



## SHORT CUTS

### Primary election set for Tuesday, Aug. 4

The state's Tuesday, Aug. 4 primary election is just a few weeks away.

The Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council and its affiliated local councils have compiled on Page 13 a limited list of endorsed candidates for the primary.

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

### AFL-CIO's Shuler pledges 2M more

MINNEAPOLIS – Entering her second full-term as AFL-CIO President, Liz Shuler laid out big plans for the nation's labor federation over the next five years.

Accepting her re-election, unopposed, at the AFL-CIO Convention June 7-10, Shuler set a target of organizing 2 million new members over that time – the term to which delegates unanimously elected her and Secretary-Treasurer Fred Redmond. "And that's a floor, not a ceiling," Shuler declared.

That may be a tall order, but it's not impossible. The federal Bureau of Labor Statistics calculated the nation's unions – in and out of the AFL-CIO – combined to add a net of 410,000 new members in 2025, rising to 14.6 million. It was the biggest increase in the last 11 years.

Starting in 2015, BLS calculations show, union members, not counting "free riders," hit 14.82 million in 2017, then declined to 14.01 million in 2021, due to the pandemic. The numbers have risen each year since. So has AFL-CIO membership: Eight unions joined last year, led by the two-million-member Service Employees, who left the federation more than two decades ago.

"We are the only institution with the power to meet any challenge," Shuler said. "We defend our democracy....we give people hope, and we get shit done. I'm not done with that," she said of organizing efforts, "and neither is anyone else here. We're just getting started"

### United Way golf event set for Aug. 7

The United Way for South-eastern Michigan is hosting the "Labor on the Links Golf Scramble" on Friday, Aug. 7 at Pierce Lake Golf Course, 1175 S. Main St. in Chelsea.

The golf outing raises funds for a number of labor initiatives at the United Way, including the Union Community Activist Network; Labor of Love, which helps people with gifts and basic needs items during the holiday season; Youth Skilled Trades Education, which helps teens and their parents explore the skilled trades as a career option, and support funds for union members in need who do not qualify for help through the 2-1-1 Helpline. Tickets are \$150 per golfer.

After registration and a continental breakfast starting at 7 a.m., the clubs will come out with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. For more information, call Rella Bitner, (517) 513-7679 or email Rella.Bitner@UnitedWaySEM.org.

### Quotable

"The art of being wise is the art of knowing what to overlook."

—William James (1842-1910)



THE 25-STORY JW Marriott Detroit Water Square hotel is being erected on the Detroit riverfront on the former site of Joe Louis Arena. The facility will bring 601 rooms to the city's downtown, and importantly, will provide the first link to the Huntington Place convention center via a skybridge, whose stub is visible at right. Another feature of the project: the skybridge will span a newly extended Second Avenue, which will allow through-traffic from Steve Yzerman Drive on the riverfront to Fort Street.

## New JW Marriott hits the spot on Detroit's riverfront

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

DETROIT – Joe Louis Arena really had no business being built on the city's riverfront. Built hard-up against the Detroit River access to the site was less-than-ideal, and the windowless venue offered zero opportunity to view the scenic river.

Six years after the demolition of JLA was completed, a much more appropriate – and much-needed – hotel tower is going up at the site. Construction of the 25-story JW Marriott Detroit Water Square began in spring 2024, and it is being erected at Second Avenue and West Jefferson. The tower has been encased in blue glass, offering unlimited views of the aforementioned river on three sides, and the rest of the city on the other.

The new JW Marriott is situated next door to the other property that was built at the former Joe Louis Arena site, the 496-unit, 25-story Residences at Water Square, which opened in February 2024. Construction of both projects have employed union trades managed by Colasanti.

Slated to open in February 2027, the JW Marriott has risen west of Huntington Place convention center, and the buildings will be connected by an enclosed skybridge. The lack of a

hotel connection to Huntington Place – as well as a general need for more hotel rooms downtown – have long been considered a hindrance to the convention center attracting more conventions.

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MUDDING DRYWALL seams in the "Junior Ballroom" at the JW Marriott hotel in Detroit is William Minoek of Michigan Painters District Council Local 2352. He's employed by Brinker.



GROOVING A 90-degree fitting while working on the fifth floor of the JW Marriott Detroit Water Square hotel is Nate Weaver of Sprinkler Fitters Local 704. He's employed by Johnson Controls.

## Ouch. Yearly increase in construction material prices the highest since 2021

The producer price index for inputs to new nonresidential construction rose 1.8 percent from April to May and 8.4 percent from May 2025, the largest year-over-year jump since the pandemic, according to an analysis released June 11 by the Associated General Contractors of America.

"Runaway prices for key construction inputs are pushing up costs twice as fast as the 4.2 percent rise in the consumer price

index," said Ken Simonson, the AGC's chief economist. "Contractors are being hit by a double whammy of rising materials prices and much lower increases in what they can charge for new projects."

Contractors largely absorb material price increases because they frequently bid on fixed-price contracts to win jobs. With prices locked in before materials are purchased, contractors are forced

to eat the price increases.

The 8.4 percent annual increase in construction input prices was the most since 2021 and substantially outpaced the average 3.5 percent rise in contractors' bid prices. The disparity suggests contractors' margins are being squeezed by the ongoing rise in input costs.

Given the exchange of hostilities in the Mideast, it's no

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## Apprenticeship certificates now have even more value

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

The value of a certificate for a completed building trades apprenticeship program in Michigan is now worth quite a bit more.

Across Michigan, a new program links a host of building trades unions with 24 of Michigan's public and tribal community colleges, with both groups mutually agreeing to take part in the

state Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity's (LEO's) "Michigan College Credit for Apprenticeships Program."

Under the initiative announced June 10, Michigan building trades union workers who have successfully completed a registered apprenticeship program through one of 10 participating crafts can use the knowledge gained to obtain

academic credits at participating community college.

"Registered apprenticeships are a powerful way for Michigan workers to earn while they learn, gaining real-world skills and credentials while bringing home a paycheck," said LEO Director Su-

san Corbin. "The Michigan College Credit for Apprenticeships Program enables past, current and future apprentices

to earn college credit for their on-the-job training, opening doors to degrees and certifications that

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## ABC wails: 'A disgrace to free enterprise'

## Unions notch surprising organizing win in Republican-led House

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C. – These are strange times in our nation's capital, made stranger the past couple of months with an important, union-friendly court decision blessed by the Trump Administration, and now unexpected support from Republican House lawmakers to advance legislation that would help labor organizing.

This all has the anti-union Associated Builders and Contractors in a sour mood, since it has poured money into the coffers of Republican lawmakers over the years in lobbying efforts that have largely been successful. But this time, on June 9, 20 Republican House member fell out of lock-step with ABC and the rest of the business community, joining Democrat lawmakers to pass the "Faster Labor Contracts Act."

The ABC called the U.S. House passage of the act "a disgrace to free enterprise." The bill now goes to the U.S. Senate, where its passage is less likely – but who knows?

Language in the FLCA upends the business community's usual tactic in fighting union organizing efforts which involve delaying tactics that often extend over the course of years. Those delays, combined with the hiring of union-busting law firms, lead to a loss of momentum in organizing efforts, with employers having time to hold intimidating captive audience "education" sessions, retaliation by reassigning or firing workers, or even increasing pay as a union avoidance tactic.

After a worker unionization vote, the Faster Labor Contracts Act would require employers to begin contract negotiations within 10 days. As we've often pointed out, the ABC and North America's construction labor unions are at opposite ends of nearly every union-related government rule or law. And here we go again.

"Setting a dangerous precedent, House Democrats and a few unprincipled Republicans today voted to pass the Faster Labor Contracts Act," said ABC President and CEO Michael

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## We're in boom times for union-avoiding law firms: it's a \$1.5B biz

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C. – While there have been some hopeful signs of union-boosting among our nation's lawmakers this year (see the above article), another source provides a reminder of how difficult it is for organized labor to make any progress in growing its ranks.

The source is the labor-backed Economic Policy Institute, which offered a stark reminder that billionaires and big corporations are actively attacking that progress, and consider organized labor a threat to the way they do business.

"U.S. employers spend more than \$1.5 billion annually on union avoidance" was the blunt, depressing headline on the report issued May 20 by the EPI.

"Many U.S. employers," wrote EPI researchers Margaret Poydock, Teke Wiggin and Celine McNicholas, "hire union avoidance consultants to keep their workers from organizing and bargaining for better pay and working conditions. We estimate that employers spend roughly

\$1.7 billion a year on union avoidance consultants and law firms for this purpose, which has an undeniable impact on workers' ability to organize and bargain collectively."

The big fish among union-avoiding companies is Amazon, which also happens to be the largest U.S. company with \$637 billion in revenue last year. Amazon only recently surpassed Walmart

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## Michigan has sunny future for solar installs

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

Michigan is one of the lowest-ranked states in terms of sunlight exposure, but that's not stopping solar panel installers.

Our state ranked No. 7 nationally for new solar installations in the first quarter of 2026, putting 165 megawatts of new solar capacity on the grid, enough to power about 28,000 homes. That's according to a new report from the Solar Energy Industries Association and Wood Mackenzie.

The "U.S. Solar Market Insight" report said solar installs in Michigan have been increasing in recent years: we were ranked No. 23 and then No. 13 among the states in 2025.

