our younger members to get involved if we are to continue our rich tradition of Brotherhood at these family fun events.

Local 169 is celebrating its 130th anniversary this year! Founded in 1895, our local has survived through good times and bad. For all those who came before us, and all those with the courage and loyalty to stay true to our great Brotherhood, I offer my sincere gratitude and congratulations. Pick up our new 130th anniversary stickers at the Union Hall or at our next scheduled union meeting.

Get ready to celebrate Local 169’s 130th anniversary! Our annual dinner dance will be June 28 at the Athenum in downtown Detroit. This event is always a great time. The event will begin at 6 pm and end at 12. With an open bar, live music, and great food, this is an easy decision. Complimentary beer steins and shot glasses will be available for members to enjoy a “boilermaker” and take home at the end of the night. 130 years is a huge milestone for our organization, I hope you will ALL take advantage of this opportunity to show your Boilermaker Pride and celebrate this historic accomplishment. Rooms are available at the discounted rate of \$239 with valet parking available at a discounted rate of \$20. Use the word Boilermaker for the discount when making your reservation. Please send a \$50 check to reserve your spot at this event. Significant others are welcome to attend. Your check will be returned upon arrival. This is necessary to establish a proper head count for food and beverage totals.

SPECIAL NOTE! Your check deposit ensures a proper headcount for the dinner dance. Please send your check and notify the hall ASAP. Let’s make this 130 year anniversary special with record attendance.

With our current full employment and a large group of new apprentices, I encourage every member to make safety your number one priority. The busy workload looks like it will continue throughout the year so please make every effort to safeguard yourself and your Brothers and Sisters on the job.

In an effort to assist our Brotherhood, the Executive Council of

Local 47 cont’d

heatfrostlocal47benefits.org:

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

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

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

The International Brotherhood of Boilermakers has voted to waive the increase in monthly dues for the second year in a row. Current Union dues for 2024 are \$55.85 and will remain \$55.85 for the 2025 calendar year in accordance with the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers Constitution. The Union Hall accepts Visa, Mastercard, and Discover. Payments can be made both at the Union Hall and over the phone.

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 for more information.

Any member interested in taking the Great Lakes Safety for Corvea please contact Area 3 Business Agent, Mike Card at 989-662-6491.

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 am at the White Rhino Sports Bar, 4328 Oakwood, Melvindale, Michigan 48122.

Area 2 Retirees hold luncheons on the first Thursday of every month at 11am at Whitlow’s Forerunner Restaurant, 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. The next lunch will be May 21, 2025, at 11AM at The Green Spot Pub located at 808 N. Mission, Mount Pleasant, MI. 48858. All retirees and members from all areas are welcome to attend.

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

Hoodies have arrived in all sizes at the Union Hall. The cost is \$45. 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.org 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.

Retired member Tim Bowers passed away April 29, 2025. Please keep his family in your thoughts during this difficult time.

Retired member, Marcellas Neumann passed away May 3. Please keep his family in your thoughts during this difficult time.

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detroitironandmetal.com
(313) 841-5100



Elevator Constructors

Local 36

Elevator Constructors Local 36
DETROIT – ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED, Our next regular membership meeting will be **May 19, 2025, 5:30pm** at Local 58 hall, at 1350 Abbott St. Detroit, MI 48216. **This meeting was moved up a week due to the holiday.** 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, there was a resolution made at the April meeting to change our dues structure from 1.5% gross pay to a flat-rate dues structure. The motion was held over till May 19, 2025, meeting for a discussion and secret ballot vote (YOU MUST BE PRESENT AND HAVE YOUR UNION CARD TO VOTE).

You will receive a letter 15 days before the meeting explaining the resolution, if you don't receive the letter contact the hall. This meeting will be held at Local 58 Electrician's Hall, address is above.

Local 36 election of officers will be at Local 58 electrician's hall, 1350 Abbott St., Detroit, MI 48216 on May 19, 2025. We will be setting up at 3pm, and you will be able to vote at this location from 3pm until 7pm. There will be food and beverages at this meeting and NO alcohol is allowed in the parking lot or building.

We are having our picnic on July 26. Anyone interested in volunteering to help with the picnic please contact Jon Bujan (586)787-1114 or email him at bujan@icloud.com.

If you haven't enrolled in the IUEC's new National Voluntary Income Protection (VIP) benefits, go to <https://iuecvip.com> or call the IUEC Service Center at 224-487-5030. These tax-free benefits can help you continue to get paid when you're unable to work due to illness, injury, surgery, mental health conditions, substance abuse treatment, or death. The benefits are paid in addition to other benefits you may receive, providing a financial safety net when you need it most.