Nationally, the U.S. solar industry installed 7.8 gigawatts of capacity in the first quarter of

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THE SIGNING of the "Statement of Partnership and Shared Commitment" for the new Michigan College Credit for Apprenticeships Program took place June 10 at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. From (l-r) are Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity Director Susan Corbin, Bricklayers & Allied Craft Union Local 2 President and Schoolcraft Board of Trustee Chair Brett Gierak, state Workforce Development Board Executive Director Jessica Brousseau, Michigan Community College Association President Brandy Johnson, MILEAP Director of Higher Education Sarah Szupicki, and Schoolcraft College President Dr. Glenn Cerny.

## Viewpoints



### Companies brake for unions

Over the last five years, workers have won unions in several high-profile campaigns, including Amazon workers in Staten Island and Starbucks workers in Buffalo.

These examples are a testament to workers' determination and desire for greater agency in their workplace. But these Amazon and Starbucks workers have yet to reach a first contract with their employer, illustrating the issues many workers face when they win a union and begin collectively bargaining. Far too often, employers refuse to bargain in good faith with workers, significantly delaying a first contract. Currently, on average, it takes workers 465 days to bargain a first contract.

On June 9, the U.S. House of Representatives passed legislation aimed at ensuring workers can reach a first contract without unnecessary delay. The Faster Labor Contracts Act establishes a timeline from bargaining to mediations and, if necessary, binding arbitration. These provisions discourage delay and promote good-faith bargaining, which is exactly how the law should work.

Corporate mergers and acquisitions are an example of how quickly employers can reach a deal when they want to: these complicated, multibillion-dollar deals can often be reached in a matter of weeks. When these corporate deals take longer, it is often due to government regulators challenging the legality of the corporate merger – not corporate conduct.

To demonstrate the difference in corporate conduct in bargaining with workers for a first contract versus corporate mergers and acquisitions, Starbucks completed a merger (with Teavana) in 67 days; but Amazon has taken at least 1,643 days (and counting) to bargain a first contract with their unionized workers.

In addition, the Amazon-Whole Foods merger took 123 days; but it has been 498 days and counting without the union contract that Whole Foods workers are seeking, and 1,530 days since Amazon has not reached a contract with its Staten Island workforce that voted to unionize.

It is clear that corporations can move quickly to reach a deal related to a merger or acquisition but are far too often unwilling to apply that same priority to negotiations with their workforce for a fair first contract.

Celine McNicholas and Matthew Wich  
Economic Policy Institute

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or, e-mail: buildingtradesman@ameritech.net

### The latest round of union-busting in D.C.

Last year President Trump signed an executive order that stripped nearly 1 million federal government employees of their union rights.

On June 5, he added nearly 8,000 more to that count, taking away union protections from workers who are in policy-making roles, making it easier for the administration to fire them. His justification for the union-busting, is in the name of "national security."

"President Trump's executive order betrays a foundational American value: that our government works for the people, not for one man's political agenda," said AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler, who said the action is "the next phase in Trump's anti-worker agenda to replace government workers with political loyalists who answer only to him. As we've seen from his first day in office, the president is determined to tear down the architecture of our federal government and replace it with a system of corruption to benefit powerful CEOs and billionaire union-busters."

# New JW Marriott hits the spot

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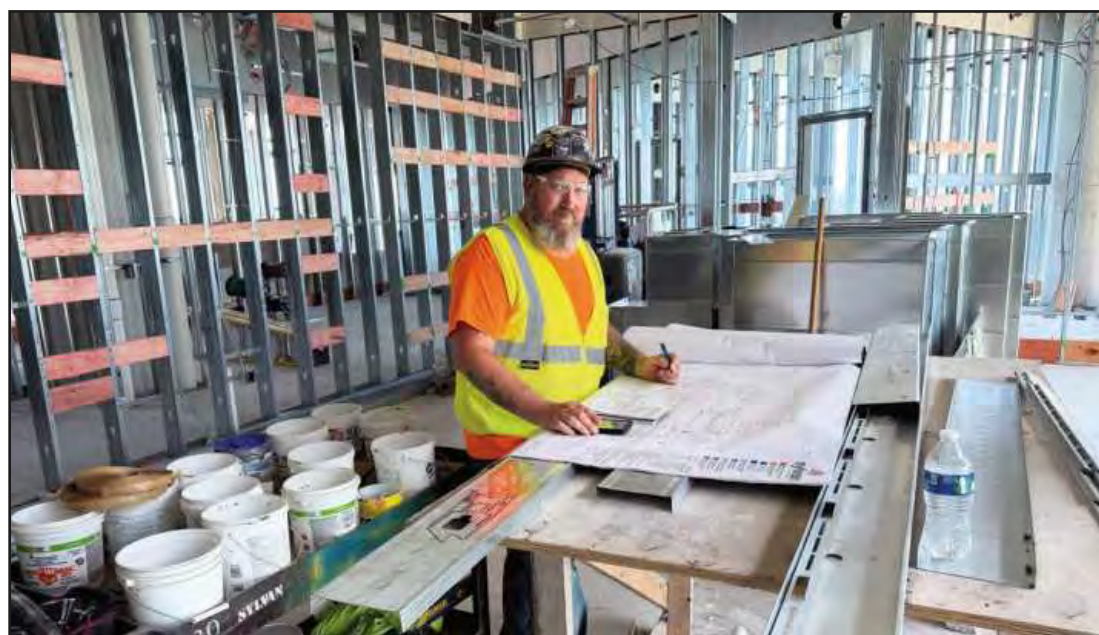
"We're ahead of schedule, and the project is going well," said Scott Stinebaugh, pre-opening director of sales and marketing for JW Marriott Detroit Square. "Having a hotel connected to a convention center certainly elevates our presence, and creates a new dynamic on the waterfront that will allow us to attract a wider group of conventions."

The 450,000-square-foot JW Marriott will do its part to help grow the number of hotel rooms – it will offer 601 rooms, including 44 suites. The \$396 million hotel property will include five podium floors with 53,000 square feet of event space, two large ballrooms, four "dining experiences," a fitness center and a 50-foot indoor lap pool.

Above the podium floors, wrote City of Detroit's then-Planning Department Director Antoine Bryant in a 2024 letter to the City Council, "the hotel tower floors will comprise 20 levels and offer unprecedented views and amenities."

He added: "Detroit is at a significant disadvantage when competing for convention business, as the number of rooms within walking distance of the convention center and not having a connected hotel is a major concern of all meeting planners."

The property will be steps away from the four-mile Detroit



PLANNING DUCT installation on the fifth floor of the JW Marriott Detroit Square hotel project in Detroit is Mike Luedtke of Sheet Metal Workers Local 80. He's employed by Sylvan, Inc.

Riverwalk and will be near the Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Centennial Park. The floor-to-ceiling windows will offer views of the City of Windsor across the Detroit River, as well as Belle Isle, the Ambassador Bridge, and the Gordie Howe International Bridge.

The project is being managed by Detroit-based developer Sterling Group, and is being financed by Ullico, which is the only labor-owned insurance and investment company in the country. "This connected hotel will change the hospitality landscape in the City of Detroit and allow for Hun-

tington Place to attract more and larger conventions. It will be a significant economic benefit to the City and the region," said Sterling Group Chief Development Officer Danny Samson.

Ullico is the same lender that provided the financing for the adjacent Residences at Water Square.

"We are proud to invest in a Detroit project that supports unions," said Brian J. Hale, CEO and president of Ullico Inc. "Through J for Jobs, we help increase the vast economic power of the labor movement while bolstering local economies." The

hotel project is expected to create 426 direct and indirect jobs as well as more than 600 union construction jobs.

### Just joking

This morning I went down to the kitchen where my wife was making boiled eggs for breakfast.

She looked up and told me, "you've got to make love to me this very moment!"

I replied,

"Sure!" So afterward, we walked back down to the kitchen and I asked, "what was all that about?"

My wife replied, "my egg timer is broken."

... After an unsuccessful harvest, a farmer decided to try a career in music. He said he had a ton of sick beets.

"Don't reserve your best behavior for special occasions. You can't have two sets of manners, two social codes - one for those you admire and want to impress, another for those whom you consider unimportant. You must be the same to all people."

—Lillian Eichler Watson

### The system is not rigged...say those who rigged it

By Jim Hightower  
Millions of us are mad as hell at the moneyed establishment

for constantly rigging the system against America's workaday majority.

Those riggers could save face by making some basic reforms, but instead, they're getting mad at us for saying the system is rigged!

Indeed, corporate powers have launched a PR offensive assailing what they call a "populist trend" of disgruntled people declaring that "everything is

rigged." They're condemning anyone who talks about corporate oligarchies ripping off consumers, workers, students, and others.

But wait – that's not a "trend," it's peoples' real-life experiences with the shameful corporate health care system, price gouging by food giants, the rapacious greed of AI billionaires, the flagrant theft of people's voting rights, the gutting of public education... and so awful much more?

You don't have to be in Who's Who to know What's What: The system is rigged.

Yet, the riggers demand that we "riggees" stop saying that word. One right-wing pundit whines that it's socially destruc-

tive for malcontents to suggest our laws are being manipulated to give more and more power to corporate elites. He asserts that even talking about it "undermines voters' faith and trust in our government."

Trust in our government? Come on! The majority of our lawmakers openly sell themselves to corporate bidders, the White House is a shopping mall for rich donors, and the Supreme Court functions as a corporate subsidiary.

It's no secret that corrupt officials now routinely rig America's economic and political systems for the rich. Far from prissily shutting off discussion of this scandal, we must drag it into the center of American politics... and crush it.



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## BUILDING MICHIGAN: Return to the rails? HISTORY IN THE MAKING

By Marty Mulcahy



PETOSKEY IS ALWAYS a terrific getaway destination for motorists who usually arrive by car these days, but in another era, trains brought visitors and vacationers to the town on Little Traverse Bay. This depot in Pioneer Park on West Lake Street, shown here in a 1900 postcard, was constructed in 1892. It looks as good as ever today, and is currently used by the Little Traverse Historical Society. And who knows, it could be used again as a train station if plans for Detroit/Ann Arbor to Petoskey rail service come to fruition. "Petoskey was the center of a resort commuter rail service which used a separate 'commuter' depot on the Grand Rapids and Indiana main line downtown," says the historical society. "From the commuter station, you could take a train to any town north as far as Harbor Springs or Alanson, and south to Walloon Lake. Dozens of trains ran this route each day, which was double tracked between Foreman's and Harbor Springs." Passenger trains continued service here until 1964. The station fell into disrepair and was restored to house the Little Traverse History Museum in 1974. The depot, constructed in the Victorian shingle style with a conical roof and a porte cochere entrance to the road, was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1970.

A tantalizing proposal to re-start passenger railway service from Detroit and Ann Arbor with stops at several stations as far north as Petoskey – has been bandied about the past several years.

The source of the proposal is a nonprofit organization, Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities, whose North + South Passenger Rail Project would offer rail service to 12 communities in the Lower Peninsula. It was a concept that originated in 2009, won \$2.3 million in state and federal grants to research the concept, and most recently had a number of favorable responses from a statewide feasibility survey conducted earlier this year.

The plan seems to at least have a shot at success, which could lead to historic train depots in some of those Michigan cities reverting to their original use.

"The route would link Michigan's dynamic regions with an efficient, comfortable alternative to driving," the North + South Passenger Rail Project says on its website. "This project represents a major opportunity to create a more connected, inclusive, and sustainable transportation system that makes Michigan a more attractive and competitive place to live, work, and do

business."

The concept of intercity rail travel in Michigan isn't a new one, but you're getting on in years if you remember riding the Detroit and Mackinaw Railway (the D&M) before its service ended in 1951.

Other intercity passenger rail lines lasted into the 1960s, after which Amtrak took over some lower-Michigan routes in 1971.

Passenger rail service in Michigan and elsewhere had been declining since the invention of the automobile, but the end of many lines took place during the 1950s and '60s. Rail companies consolidated and dropped passenger routes, while in ensuing decades manufacturing plant closures around the state also led to the decline of freight trains and the track-ages they ran on. Michigan had about 9,500 route-miles of track at peak in about 1910, and today has about 3,600 route-miles of track.

The new proposed route would utilize existing track and extend from Detroit and Ann Arbor, north with stops in Howell, Durand, Owosso, Alma, Mount Pleasant, Clare, Cadillac, Traverse City, Kalkaska and Petoskey.

What makes people think that the rails can be ridden

again? One big advantage: the state already owns the track that's needed, which for example, includes 300 miles from Traverse City to Petoskey. A number of stations are still in place, next to existing rail lines. Train travel times from Ann Arbor to Traverse City are about the same as driving.

Survey results released in March by the Groundwork group said in just over a month, 21,786 people completed an online survey, with more than 75 percent saying they had ridden a train. Among the top reasons for using a train, more than 80 percent said vacation, and more than 60 percent said they would use it for concerts, festivals and other entertainment. Interest in train use exceeded 75 percent across all four seasons.

Why travel by train: 80 percent said they looked forward to the downtime, and 70 percent said they liked the ability to stretch their legs.

The Michigan Department of Transportation's Michigan Mobility 2045 Plan is still using numbers from a 2018 study, which said a four-and-a-half-hour train trip between Ann Arbor and Traverse would require an investment of \$650 million in track improvements and other upgrades to permit train speeds of 90 mph.

constructed in the Chateau Revival style with Missouri granite brick and Bedford cut stone, with a slate roof. Its turreted west end with its circular porch faces the former Grand Trunk Railway mainline. Its interiors featured marble wainscoting and terrazzo flooring on the ground floor and oak woodwork throughout. The 12,000-square-

foot original station contained a ticket office, waiting rooms, ladies' parlor, gentlemen's smoking room, large corridors and a dining room.

"The second floor served as railroad office space, crew sleeping quarters, and telegraph offices. The cost of the structure was \$60,000 in 1903" (about \$2.3 million today)



THE DURAND UNION STATION, with its four-way track "diamond," is already a stop on the east-west Amtrak Blue Water route, and is also astride the potential north-south Ann Arbor to Petoskey rail route. Photo credit: Shiawassee Co. Convention and Visitors Bureau



CONSTRUCTED IN 1927, the Pere Marquette Railway opened its new passenger and freight depot in Traverse City's just north of Boardman Lake and west of Woodmere Avenue. The city served three railroads at the time, with Pere Marquette owning trackage throughout Michigan, with connections to Grand Rapids, Chicago and Detroit. Railroad officials who came up for the dedication ceremonies on Jan. 6, 1927, claimed "there was no finer station" among Pere Marquette properties. Intercity rail traffic ended at the depot in 1966, although sightseeing trains continued to operate from the site decades later. The depot is now a microbrewery, but the tracks next door are still (somewhat) active. Currently The Filling Station Microbrewery, the owners proclaim on their website, "there is optimism that passenger service will once again return to these rails."

Photo credit: Google Streets

## Boom times for union-avoiding law firms: it's a \$1.5B business

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– another notorious union-avoider – which had held the No. 1 spot for more than a decade.

Amazon, according to the EPI, was far and away the biggest spender on union-avoidance consultants in 2025. The online sales behemoth spent \$26.6 million on union avoidance consultants in 2005, EPI reported, with a company called Unity Point Health coming in a far distant second place, spending \$2.1 million.

And the corporate lawyers have been successful: workers at only a single Amazon location, at a warehouse on Staten Island, have ever voted to unionize. The vote came in 2022, but the company-imposed legal delays mean they still don't have a contract.

The EPI said until now, the role of these union-avoidance law firms has largely gone unexamined because of loopholes in federal reporting laws, but the group made its analysis based on online records and NLRB case data.

In an era of "dark money," when it's commonplace for big business and the wealthy to attempt to hide their influence-peddling, so it goes with in the legal world for lawyers helping corporations fight unionization efforts.

The EPI said "these reports represent only a fraction of the total money spent on anti-union campaign services, not to mention legal counsel, representation, and litigation aimed at union avoidance. That's for two main reasons: 1) consultants are not required to report activity that counts as 'advice,' which is ill-defined but currently interpreted to exempt nearly all activities that don't involve direct contact with workers, even though this accounts for the vast majority of work that consultants engage in; and 2) even activities that clearly must be reported very often are not."

Union-avoidance law firms have become big business, the EPI said, with two of the top firms earning an estimated \$68 million and \$58 million in labor law cases.

"These consultants," the EPI said, "work to prevent a union election from taking place – and if that fails, to ensure that workers vote against the union and then stall negotiations over a first collective bargaining agreement. Over the past several decades, large law firms have developed substantial business specializing in union avoidance services. These firms now play a significant role in denying workers their

rights to a union and collective bargaining."

Corporate law firms are exploiting the nation's outdated labor laws, which date to the 1930s. And they also take advantage of an ineffectual National Labor Relations Board, the independent agency charged with enforcing the National Labor Relations Act, the nation's fundamental labor law that guarantees most private-sector workers the right to organize and the right to collective bargaining.

"However," the EPI said, "decades of federal policy and court decisions have weakened the NLRA. Union avoidance consultants and law firms have long exploited the law's significant loop-holes, making it harder and harder for workers to win unions. For nearly 80 years, policymakers have failed to address the NLRA's weaknesses and restore meaningful union and collective bargaining rights to workers."

"While the NLRB election process is supposed to be relatively simple, the strategy of union avoidance law firms follows a standard playbook – they use their overwhelming resources to exploit the NLRB's administrative processes and sometimes create nearly endless delays."

## Unions notch surprising organizing win in Republican-led U.S. House

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Bellaman. "The FLCA imposes arbitrary and unrealistic deadlines on employers to finalize negotiations with newly elected unions or face 'binding interest arbitration of first contracts.' In practice, this means, for the first time in American history, a federal government bureaucrat will appoint an individual to dictate exactly what is included in a contract between two private negotiating parties.

"The consequences of this misguided bill include destroying voluntary agreement and good-faith labor-management negotiations and could expand to disputes over wages, benefits and working conditions to include social or political issues unrelated to the day-to-day needs of workers and employers," Bellaman added. "ABC supports legislation that upholds the intent of the

National Labor Relations Act and protects freedom of association. Unfortunately, the FLCA would undermine the bargaining process and counter the freedoms the NLRA was designed to protect."

Conversely, Chad Rink, assistant to the general president of the Iron Workers International Union, called for the Senate to "finish the job" and pass the FLCA, in a statement to *Construction Dive*. Rink said the time between the election and contract negotiation is too lengthy, and the votes by workers need to mean something.

"Workers who vote to organize shouldn't have to wait a year and a half or more for the contract they already earned at the ballot box," Rink said. "Too many hard-fought wins are sitting stalled in objections and review right now, with the clock running; time that should've been spent at the bargaining table getting

the deal done."

Ogletree Deakins, a management legal firm that keeps tabs on labor legislation, confirmed that the bill is a benefit to unions. The firm said the bill has at least three Republican supporters in the Senate, but there are more procedural hurdles in that legislative body that could block its passage.

The other issue that has drawn the ABC's ire this year is the Trump Administration's support for union-friendly project labor agreements on federal construction projects that exceed \$35 million.

The government policy has been supported by both the Biden and Trump administrations and was backed up by the courts after an ABC lawsuit. The pro-PLA stance effectively shuts out ABC-affiliated nonunion contractors from about \$800 billion every year in federal construction contracts.