The International has set up The Veteran Assistance Program to help veterans navigate the VA benefits they deserve. The email is vap@iuec.org or contact Jason Gray, IUEC National Chairman @ 404-290-1012 or Ryan Don-

nell, 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. Contact Scott Erison (586)482-0768 or email him at sanosire1973@gmail.com if you would like to get involved or have questions.

If you move or your address changes, call the hall and make sure you fill out the address change form on the NEIBP website.

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.

The IUEC would like all active members and Probationary Apprentices to sign up for Safety alerts. The only thing you will receive are safety alerts, nothing political, just safety alerts. **Text (855) 957-1801 and sign up to receive Safety alerts via text and email.**

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 with job name, address, names of mechanics and apprentices on job, mechanics 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.

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, Final Exams will be the week of May 19, 2025. 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 extend our heartfelt condolences to the Kotkosky family after the passing of Honorary Brother James Kotkosky, please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers. We would like to also wish a speedy recovery for the Brothers and Sisters on our sick list.

Be safe and stay healthy!



THE COVERT GENERATING Station in West Olive, a combined cycle gas turbine power plant, was commissioned in 2004. Consumers Energy announced it purchased the 1.1-megawatt plant in 2023. It can produce enough energy to power 1 million homes. In need of renovations, the building trades will soon be busy at the plant.

Photo credit: Consumers Energy

Consumers Energy's shift to clean power a boon to Michigan trades

(Continued from Page 1)

to where you're going to see \$10 billion spent, by Consumers Energy alone, in the utility market. Which is fantastic for everybody in this room," (not to mention tradespeople reading this article).

Consumers Energy is the state's largest utility, serving 6.8 million Michigan residents in the Lower Peninsula. The company is aggressively moving toward a new clean energy standard, with plans to halt all coal-powered production this year. The company aims to generate 90 percent of their power from renewable sources (like solar and wind, natural gas with carbon capture and storage, and nuclear) by 2040.

Getting there will take planning, talent and hard work – and building trades union workers have been hired exclusively by Consumers Energy for their projects using various forms of project labor agreements.

As Consumers Energy navigates a new clean energy path, Wunder – who continues to hold his membership in Boilermakers Local 169 – made a few observations to building trades delegates. He addressed what many in Michigan are thinking: how will

they replace the power generated by huge coal baseload plants that are being retired?

•“Probably the most important bullet point in this whole presentation,” Wunder said, “is new natural gas generation. Not only is it not off the table, we are actively looking at what we're going to do there. Load growth in Michigan is raising exponentially. All these data centers and all the industry that the governor and other folks are trying to bring to Michigan. We know we need good baseload generation.

“The current projection for us as a company is anywhere between 2 and 3 gigawatts of natural gas generation. Some of that may require carbon sequestration... in a spot that's geologically right for them.”

• Consumers Energy's statewide renewable projects alone are creating work for about 1,000 tradespeople. Some major projects include solar work at Sunfish II in Calhoun County (450 craftworkers); Spring Creek in Calhoun and Berry counties (125 workers); Blackman Solar in Calhoun County (40 workers), and River Hydro, miscellaneous projects (50 workers).

The largest ongoing project is the Muskegon Solar Energy Center, which will be a 250-megawatt facility – enough to power approximately 40,000 homes. He said about 130 Hardhats are currently working on the project.

Long-term, Consumers intends to bring 8,000 megawatts of solar online by 2040.

• Other trades employment ongoing at Consumers sites involves “major maintenance projects that we have ongoing at all of our generating sites, at our gas facilities, and gas upgrades,” Wunder said.

• Battery storage projects “have taken a bit of a turn,” Wunder said, with installations that were set to start this summer put on pause. “The cost associated with the technology on these is at risk,” Wunder said, but the

utility still plans to move ahead with battery projects in the future, one of them at the J.H. Campbell plant.

• Wind energy is a key part of the utility's portfolio, and “we are looking at expanding some of our existing wind farms,” Wunder said. But “we are not looking at building out any new ones just yet.”

• Demolition is continuing at the utility's Karn 1-2 units near Bay City. “We are taking them right down to the ground,” Wunder said, with completion in about two years. Karn 3 and 4, which are fueled by oil and natural gas, are going to remain operating until 2031, at which point they will be shut down.