## Ouch. Yearly increase in construction material prices the highest since 2021

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surprise the energy-related inputs continued to rise. In May, diesel fuel prices more than doubled over 12 months, rising 105.9 percent since May 2025 and 19.9 percent from the previous month. Related was the increase in freight transportation, which rose 17.3 percent year to year.

But rising costs weren't limited to fuel. Aluminum mill shapes soared 48.8 percent from May 2025. Copper and brass mill shapes increased 26.8 percent over the year, and the price index for structural steel rose 15.6 percent. Lumber and plywood rose 4.5 percent. Concrete block and brick rose 3.9 percent.

Some costs dropped over the course of the year: gypsum building materials fell 1.1 percent, while cement products dropped 0.6 percent.

The Associated Builders and Contractors construction materials price index pegged the input increases at an even higher level, with overall construction materials prices 9.6 percent higher than one year ago.

"Construction input prices surged again in May and are now up nearly 10 percent year over year," said ABC Chief Economist Anirban Basu. "Oil prices, pushed higher by the ongoing Iran conflict, made a significant contribution to the rise in overall materials prices, yet the greater concern is the continuing price growth in tariff-affected inputs like iron, steel and copper. He added that "it appears likely that materials price escalation and stubbornly high borrowing costs could eventually weigh on profitability."

## Michigan has sunny future for solar installs

(Continued from Page 1)

2026, a 27 percent decline from the same period in 2025 – but 2025 was overall a record year for solar installs.

"Both solar and battery storage accounted for an incredible 91 percent of all new electricity-generating capacity added in the first quarter," the *Insight* report said, "reflecting the ability of these industries to consistently build new capacity – a vital advantage for the capacity-constrained U.S. grid. Solar by itself accounted for 60 percent of all new capacity."

The *Insight* report predicted U.S. solar providers would put a steady average of 43 gigawatts on the grid over the next five years, but with little growth beyond that, "despite the need for more power supply in the U.S. Interconnection queue timelines have improved slightly but permitting bottlenecks and lengthy equipment timelines continue to serve as headwinds."

In Michigan, according to World Population Review, the sun shines only 51 percent of daylight hours, and among our neighboring states, that's only ahead of Ohio (50 percent). Alaska, at 41 percent, and New York, 46 percent, have the fewest daylight hours among the states. The sunniest state: Arizona, 85 percent.

Helped by the emergence of battery storage, "Michigan is actually going to be one of the leading states for new solar over the next couple of years," said energy analyst Dennis Wamsted, commenting to Michigan Public Radio on a recent report from the Institute for Economics and Financial Analysis.

Michigan is part of the multi-state Midwest Independent System Operator (MISO) grid, and has more than 3,600 new megawatts of solar power due to come online by 2028. That total, he said, "is the largest of any state in MISO."

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## Local 169 Boilermakers

### Boilermakers Local 169

ALLEN PARK – Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will take place on **July 10, 2026**, at the IBEW Local 275 Hall, 140 64<sup>th</sup> Avenue N. Coopersville, Michigan 49404. Our monthly dues will stay at our current rate of 55.85 for 2026. I would like to wish all our members a safe and Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July.



**MICHAEL CARD**

Attention members Scott Ivey Is the new Business Agent for Area 3, he will take over all the duties of agent including dispatching and out of work list. His contact info office (989)662-6491 cell (989) 274-6974.

Congratulations to the elected delegates to the 35th Consolidated Convention. Mike Card and Don Fajardo by Office, Elected Tony Herrera, Jamie Ratliff, Terry Sullivan, Scott Ivey and Brad Dame. These delegates will represent the members of Local 169 at the convention which will be held July 20-23 2026.

Congratulations to Matt Root, he placed 2nd at the Great Lakes Apprentice of the year contest in Hobart, Ind. the week of June 2-4 and will represent Local 169 at the National contest in August. We wish him good luck.

Local 169's Golf Outing was a great success! I thank everyone who helped put this event on. All proceeds from the event go to Our Scholarship Fund for current graduates to apply for. Please encourage all active members children that graduate this year to apply.

Greg Jacobs will be having a retirement party on July 11 in Rhodes, MI. The time is from 5-10 pm BYOB. Get more info on Facebook or call Greg at (989)859-5819.

### Boilermakers Local 169 Area Picnics.

**Area 1 - Picnic** will be **Aug. 8** at Camp Dearborn noon until 7 pm. We will also have food, drinks, adult and kids raffle prizes, games, cornhole tournament, bounce house, face painting, and fun for the whole family. If you can meet at 8am to help set up, we could always use the help!

**Area 2 - Picnic** will be on **Sept. 7, 2026** (Labor Day) following the parade. More information to come.

**Area 3 - Picnic** will be **Aug. 1** at Sanford Lake Park noon until 7 pm. We will have food, drinks, adult and kids' raffles and prizes, fun for the whole family. Sanford Lake is filled up now and has a splash park for the kids. Please bring a dish to pass.

**Area 4 - Information** will be coming soon.

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 getting the Great Lakes Safety background check for Corteva please contact Business Agent, Scott Ivey 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.

#### Retiree luncheons:

**Area 1 Retirees luncheon** is on the first Wednesday of every month at 11 am at the White Rhino Sports Bar, at 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 at 11AM. The next lunch will be on June 17, at The Rema Tavern. The address is 118 W. Wheatland Ave., Rema, MI 49340. As always, everyone from all areas is welcome to attend.

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

Hoodies have arrived in all sizes at the Union Hall. The cost is \$50 XL and smaller \$55 for 2XL, \$60 for 3XL and \$70 for 4XL. 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 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 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. Advise all apprentices who qualify to take advantage of this well-deserved benefit.

Retiree Kevin Schultz passed away suddenly on June 17, 2026. Please keep his family in your thoughts during this difficult time.



## Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

### BAC Local 2

WARREN – **UPCOMING MEETINGS.**

**FLINT CHAPTER:** Wednesday, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026, at 7:30 PM, 1701 W Genesee Street, Lapeer, MI 48446

**METRO DETROIT CHAPTER:** Tuesday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 5:30pm, 21031 Ryan Road, Warren, MI 48091

**ANN ARBOR CHAPTER:** Tuesday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 6:00 pm, 8225 Dexter-Chelsea Road, Dexter, MI 48130

**BRETT KALAMAGIERAK ZOO CHAPTER:** Thursday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 6:00 PM, 11847 Shaver Road, Schoolcraft, MI 49087

**MARQUETTE CHAPTER:** Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026, 119 S Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

**LANSING CHAPTER: CANCELLED**

**SAGINAW CHAPTER: CANCELLED**

**HOUGHTON CHAPTER: CANCELLED**

**APPRENTICE HOURS PORTAL:** We have moved the Apprentice Hours Portal to a new platform called WorkHands. You should have received an email or text message with an invitation to join the platform.

All monthly hours must now be submitted through the WorkHands app. After you submit your hours, they will be reviewed by your foreman or superintendent, who will complete an evaluation of your progress before forwarding them to the Training Center.

Submitting your hours monthly through WorkHands is a requirement of your apprenticeship and is necessary to stay on track for your scheduled raises. All submissions must be completed online and include detailed information about the work you performed during the month.

If you need assistance accessing the portal or help submitting your hours, resources are available online at: <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org/resources>

You may also contact Nate Nestor at (313) 467-5382 for additional support.

For more information about the Training Centers, please visit: <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org>

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

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!

**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.

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

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

These services were established and are intended to help get us through difficult life situations.

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

**PENSION AND HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION**  
BAC of Michigan Health & Welfare Fund – (248) 828-6000  
CALL-A-DOC – (800) 835-2362  
Cement Pension & Vacation Funds – (248) 645-6550  
International Pension/Annuity Fund – (888) 880-8222 or (202) 638-1996 (bacbenefits.org)  
Michigan Masonry Trades Pension – (248) 641-4954  
Michigan BAC Vacation Fund – (248) 828-6000

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## Local 514 Cement Masons & Plasterers

### Operative Plasterers and Cement Masons Local 514

DETROIT – **The next membership meeting is Tuesday, July 21, at 7:00 pm. We will be having food and refreshments. There will also be an executive board meeting that day at 5:30 pm. Please make every effort to come and fellowship with your brothers and sisters.**

Membership Gold Cards- Congratulations!

**July 2026**

**Candelario Benavides-40 Years**

**Jack McCool-40 Years**

**Melvin Morgan-40 Years**

**Happy Independence Day!**

Let's celebrate our freedom to organize, assemble, and stand together. Enjoy the celebrations, Brothers and Sisters!

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

**Please get in touch with the local at 248-548-0800 or email your updated information to aajrouche@opciami.org. Please send your updated information promptly.**

**MUST Safety Awareness**

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

**Please activate your Blue Cross Blue Shield account.** To activate your Blue Cross member account online, go to [bebsm.com/register](http://bebsm.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 benefit needs to have a designated beneficiary.

**All members need 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 by phone when a member of the Local has passed away and submit a copy of the Death Certificate for any deceased active or retired member.

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

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

**The Local's website is: [www.opcmiami.org](http://www.opcmiami.org). Please refer to the website for updated information.**

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

Members working for non-signatory commercial contractors are negatively impacting our market share. This year's work forecast looks better than last year's. Members working non-union will be brought up on charges and fined. Let's work together to secure our future!

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

Please make sure your modules and drug test are up to date; some plant jobs require the MUST modules. You can go

online at [www.mustonline.org](http://www.mustonline.org) or call the Local if you need a drug form sent out.

Please make sure we have all of your current contact information, address, and phone number so we can keep the fund offices updated on your health care and pension, and whether you are having your vacation checks mailed out. If you have moved, please get in touch with the Local, and we will update your address with all fund offices.

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

Access and make changes to your account in two easy ways:

Go online: Principal.com  
If you are a first-time user, go to [Principal.com/WelcomeSelect](http://Principal.com/WelcomeSelect) Get Started.

Enter your first name, last name, date of birth, mobile phone number (this is the quickest way to verify your identity), and your ID number (this is either your 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 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 the 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 with any matter relating to the Fund, you can contact the Fund Office at (248) 645-6550 or 5600 New King Dr., Ste 330, Troy, MI 48098. The fund office's business hours are 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**Plasterers and Cement Masons:** It is your responsibility to complete reciprocity forms if you plan to work outside the local 514 area. This will ensure your hours are returned to your home fund. If you have any questions or need any forms, please get in touch with the Local.

**Please make sure your beneficiary information is up to date. Any changes to your beneficiaries can be made at the Local.**

If you have questions concerning your pension benefits, **Road Builders** can call: Toll Free at 1-877-876-9357 or (517) 321-7502.

**Plasters and Commercial Cement Masons** can call: (248) 645-6550 for pension and annuity, or 1-877-876-9357.

All **Plasterers and Cement Masons** can contact (517) 321-7502 for health & welfare information now through Outstate Michigan Trowel Trades Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan.

**For the INTERNATIONAL PENSION,** Call 1-888-880-8222 (Toll Free) or (202) 638-1996.

"Every man is guilty of all the good he didn't do."

–Voltaire (1694 - 1778)

"Everyone is as God has made him, and oftentimes a great deal worse."

–Miguel de Cervantes (1547 - 1616)

"Traditions are group efforts to keep the unexpected from happening."

–Barbara Tober

# Apprenticeship certificates have more value

(Continued from Page 1)

strengthen careers, support employers and build a skilled, adaptable workforce across Michigan."

First among the union trades in Michigan to sign on to the program is Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2. Not coincidentally, Local 2 President Brett Gierak also serves on the Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees and advocated for the program.

"I'm proud the Bricklayers are leading the way on this as I know firsthand the difference it makes," said Gierak. "I utilized a local agreement to transfer my own apprenticeship credits to Lake Superior State University and earned my associate's degree, and it helped me build my career in union leadership. The Michigan College Credit for Apprenticeships Program opens that same door for workers across the state."

The state program is further evidence of the wider value of completed four- or five-year building trades union apprenticeship programs. For graduates of BAC Local 2's apprenticeship program, for example, an apprenticeship completion certificate in any one of their five worker classifications would yield 49 academic credit hours – putting journeymen well on their way to an associate's degree, which usually requires 60 credit hours.

Apprenticeship completion certificates can now widen career pathways for building trades workers, with opportunities including learning new technologies, starting a business, pursuing union leadership, or otherwise advancing a career.

"Through this program, trades workers can pursue degrees or certifications to maximize their earnings, adaptability, and career options without having to start from scratch," LEO said in its information release on the program. "In many cases, eligible union trade workers will only need to take a semester of community college courses to obtain an associate's degree."

Links and academic credit exchanges have existed for years between building trades apprenticeship programs and local colleges. Washtenaw Community College was one of the first, building upon

its decades-old training relationship with the United Association of Pipe Trades. LEO's announcement represents a significant widening of the availability of credits for both union apprenticeship programs and the colleges scattered around Michigan.

"Schoolcraft College and Michigan's broader network of community colleges are delivering for Michiganders by providing free or affordable education for good-paying careers," said Dr. Glenn Cerny, president of Schoolcraft College. "Awarding college credit for registered apprenticeships allows us to continue creating pathways for more Michiganders to further their education and helps us build a stronger workforce to support employers in the state."

Of the 14 crafts that are under the building trades union umbrella, 10 are currently participating in the program. They include: the Boilermakers, Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers, Carpenters and Millwrights, IBEW, Laborers, Iron Workers, Operating Engineers, Painters and Allied Trades, Roofers and Waterproofers, and the Sheet Metal Workers.

The following community colleges accept credit for registered apprenticeships through the Michigan College Credit for Apprenticeships Program: Delta College, Glen Oaks Community College, Henry Ford College, Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College, Lake Michigan College, Macomb Community College, Mid-Michigan College, North Central Michigan College, Northwestern Michigan College, Oakland Community College, Schoolcraft College, St. Clair County Community College and Washtenaw Community College.

Go to the Michigan Transfer Network website at [www.mitransfer.org/Earn-Credits-for-Apprenticeships](http://www.mitransfer.org/Earn-Credits-for-Apprenticeships) to see how your registered apprenticeship credits will transfer to various community colleges. "Colleges are updating this information on a rolling basis," LEO said. "So if you do not see your union trade or local community college on the list yet, check back in the coming months or contact your local community college for more information on how to enroll."

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## Local 190

Plumbers,  
Pipe Fitters,  
Service Technicians,  
Gas Distribution

### UA Local 190

**ANN ARBOR - UNION MEETING:** The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 13 at 6:00 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI. All members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

**UNION HALL CLOSING AT NOON:** Our office will be closed Friday, July 3 to observe Independence Day. Wishing you and your family a happy and safe holiday.

**52nd ANNUAL GOLF OUTING:** will be held on Saturday, July 25. Our event will be held at *Whimore Lake Golf Links*. 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, (734) 424-0962 Ext. 210.

**LOCAL 190 SUMMER PICNIC - SAVE THE DATE:** Aug. 29 is the date for the summer picnic. More information will be released very soon.

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

**IMPORTANT REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS - LAID OFF OR BACK TO WORK:** All members who get laid off or report back to work **please immediately contact Karen (734) 424-0962 Ext. #210. Please report the last day in which you worked. When calling to report back to work please let Karen know the contractor and the date you reported back to work.** PLEASE NOTE: All Members can now go to the website under "members only" and fill out a "back to work" form or "laid off" form.

**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.

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:** Please contact the union hall 734-424-0962 to make sure we have a current e-mail address.

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

**INFORMATION - FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE:** Annual physicals need to be completed by Oct. 31. Please remember to bring in the 2026 Annual Physical Verification Form and email the completed form to Bernadette Maus [bmaus@ua190.org](mailto:bmaus@ua190.org). This form is on our Local 190 website UA190.org and also the Benefits website UA190benefits.org, go to documents, health care, 2026 annual physical verification form (towards the bottom of the page)

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

Bernadette Maus will be available by phone Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or in person 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.

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

**INFORMATION-TRAINING CENTER:** Congratulations to UA Local 190's 2026 Graduates! 12 individuals became Journeymen on May 1st, 2026.

Welder Re-Qualifications for Gas Distribution Welders will be held at the end of June at the training center. Any Questions please contact Pat Duffy 734-424-0962.

The Training Center is open to members wishing to update any certifications, licenses, or qualifications. Office hours of

operation are Monday through Thursday 8am. to 5 pm. Friday 8am. to 4 pm. We will be closed for lunch from Noon to 1pm. 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. The Training Center will no longer accept cash payments, we will accept checks or credit card payments only.

**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:**

**Lead/Asbestos/Blood-borne Pathogens Training (4 hrs):** Please register through the website: [ua190.org](http://ua190.org) 2026 **Schedule: Mondays, July 20, and Sept. 28.** Each class will start at 5 pm.

**First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs):** Please register through the website: [ua190.org](http://ua190.org) 2026 **Schedule - Mondays, July 27, and Oct. 5.** Each class will start at 5 pm.

**Welding Fundamentals (40 hrs):** This class is designed for apprentices & journeymen who have little to no welding experience and want to learn the basic fundamentals of SMAW (Stick), and GTAW (TIG) welding. This course will cover welding procedures (WPS), UA certifications (UA-21, UA-22, UA-41), basic metallurgy, weld process selection, machine setup, welding symbols, welding positions, welding electrodes and consumables, weld preparation, shielding gasses, and welder safety.

Participants will receive training on the Lincoln Virtual welding machine (VR), before heading into the welding lab. **Call the Training Center to secure your spot, dates to be announced later.**

**Welding Lab: Open welding is closed for the summer.** The welding lab will reopen on Sept. 8. Welding lab is Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesday & Thursday nights from 4pm to 8:30pm. Saturdays 7am to 3:30pm.

**ASSE Backflow Certification (40hrs):** This is a 40-hour class, to become an ASSE Certified Backflow Tester (5110). **2026 Schedule: Sept 8.** Courses run on **Tuesdays 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](http://ua190.org) **Must have a current State of Michigan Plumbing License to certify with ASSE.**

**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). **2026 Schedule: Oct 13.** 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](http://ua190.org) **Must have a current State of Michigan Plumbing License to certify with ASSE.**

**Med Gas Installer and Brazing Certification (40hrs):** This is a 40-hour class to be Med Gas certified. Must have a minimum of 4 years, documented experience in the plumbing and/or piping industry. **2026 Schedule: Sept. 1.** Course 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](http://ua190.org)

**Med Gas Installer Update (8hrs):** This is a two-day course. **2026 Schedule: Oct. 6.** 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](http://ua190.org).

**ASSE 12010 ICRA Certification for Infection Control and Risk Assessment for Construction Workers (16hrs):** This is a four-day course. **2026 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 TBD. Class size is limited to 8. Please register through the website: [ua190.org](http://ua190.org) (Continued next column)



## Local 85 Plumbers & Steam Fitters

### UA Local 85

SAGINAW – The next **Union Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, July 22, 2026**, at the Union Hall at 3535 Bay Road at 7:00 PM.