• The utility's days of using coal as fuel are coming to an end. The coal-burning J.H. Campbell plant, located between Holland and Grand Haven, opened in 1962, and like other baseload plants, provided hundreds of thousands of work-hours for the trades.

“It will shut down no later than May 31 of this year,” Wunder told delegates. “I know it's a dagger to the heart of a lot of people in here who have made a lot of money over the years maintaining it and building it out. There are rumors flying around that it's going to get a lifeline. I can say those rumors are not true. We are staying the course. As of midnight on May 31, all three units at Campbell will come down.” He said they would clean the plant and get it ready for actual demolition, with the major portion starting Jan. 1.

• The 1,176-megawatt Covert Generating Plant, located south of South Haven, has been purchased by Consumers Energy. “It's not in the best shape, it has changed ownership three or four times,” said Wunder of the gas-burning plant. “Even the initial build was bare-bones, it's a little beat-up. Our capital spend at Covert is projected at \$25 million per year. We're looking at a lot of investments there.”

Shuler: ‘Democracy does not defend itself’

(Continued from Page 1)

temporary injunctions. But Trump has been ignoring lower court edicts and is turning a blind eye to the mass marches, including those on May Day, two days after the 100th day of his reign.

Trump's aggressions toward working people are wide-ranging, from mass firings at the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), to allowing an ineffectual Occupational Labor Relations Board by not appointing a quorum of members, to using executive orders to strip the collective bargaining rights of more than 1 million federal workers under the guise that they are somehow a threat to national security.

“Authoritarians always start with organized labor,” Shuler said. “They came immediately for our federal workforce: Cutting funding Congress appropriated, firing workers with no process, lying about their performance. Trying to get other workers to quit. When our unions fought back, with grievances and lawsuits, what we saw in response was the single biggest act of union-busting in American history.

“One million federal workers illegally stripped of their collective bargaining rights. Moving to cancel their union contracts with the stroke of a pen. Saying to those who haven't filed grievances yet: We'll give you your rights and contracts back if you keep your mouths shut and fall in line.”

Shuler explained that to counter Trump, and Elon Musk's so-called Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) – labor set up its own tongue-in-cheek-named “Department of People Who Work for a Living.” It's designed as a vehicle for workers “to raise their voices about what's going on in their lives.” That department is touring the country, holding hearings on the impact of Trump's and Musk's cuts in people, policies and programs, she explained. It's hosted town halls in deep red cities and states, in direct contrast to Republican lawmakers, who now deliberately shun town halls and direct questions from constituents after the first several were jeered and booed off the stage.

The AFL-CIO set up its town halls “with a very simple idea: If you have a story, if you've been affected by what's gone on, come out tonight. We want to hear from you,” Shuler said. “Over two weeks, thousands of Americans showed up. They have heard from “working people who had been fired from the only job they'd worked in 20 years, over e-mail,” she said of the almost 175,000 federal workers whom Musk and Trump chainsawed out of jobs. “Veterans who served in active duty who suddenly couldn't get the care they needed,” when the duo axed 80,000 workers from VA hospitals.

“Their stated reason for stripping 1 million workers of their collective bargaining rights was: ‘We didn't like it that your unions were fighting back.’ They've attacked our most vulnerable – our immigrant brothers and sisters, like Kilmer Abrego Garcia. They've attacked the coalitions most equipped to fight back,” starting with unions, who lead the resistance.

Shuler said after all the federal worker firings: “Asking every American a very simple question: ‘Are you better off now than you were 100 days ago?’ Do you feel safer knowing the people who inspect our food, and keep our water clean, and make sure our planes are flying in the sky have been fired from their jobs? Is life for you and your family easier now that the people who run our child care centers, and work at our Social Security offices, are not there anymore?

“Democracy does not defend itself. Nor can we expect politicians to save us from autocrats' clutches. The decision to capitulate or to resist rests with each of us.”

Judge blocks Trump's try at union-busting federal workforce

(Continued from Page 1)

step. But this fight isn't over, and it isn't limited to the courts.”

Trump's executive order canceled union rights at more than two dozen federal agencies and offices. He cited national security concerns as justification for terminating workers' collective bargaining rights, although in tens of thousands of jobs, their connection to national security is dubious.

Some of the affected workers are tasked with trade policy, national energy, and pandemic response. The executive order affects workers at the departments of Defense, Justice, Veterans Affairs, Treasury, National Institutes of Health, Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Federal Communications Commission, the National Science Foundation, and Department of Agriculture, among other agencies.

Notably, federal police and other law enforcement agencies – who supported Trump's candidacy – were not included in the executive order. This was not lost on Judge Friedman, who said in a subsequent ruling on a related case: “Now that he's telling us there's unions he likes and does not like, there's no presumption of regularity.”

Most federal workers have been eligible to bargain collectively since 1962, although they are forbidden from going on strike and they cannot directly negotiate their pay and benefits. And while union dues are not compulsory for members, the unions do provide significant security for workers and protect them from arbitrary discipline and firings, which puts them at the center of Trump's historic assault on the bureaucracy.

“Today's court order is a victory for federal employees, their union rights, and the American people they serve,” said National Treasury Employees Union President Doreen Greenwald. “The

“Facing it, always facing it, that's the way to get through. Face it.”

–Joseph Conrad (1857 - 1924)

“It is never too late to give up our prejudices.”

–Henry David Thoreau (1817 - 1862)

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BAC Local 2
WARREN – MAY 2025
CHAPTER MEETINGS.
CORRECTION: MARQUETTE CHAPTER SEMI-ANNUAL: Saturday, May 17, 2025 at 10 AM, 119 S Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

SAGINAW CHAPTER: Tuesday, May 28, at 7 PM, 1300 W Thomas St., Bay City.
TRAVERSE CITY CHAPTER: Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at 6:30 PM, 3912 Blair Town Hall Rd West, Traverse City, MI 49685

JUNE 2025 CHAPTER MEETINGS
METRO DETROIT CHAPTER: Tuesday, June 03, 2025 at 5:30 P.M., 21031 Ryan Road, Warren, MI 48091

ANN ARBOR CHAPTER: Tuesday, June 03, 2025 at 6:00 PM, 8225 Dexter-Chelsea Road, Dexter, MI 48130

FLINT CHAPTER: Wednesday, June 04, 2025 at 7:30 PM, 1701 W Genesee Street, Lapeer, MI 48446

LANSING CHAPTER: Wednesday, June 04, 2025 at 6:00 PM, 3321 Remy Drive, Lansing, MI 48906

KALAMAZOO CHAPTER: Thursday, June 12, 2025 at 6:00 PM, 11847 Shaver Road, Schoolcraft, MI 49087

MARQUETTE CHAPTER: Monday, June 16, 2025 at 7:00 PM, 119 S Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

TRAVERSE CITY CHAPTER: Wednesday, June 18, 2025 at 6:30 PM, 3912 Blair Town Hall Rd West, Traverse City.

HOUGHTON: Thursday, June 19, 2025 at 7:00 PM, 37737 Highway 26, Toivola, MI 49965

SAGINAW CHAPTER: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 at 7:00 PM, 1300 W Thomas St., Bay City.

UPRETIREELUNCHEON
WHEN: Friday, May 16, 2022; 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM
WHERE: Vierling Sam-

pling Room, 119 S. Front St., Marquette, MI 49855

WHO: Retired members.
QUESTIONS: Contact Adam Saari, Business Agent, at (906) 250-6971

ANN ARBOR RETIREE LUNCHEON
WHEN: Friday, June 06, 2025; 12:00 PM
WHERE: Weber's Hotel & Restaurant, 3050 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103

WHO: Retired members ONLY
QUESTIONS: Contact Ryan Harmon, Business Agent, at (734) 790-4198

METRO DETROIT RETIREE LUNCHEON
WHEN: Friday, June 27, 2025; 11:30 AM
WHERE: Club Venetian, 29310 John R Rd., Madison Heights, MI 48071

WHO: Retired members.
QUESTIONS: Contact the Warren office at (586) 754-0888

LANSING RETIREE LUNCHEON
WHEN: Monday, July 21, 2025; 12:00 PM
WHERE: Lucky's Restaurant, 3554 Okemos Rd., Okemos, MI 48864

WHO: Retired memberS.
QUESTIONS: Contact Chad Morrison, Business Agent, (517) 730-1310

UNION DUES: Pay 9 months, get 3 free. To receive 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!

WEBSITE UPDATES: Be

sure to check out our website at <https://www.bricklayers.org> and our app, which can be found in the IOS and Android app stores by searching for Bricklayers Local 2.

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

BAC LOCAL 2'S TRAINING CENTERS: Both Local 2 Training Centers are open to our members. To make your appointment for your annual RESPIRATOR FIT TEST or for other scheduled appointments at the Warren or Lansing Training Center, please contact Howard Hipes directly at (517) 749-1102. Go to <https://www.michigan-bricklayers.org> to view the Apprenticeship and Training website and register for future 2024 online training classes.