The next Zone 2 Union Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, August 5, 2026**, at the Grayling Eagles Lodge located at 602 Huron St., Grayling, MI 49738.

**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](http://ualocal85.org) or our Facebook page for the most up-to-date information.

The **new website** is up and running. Please check out [www.ualocal85.org](http://www.ualocal85.org). Click on Local 85 Members to access members only information. Login information is username: first initial with full last name. Password is 00 with your UA Card Number. If you should have any difficulties logging in, please call Kristin at (989) 799-5261 ext. 8511.

**Social Media:** Like us on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok,

## Local 190, con't

**EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs):** This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Classes are to be determined according to demand. Please register through the website: [ua190.org](http://ua190.org)

**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 6000 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 when the class roster is full. Members must meet all the requirements to sign up.

**CONDOLENCES:** Our lifetime members John Erickson passed away on June 9. John initiated Oct. 14, 1974, retired May 1, 2014, became a lifetime member Oct. 14, 2025. To all family members and friends you have our deepest condolences for the loss of someone so dear.

Our member Kris Shenfield passed away on May 1. Kris initiated July 22, 1999 and retired Oct. 1, 2020. To all family members and friends we offer you our thoughts, prayers and well-wishes during this time in your life. Please accept our deepest condolences.

**RETIREE MEETINGS – PLEASE JOIN US:** The next Spades meeting will start at 9 a.m. on Thursday, July 2 at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and coffee.

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

@UALocal85. Facebook has our Members Only page for updates at UA Local 85 Members Group.

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

**GOD BLESS ORGANIZED LABOR AND THE LABOR MOVEMENT!**

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

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

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

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

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

**NOTE TO ALL MEMBERS:**

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

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

**Website Address:** Please visit [www.ualocal85.org](http://www.ualocal85.org).

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

**RETIREE LUNCHEON:** The next retirees' luncheon will be held on Tuesday, **July 14, 2026** at 12:00 Noon at UA Local 85 Administration Office located at 3535 Bay Road Saginaw, MI 48603. We ask if you are able, please bring a dish to pass.

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

*"Friends should always tell you the truth. But please don't."*

–Louis C. K. (1967-)  
*"Don't hit at all if it is honorably possible to avoid hitting; but never hit soft!"*

–Theodore Roosevelt (1858 - 1919)

*"Reality is merely an illusion, albeit a very persistent one."*

–Albert Einstein (1879 - 1955)



## Local 636 Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters, Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Service

### UA Local 636

**DETROIT – Our next Regular Meeting on Tuesday July 21, 2026 at St. George Romanian Cultural Center 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. (Southfield Service Drive) Southfield, MI 48075. Our guest speaker will be gubernatorial candidate Chris Swanson.**

**ATTENTION! The August membership meeting will be on August 25th due to the UA National Convention.**

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

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

The **2026 Rotary International Day Parade** will be held July 15 at 6:30 pm in downtown Port Huron. We need a few apprentices to volunteer. If you are interested in walking with us this year, please contact Business Agent Brandon Spaulding (248) 939-2636 for more details. There will be a truck available this year for anyone unable to walk.

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!**

**March 2026 – Edward Bolin April 2026 – David Marcy, Anthony Kleinsorge, Mark Petzke, and Mark Solomon June 2026 – David Manney.**

**Deceased Members –** Lifetime Member Bruce Raymond June 16, 2026; Lifetime Member Jerome Cool May 24, 2026; 44 Year Member Cindy Saunders May 15, 2026; Lifetime Member Robert Flowers May 11, 2026.

**Our Condolences** to Dawn & Kay Raymond on the passing of their father Bruce Raymond June 16, 2026

**Get Well Wishes to:** Tim Tabin, Rebecca Blair, Michael Ferrante, Robert Goodwin, Michael Kovak III, Raymond Kuhowski Jr, John Lilly, Anthony Lumetta, Jason McKim, Roger Pruitt, Carlton Stewart, David Stone, John Zemmer, Jeremel Ducharme, Herbert Loy, John Pastorius.

**Congratulations** to Chris and Megan Stout on the birth of their son Tyler, May 29, 2026.

**DUES – 2nd Quarter Dues are due now.** Please call the Local to update your email and phone numbers. As a reminder AUTO PAY is available.

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

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

**636 Retiree Association!** The next meeting will be held July 16, 2026. Informing all retirees and their significant others to attend our meetings at the Local Union Office in Farmington Hills, every third Thursday of every month at 11 am, excluding December. The meetings present speakers which are very helpful with regard to your retirement and officers are there to answer any questions, you are also brought up to date on the activities of Local 636. Lunch is served for \$7.00 with refreshments and desserts. Also, we have begun day trips and at this time two a year to different sites in Southeastern Michigan. Hope to see you at a retirees meeting. Secretary Michael N. Sylvester

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

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

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

**Defined Contribution Pension Plan.** The number for the Voice response unit is **877-410-9984**. Plan provider no. is 7526. You can login to your Defined Contribution account on the Local's Website, while logged in as a member Just click on the "Defined Contribution login here tab" and it will take you to the website [www.accountplanaccess.net/benesys](http://www.accountplanaccess.net/benesys). Your initial login information is as follows: Username – Social Security number, without the dashes. Password – Full birth date, without the slashes, (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](http://mustbsafe.org) and if it is time for renewal call the Training Center 248-585-0636 and they will register you. Be "ready" when the calls come in. Safety modules and drug tests are paid for by the Contractors Association. **WHEN YOU STAY CURRENT WITH YOUR SAFETY MODULES, DRUG TEST AND FIRST AID, from January 1 – December 31 you will be eligible for your ready to work payment.**



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**Local 370**  
Plumbers,  
Pipe Fitters  
and HVAC Service

UA Local 370  
FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026.**

**Retiree Breakfast** will be on Monday, **July 13<sup>th</sup>** at 9:00 am.

**Golf Outing** is Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup> at Flushing Valley. 8am registration. 9am shotgun.

**The Ulliance Member Assistance Program** is now available to all members and retirees as of March 1. This benefit includes free and confidential mental health counseling, coaching, and 24/7 crisis support. In addition, there are free 30-minute consultations on legal and financial matters. There is a great discount program for goods and services as well as free identity theft protection. To find out more, go to lifeadvisor.com or call 800-448-8326.

**Upcoming Night Class Schedule:** Will resume in September

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

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

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

**Committee and Board meetings are as follows:**

- Examining Board – Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 4:00pm
- FMR Committee – Tuesday July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 4:00pm
- PAC committee – Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 5:00pm
- Executive Board – Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 5:00pm
- Building Committee – Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 6:00pm
- Finance Committee – Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026 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 MUSTSAFE.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.** Check it out, [ualocal370.org](http://ualocal370.org)  
We are now able to accept Visa, Master Card, Discover and American Express for window dues. If you want to take advantage of this service there will be a \$1.00 per month charge added to the monthly window dues fee and a 3% fee for all other transactions. Remember to keep your dues current. Any member failing to pay for 3 months shall stand  
**(Continued next column)**



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

UA Local 357  
KALAMAZOO – NNION MEETING: The next regular Union Meeting will be on **Tuesday, July 14** at 6:30 pm. Other meetings that day will be the Finance Committee at 4:30 and the Executive Board at 6:00.

**UA LOCAL 357 TRAINING INSTRUCTOR:** The UA Local JATC program is seeking a full-time Instructor. The position will be forty-four hours a week at the Local 357 Foreman wage with the Local 357 benefits package to include UA Officers Pension, two weeks paid vacation and two weeks paid upgrade training. Please upload your resume by **July 17, 2026**, to [www.ualocal357.com](http://www.ualocal357.com). This link will be on the home page. All qualified applicants will be notified, after the date above, of requirements along with the date and time of their interview.

**UPCOMING UNION EVENTS:**

Sportsman Alliance Dinner – **Friday, July 10** – Must Check with Lori.

Growlers Baseball Game – **Saturday, July 11** – A Postcard with all the details was sent – RSVP by July 4.

Annual Picnic – **Saturday - July 18** – A Postcard with all the details was sent – RSVP by July 4.

Golf Outing – **Saturday - Sept. 12**. Details to follow.

Call Lori at (269) 679-3708 for details on any of the events.

**UNION DUES REMINDERS:** Phone call reminders to pay your dues will not be made. Cash is accepted at the Union Hall for any payments. You also have the option to pay your union dues through the Local 357 website @ [www.ualocal357.com](http://www.ualocal357.com). Note that you must add a 4% fee for using this site. ... so, if you are paying a month of dues at \$34.00... you need to pay \$35.36. Other ways to pay include sending a check, stopping by the Union Hall, dropping off a payment in the drop box outside the front door or calling Lori at (269) 679-3708 and paying with a credit card.

**RETIREE MEETING:** Retiree lunch meetings will now be **BREAKFAST** on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of every month. Breakfast will commence at 9 am at **The Crew**, 5200 Portage Rd, Portage, MI. The phone no. for the location is (269) 337-9800.

**CHANGE OF STATUS:** If you have a change of status for example: married, divorced, 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 and you only have 30 days from the date of the event to make the change.

**There also 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 Sam Bottom and family on the birth of a son, Grayson.

**CONDOLENCES:** Condolences to the family of life member, Lynn Roemer, who passed away recently.

**Local 370, con't**  
suspended, unable to vote for a period of 1 year or run for office for a period of 2 years and subject to a \$50.00 reinstatement fee. Dues must be paid in 3-month increments according to our by-laws. Dues will be accepted up to 6:45 on union meeting nights.

Members wishing to take the U.A. welding certification test can contact the Training Center for application and testing dates.