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

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.

PENSION AND HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION. BAC of Michigan Health & Welfare Fund – (248) 828-6000 CALL-A-DOC – (800) 835-2362

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



Operative Plasterers and Cement Masons Local 514

DETROIT – The next membership meeting is Tuesday June 17, at 7:00 pm. We will be having food and refreshments. There will also be an Executive Board meeting the same day at 5:30 pm. Please make every effort to come fellowship with your brothers and sisters.

The Patrick Finley Scholarship applications are now available.

Membership gold cards- Congratulations!

May 2025
Donald Hunt-25 Years
Scott Heilig-30 Years

Local 514 wishes everyone a safe Memorial Day weekend!

This Memorial Day, please take a moment to remember fallen soldiers who died protecting our country and rights as citizens. We are deeply grateful for their bravery.

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

Please contact the local at 248-548-0800 or you can email your updated information to: abest@opcmiami.org Please send your updated information in a timely manner.

MUST Safety Awareness Training: Please check the MUST website at www.Mustb-safe.com to see how many modules you have. Your username is your full social security number and your password is the first four of your social security number.

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

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

Local 514 Cement Masons & Plasterers

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 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.

Please refer to website for updated information.

OPCMIA 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.

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

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

Important Notice For Plas-

terers 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 or by telephone, 800-547-7754.

Access and make changes to your account two easy ways:

Go online: Principal.com

If you are a first-time user, go to Principal.com/Welcome Select Get Started.

Enter your first name, last name, date of birth, mobile phone number (this is the quickest way to verify your identify), and your ID number (this is either you Social Security number or a specific ID provided by your employer) or ZIP code.

Agree to do business electronically and click Continue.

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

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

Select and answer three security questions to use if you need to call us.

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

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

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

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

ALL BUILDING TRADESMEN

Notice of Asbestos Health Hazards in Michigan

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- ◆ Mesothelioma
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- ◆ Asbestosis
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- ◆ Throat Cancer
- ◆ Colon Cancer

As pioneers in asbestos litigation, GPW has filed asbestos lawsuits since 1984, defending the rights of hardworking men and women throughout Michigan, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia.

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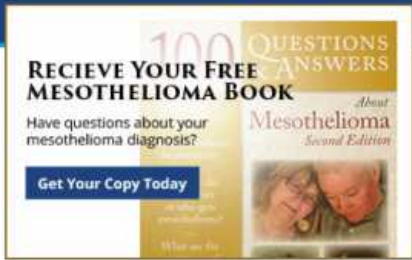
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Please don't delay, protect yourself and your family before it's too late. You may be entitled to claim money damages from the responsible members of the asbestos industry. Call for a FREE consultation.



(From the Michigan DNR)
Following severe ice storms in Northern Michigan in late March, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer declared a 12-county disaster area encompassing Alcona, Alpena, Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Crawford, Emmet, Mackinac, Montmorency, Oscoda, Otsego and Presque Isle counties.

The storms profoundly impacted approximately 919,550 acres of DNR-managed lands, including 3,260 miles of state forest roads, 12 state parks, 32 state forest campgrounds, 122 boating access sites, and 4,000 miles of trails (including 1,700 miles of state-designated ORV trails and routes).

DNR staff are currently assessing damage and conducting cleanup at these sites, prioritizing public and staff safety.

After the storm, the DNR recommends prioritizing forest health in tree management.

The ice storm has left an overwhelming tangle of downed and damaged trees across northern Michigan and the eastern Upper Peninsula. For those working with damaged trees in this region or across the state, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources is providing guidance in prioritizing work to reduce the impacts of tree pests and diseases now and in the future.

Prioritize pine. Pine species are widespread in storm-affected areas. Downed pine trees develop a fungal stain quickly, losing their value as timber. Stressed or damaged pines and fresh pine debris in early spring can attract native pine bark beetles. If left for several weeks, pine logs and downed branches can become breeding grounds for bark beetles, leading to population explosions. Beetles can emerge to attack stressed trees and even overwhelm the defenses of healthy trees.

Take these steps to reduce the impact of pine bark beetles:

- Salvage and clean up as much affected pine as possible before June to reduce beetle regeneration.
- Avoid piling logs and branches. Piles reduce drying

Outdoors
After the ice



A MARCH 28-30 ICE STORM that ravaged Northern Michigan left 220,000 people without power, and in its aftermath nearly 1 million acres have been impacted by fallen trees.

time and invite increased beetle production.

- Prioritize removal of debranched and tipped trees, followed by those that are severely bent, and then those with the fewest intact branches.

Conifers, especially red pines, are also susceptible to Heterobasidion root disease, or HRD, spread by fungal spores that enter from cut stumps and travel through root connections to other, nearby pines, creating pockets of dead trees. In the ice-storm-damaged area, HRD is known to be present in several locations in Emmet County and one location in Montmorency County.

If working within a 5-mile radius of known HRD infection, pine stumps within plantations should be treated with approved chemicals to prevent new infections.

Delay oak pruning and management. Due to the threat of oak wilt, a fatal fungal disease introduced through oak tree wounds, oak salvage and cleanup should be postponed wherever possible until after the high-risk period of April 15 to July 15.

There is less urgency to harvest damaged oak because deterioration of storm-damaged oak and other hardwoods will occur more slowly than pine, providing up to two years to complete salvage.

April 15 through July 15 is the high-risk period for oak wilt spread because that is when oak wilt fungal spores are most

abundant and when sap-feeding nitidulid beetles are most active and likely to spread spores from infected trees to newly damaged ones.

Oak wilt is fatal to trees in the red oak family, which includes black oak, northern red oak and northern pin oak – all identifiable by their pointed leaf tips. White oaks, those with rounded lobes



TREES WERE COATED with up to a 1/2-inch of ice in Northern Michigan
Photo credit: Presque Isle Electric and Gas Co-Op

or leaf tips, are susceptible to oak wilt but may survive for several years or succumb more slowly before dying. Once infected, oaks can spread the disease to other oaks through underground root connections or grafts, creating an expanding circle of dead trees.

Important considerations for protecting oak trees:

- Trees that were wounded or damaged in the late March storm are at less risk of infection than trees sustaining fresh wounds later this spring.

• If you must work around oaks during the high-risk period, take precautions to avoid hitting or damaging them.

• If oaks are pruned or damaged during the high-risk period, immediately coat wounds with latex paint.

• Oak wounds are only vulnerable to oak wilt infection for three to four days. It is not necessary to coat wounds or stumps of previously damaged trees.

Learn more about oak wilt and prevention strategies at MichiganOakWilt.org.

Future forest health concerns. Many trees have been damaged or weakened by the storm. In some areas, drought or infestations like spongy moth may have already stressed trees, making recovery more difficult. Stressed and damaged trees are more susceptible to a host of native and invasive insects and diseases that may strike in the future.

- Armillaria root disease, a mushroom-producing fungus that slowly kills trees, may become evident in one to three years in impacted trees and stands.

• Native two-lined chestnut borer may attack damaged or stressed oak trees. Heavy infestations can stop the flow of sap, killing branches and entire trees.

• Native white spotted pine sawyer beetles will also attack dead and dying pines and may be confused with the invasive Asian longhorned beetle. Michigan State University's Spot the Difference guide can help distinguish between the two beetles.

Newly opened forest canopy and cleared landscape areas invite invasive trees and shrubs. Look for and remove common invaders like autumn olive, buckthorns, invasive honey-suckles, Norway maples and Scotch pines. Early action can improve native forest regeneration and rebuild wildlife habitat. More information on invasive trees and shrubs is available at Michigan.gov/Invasives/id-report/plants.

Proper debris disposal. To help with cleanup efforts, 17 public debris disposal sites have been opened to serve the 12-county disaster area. A map of these locations is included in the 2025 Northern Michigan Ice Storm dashboard at Michigan.gov/MSP. Check the location listing for hours of operation and permissible items. Some locations are accepting tree debris only, and others will accept all vegetative debris.

Note that it is unlawful to dump or dispose of debris on public lands or property. Be aware that moving vegetative debris can spread invasive insects, plants and diseases.

Don't move firewood. Tree insects and diseases don't move far on their own, but when people move firewood, these species can move hundreds of miles. Though the storm has created a lot of potential firewood, it is important to use it on-site or locally to prevent the spread of invasive pests and tree diseases to new locations.

Help for forested lands. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency can provide payments to eligible owners of nonindustrial private forest land for emergency measures to restore land damaged by natural disasters through its Emergency Forest Restoration Program. The program is available in areas affected by the ice storm. Landowners are encouraged to contact their local FSA office to determine eligibility.

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