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

If you shop on the internet, SHOP UNION MADE, log on to [www.shopunionmade.com](http://www.shopunionmade.com).

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



**Local 111**  
Plumbers, Pipe  
Fitters & HVAC  
Service

UA Local 111  
UPPER PENINSULA – UNION MEETING: The next Union Meeting will be held in Escanaba on Thursday, July 30 at 7:30 PM. All members are encouraged to attend.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** To Local 111 for taking 1st place at the Upper Peninsula Building Trades 41st Annual Golf Outing at Terrace Bluff Golf Club in Gladstone, finishing 11-under. Team members included Dan Soderman, Tim Trotter, Mike Gillis, and Dave Mason, with Mike Gillis also earning the Longest Drive. We also want to recognize all of our other Local 111 teams who participated and represented the local throughout the day.

**TRAINING: July 11-12** Local 111 is offering **EPA 608 Universal Certification training** at the Escanaba Training Center. This certification is required for anyone who maintains, services, repairs, or disposes of equipment that could release refrigerant. **Registration deadline is July 2.** To register, contact Training Coordinator John Antoncew at [jantoncew@ua111.com](mailto:jantoncew@ua111.com).

**ONLINE REFERRAL PROGRAM** will go into effect on June 1, 2026.

**REFERRAL RULES UPDATE:** Due to recent referral rules change, text messages from the Local are now more important than ever. If you are not receiving texts, call the hall to update your information.

**WORK OPPORTUNITIES:** Members interested in 1-day shutdowns should contact Business Agent/Dispatcher Scott Pendergraft in the Escanaba Office. Call the Escanaba or Marquette Office for updates: Layoff Line – Ext. #7. All job calls will be posted via our new **online referral program**. The user guide, along with mobile app and desktop login instructions, are available on the website at [lu111.com](http://lu111.com). If you have any questions, please contact Business Agent/Dispatcher Scott Pendergraft.

**MRA FUND:** The IRS requires substantiation for all MRA debit card transactions. Many members have received request letters from Zenith American Solutions. It is YOUR responsibility to submit the requested documentation promptly. Failure to respond will result in suspension of your card until documentation is received. You can review transactions and upload documentation through the Zenith Portal or App. MRA cards can no longer be used for purchases through the online FSA Store or other vendors that use the same merchant category codes. Eligible items may still be purchased from these websites using another form of payment and submitted for reimbursement according to plan rules. This change helps ensure compliance with plan guidelines and prevent ineligible purchases. Your MRA card may continue to be used for eligible expenses at approved providers and merchants. **For any questions or assistance**, please contact the Fund Office at **866-823-4730**.

**NEW MEMBER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:** Beginning Dec. 1, 2025, our Health & Welfare Plan will partner with Ulliance to offer the Life Advisor Member Assistance Program (MAP). This confidential, no-cost benefit is available to members and covered dependents and provides 24/7 support for personal and work-related challenges. To access services, call 800-448-8326 or [www.lifeadvisor.com](http://www.lifeadvisor.com).

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

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

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

**APPRENTICES:** You are required to attend four union **(Continued next column)**



**Local 671**

UA Local 671  
MONROE – The next union meeting will be held on **July 16, 2026, at 7pm.** The Executive Board will also have a meeting on **July 16th, 2026, at 5pm.** If anyone would like to come in front of the E-Board, please contact the Union Hall. There will be food and beverages at the June 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.

Due to the National Convention, the August meeting has been moved to **Thursday, August 27th.** We will send a push notification out in the App.

**Golf Outing:** Brothers and Sisters, please come out and support our golf outing on July 11<sup>th</sup> at Green Meadows Golf course. Shotgun start at 8am and a 4-man scramble format. Tickets are \$100 each and must be **purchased by July 7<sup>th</sup>.** This is the only event that we have that raises money for our Scholarship and Benevolence fund. Come out and help us make it a great event. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact me (Mike Jewell) at the Union Hall or on my cell.

**Health & Welfare:** Just a reminder, if you use your MRA card to pay for dental or vision, make sure you inform Carly at the Union Hall so your MRA and be refunded from your dental and vision account.

Effective June 1 the hours required to qualify for Health insurance will go back to 145 hours per month. There will be a notice coming out in the coming weeks.

**Retiree Luncheon:** The next retiree luncheon will be Thursday July 30 at noon at the Union Hall. All luncheons are the last Thursday of the month. I hope to see you there.

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

**In Closing:** As we approached the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday and our Country's 250<sup>th</sup> birthday, please keep a few things in mind while enjoying our holiday and celebrating with fireworks. Always follow some good safe practice while handling fireworks. Keep a safe distance from ignited fireworks, never allow young children to handle them, have a bucket of water nearby, never light more than one firework at a time.

By using common sense and practicing proper safety measures, everyone can enjoy a fun festive injury free 4th of July. Be safe and Happy Birthday America!  
Mike Jewell: email: [mike@ualocal671.com](mailto:mike@ualocal671.com)  
Kirk Lavoy: email: [kirk@ualocal671.com](mailto:kirk@ualocal671.com)  
Carly Neely: Insurance Line (734) 241-6180 email: [carly@ualocal671.com](mailto:carly@ualocal671.com)

**Local 111, con't**

meetings each year.

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

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

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

**MSHA TRAINING:** Registration and cancellations are handled online at [unconstruction.org](http://unconstruction.org) under the MSHA Calendar.



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

UA Local 174

**COOPERSVILLE – MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** The monthly membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 7, 2026 at 7:00pm in our Assembly Hall at 1008 O'Malley Dr in Coopersville. The front office will remain open until 6:55pm.

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

**Retiree Breakfast:** will be held Thursday, July 9, 2026 at 9am at New Beginnings Restaurant in Coopersville.

**Condolences:** It is with sadness that brothers Leonard Dockter (6/6/26) and Jerome Hel-sen (6/10/26) passed away. Please keep their families in your thoughts and prayers.

**Volunteers needed - Family Picnic:** This year's Local 174 family picnic will be held on Saturday, July 18 at Heritage Landing in Muskegon from 11 AM – 4 PM. Volunteers will be needed at the picnic for stations as well as set-up and take-down. Please call Therese at the office if you can volunteer. Thank you!

**Dave Reynolds Memorial Golf Outing:** Saturday, Aug. 1 at The Falls at Barber Creek with an 8:30am Shotgun start. This is a 4-person scramble, \$80 per person, \$320 per team. Each team must have 2 UA members on the team. Please contact Therese at the front office to sign up. Space is limited to the first 30 teams to sign up and pay. Money must be paid no later than July 24.

**Operation United:** As we begin planning for next year's event supporting West Michigan Veterans, we are currently working to identify veteran Union members in need of assistance with yard work and minor exterior home projects next spring. If you know a veteran Union member who could benefit from help, please reach out so we can begin building our project list for 2027.

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

**Contract Ratification:** At the special called meeting on July 1, the members voted to accept the bargaining committee's recommendation and ratify the new three-year collective bargaining agreement. The new agreement is as follows: 1st year \$4.20/ 2nd year \$3.30/ 3rd year \$3.30 \$10.80 over 3 years.

**Language changes:** Section 13.2 - reduces the number from issuing orders from 4 to 2 to receive foreman pay.

Section 10.2 - Health care will be on hours paid not hours worked. \*The contractors will now be administering the ESTA benefit.

**Wage Allocation:** The 2026 wage allocation was voted on at the June 2, 2026 membership meeting. Results were \$2.25 increase on the check, \$0.05 increase to the Retiree Bonus Program, \$0.50 increase to the Pension fund, and \$0.50 increase to the Health Fund.

**Organizing Update:** *Recently I've been in the Upper Peninsula and the east side of the state helping with manpower needs in these areas. Speaking to the workers, it's the same narrative no matter the geographical area – workers receiving substandard wages and benefits. Maybe you know someone whether it's a friend or relative that is in the trade in different are-as, get with me and I can point them in the right direction! I will say it time and time again, if these workers are doing our work they deserve the same wages, benefits, and opportunities we get! SOLIDARITY!!*

*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  
EAP: (888) 238-6232  
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

**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.

**Retiree Dues:** If you are retiring, it is the member's responsibility to inform the Union Hall on the final day of work in order to request a reduction in window dues at the Retiree Rate. Additionally, it is the member's responsibility to call Ext. 17 to notify dispatch of your retirement, providing your name, phone number, contractor name, and the date of your last day worked.

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

**Training News:**  
**ANNOUNCEMENT:** Congratulations to the following apprentices on fulfilling their ap-prenticeship obligations and becoming Local 174's most recent Journeyman! Bailey Bursley, Brianna Lampe-Sedgwick, Corey Southworth, Brianna Conway, Patrick Leitz, Jason Venckus, Aric Hopwood, Bradley Schaner

**ATTENTION:** Members must notify the Training Office when licenses are renewed so records can be updated. Failure to report renewals may affect dispatch.

**FIRST AID:** First Aid/CPR/BBP class will be the second Thursday of the month (every month – unless otherwise noted), from 5:00pm-9:00pm. The next class will be held Thursday, July 9th, 2026.

**MED GAS INSTALLER:** Scheduled to start on Monday, August 31, 2026 @ 5:00pm. Class will run weekly on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings @ 5-9:00pm. Deadline to register is Aug. 24, 2026.

**PLUMBING TEST PREP CLASS:** Scheduled to start on Thursday, July 9, 2026 @ 5:00pm. Class will run weekly on Thursday evenings and the dates are July 9, 16, 23, and August 6, 2026 @ 5:00pm-8:00pm. In addition, a Masters prep class is scheduled for Thursday, August 13.

**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, July 8th, and the test to follow Thursday, July 9th at 5pm.

**OPEN WELD:** Available on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month; Watch the Facebook 'Local Union 174 Members' group page for any updates.

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

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



## Plumbers & Pipe Fitters Local 333

### UA Local 333

LANSING – July's union meeting will be held July 15, 2026, at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 48911 at 6:30pm. August's union meeting will be held Aug. 12, 2026, at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 48911 at 6:30pm. THIS IS THE 2<sup>ND</sup> WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH.

**ATTENTION MEMBERS:** We have a new phone system, so when you call please listen carefully to the prompts as they have changed.

For members who have students going to college or trade schools, scholarship applications are now available by calling Joni at the Jackson office 517-784-1106 ext.4. Applications must be dropped off at the Jackson office by July 1, 2026.

**DUES:** Effective immediately we are no longer able to accept money orders as a due's payment.

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

### Weld classes are ongoing.

Lansing Training Center, 16180 National Parkway, Lansing, MI. 48906. Monday and Wednesday 4-8pm Tuesday and Thursday 4-8pm

Jackson Training Center, 3101 Allied Industrial Dr. Jackson, MI. 49201

Tuesday and Thursday 4-8pm Monday and Wednesday - we will schedule a class if we have sufficient sign-up

Battle Creek Weld Class (KCC) RMT, 405 Hill Brady Rd. Battle Creek, MI. 49037.

Monday and Thursday 4-8pm

**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 the Lansing Training Center 517-323-0333. Even though the Training Center sends everyone's continuities to be renewed, between changes of addresses and the Post Office, there is plenty of room for error. It is the member's responsibility to make sure their certifications are current.

**Please sign up for classes 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.

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

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

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

**ATTENTION: WHEN YOU HAVE A LIFE CHANGE, MARRIAGE, DIVORCE, BIRTH OF A CHILD, CHANGE OF ADDRESS, OR PHONE NUMBER. PLEASE CONTACT YOUR REGIONAL OFFICE WITH THE UPDATED INFORMATION, REQUEST NEW BENEFICIARY PAPERWORK IF CHANGES NEED TO BE MADE.**

**Happy anniversary to Kenny Behl and his lovely wife Carolyn, who celebrated their**



## Plumbers Local 98

### UA Local 98

DETROIT – Membership of Plumbers Local 98.

Summer is finally here and 4<sup>th</sup> of July is just around the corner! Have fun, enjoy and be safe! "A little bit of Summer is what the whole year is about." *John Mayer*

**Congratulations to Brother Kyle Jent and his wife Desiree on the birth of their son, Benjamin Jay Jent born on June 12, 2026.** In addition, little Benjamin is also the nephew and grandson of proud Sister Hailey Jent (aunt), Brother Derik Schultz (uncle) and Brother Paul Smith (grandpa!)

**Our next regular monthly union meeting will be held on Thursday, July 9, 2026 at 6:00pm.**

**The next board meeting is Thursday, July 9, 2026 at 4:30pm** prior to the regular monthly meeting. The Executive Board meetings are generally held the first Thursday of the month at 4:30pm and before all Union Meetings.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The August meeting will be held on Thursday, August 20, 2026 at 6:00pm due to a scheduling conflict.

**Retiree Luncheon:** The next retiree luncheon is **Wednesday, July 8, 2026 at Noon** at the PLUMBERS LOCAL 98 hall. Please contact Dave Schroeder or Dominic Fanto if you have any questions, or call the hall.

**Recent Retirements:** On behalf of Local 98, we would like to thank and congratulate Bruce Ross and Brother Michael Holleton for the many years of service with Macomb Mechanical working in the office. They both recently retired June 1, 2026. Mr. Ross was the owner of defunct J.B. Cain Mechanical Contractors and Brother Holleton has been an active member of Local 98 since 1988. Let us wish them well in their well deserved retirement.

**Marathon Health:** Our first two Marathon Health Clinics (Sterling Heights & Novi) are now open. For more information, please see their website at [my.marathon.health](http://my.marathon.health) or call 866-434-3255. Participants enrolled in the Fund's Medicare Advantage program are unable to utilize Marathon Health. Contact an officer with any questions.

**Retiree Dental:** We are proud to announce we've been able to add Dental coverage for our retirees. Information has been mailed to members and retirees. For questions, please contact BeneSys.

**Benefit Update:** To better serve you, Local 98 has changed record keepers for our Defined Contribution plan from BeneSys to Empower. Empower can be reached at (833) 569-2433. We have also changed our HRA tracking portal. Any questions on setting up your new accounts please call an officer.

**Annual Summer Picnic** was held on Saturday, June 20, 2026 at Lake St. Clair Metropark. Thank you to all who attended our annual picnic. We would like to thank the following sponsors for their generous donations: Macomb Group and Milwaukee Tools; as well as W.J. O'Neill for donating two bikes. A special thank you to our officers who helped, especially Jimmy Cools; in addition to the following app-

Shoppers.

### Local 333 cont'd

**60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026.**

Congratulations to all our members on the arrival of your little bundle of joy! May this precious baby bring immense love and happiness into your lives.

Congratulations to all our members that have retired.

"Wishing you good luck, happiness, and health as you begin your new journey."

Todd West Jan. 1, 2026

Shane Miller Jan. 1, 2026

Eric Hurst January 1, 2026

Timothy Kinney March 1, 2026

Todd Johnson April 4, 2026

Tim Somerville May 1, 2026

Michael Pawson June 1, 2026

Thomas Brown June 1, 2026

Joseph Buckhave June 1, 2026

John Hanshew June 1, 2026

To our members' children that graduated from high school or college, we wish you a very happy and fulfilling future.

Deepest sympathy to the family of Cynthia Sholty who passed away June 21, 2026, she was the wife of departed Lansing member Gary Sholty. We are so very sorry for your loss.

Local 333 Officers and Staff are wishing everyone a very happy and safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

prentices who manned the grill and helped with the setups: Liam Bauer, Cameron Seaman and Connor Socrates. Dawn Melancon won the barrel of cheer, Joziyah Locke won the boys bike (Jeff Kavalor's grandson), and Luna Hernandez won the girls bike (Paul Smith's granddaughter). Marathon Health also attended and shared information with members and raffled prizes. The weather held out and was a perfect day!

**Attention 98 Softball players:** Wishing our Local 98 softball team "Good Luck" at The 47<sup>th</sup> UA National Softball Tournament this weekend, June 26-28, 2026 in Cincinnati, Ohio.

**Local 98 Scholarship Committee** will be awarding scholarships to the children of Local 98 members and accepting Detroit Plumbers CARES Scholarship applications for the 2026/2027 academic year. You can find the requirements and application itself in Resource Tab at ualocal98.org or call the hall for more information. **Application deadline is June 29, 2026.**

**Detroit Plumbers CARES 2026 Scholarship Golf Outing** will be held at Mystic Creek Golf Course in Milford on **Saturday, August 1, 2026.** 9am shotgun start. Call the hall or email us at [golfouting@ualocal98.org](mailto:golfouting@ualocal98.org) to sign up your teams and for sponsorship opportunities. *Please be sure to sign up soon as spots are limited!*

**The Ulliance Member Assistance Program** is available to all members, retirees, spouses/domestic partners and dependents through the age of 26. This benefit has no out-of-pocket costs and includes confidential mental health counseling, coaching, and 24/7 crisis support. In addition, there are free 30-minute consultations for legal and financial matters, a discount program for goods and services, and free identity theft protection. To find out more, go to [lifeadvisor.com](http://lifeadvisor.com) or call 800-448-8326.

**Pipe Up** is the official podcast of the UA General President. The program offers monthly stories, skills and a look into the lives of our membership. Access the podcast at [ua.org/pipeup](http://ua.org/pipeup).

**In Memoriam:** Let us remember our family, friends, brothers and sisters who have recently passed: Brother Gerald Hayden, he was initiated on 5-14-1964 and was a 62-year member; Brother Donald J. Kinner, Jr was initiated on 7-14-1988 and was a 37-year member.

**Membership Dues Reminder:** Friendly reminder to stay up-to-date on your membership dues to avoid suspension fees and/or being expelled. If you have not paid your second quarter dues yet, please pay them as soon as possible to avoid interruption to your benefits.

**Expelled Members:** We currently have two expelled members as of June 1, 2026, James Shimko and Michael A. Hubbard.

**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](mailto: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.

**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.

We are currently looking for Industrial, Residential and Service Plumbers. If you know anyone working nonunion, have them call us.

Applications are now being accepted for our apprenticeship program. Learn more at [www.plumbers98TC.org/apprenticeship](http://www.plumbers98TC.org/apprenticeship).

(Continued next column)



### UA Local 704

SOUTHFIELD – The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday, July 8, at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

Our condolences to the McElmeel family on the passing of brother Thomas McElmeel, a 54-year member

Registration is open for the 704 annual golf outing taking place on July 18<sup>th</sup> at Lakes of Taylor a link to register can be found on the website.

There will be a vote on allocations of money taking place on July 8<sup>th</sup> polls will open at noon and close at 5:30pm

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 update any change of address or phone number changes with the Local Union Hall.**

A speedy recovery for all our sick and injured members.

## Local 98, con't

Additional information can be found at [www.ualocal98.org](http://www.ualocal98.org), Facebook and Instagram.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** Hall Operating Hours 8am to 4pm

Gary Glaser, Business Manager (313) 580-0148 [gglaser98@ualocal98.org](mailto:gglaser98@ualocal98.org)

Dan Nixon, FST (248) 752-3702 [dnixon98@ualocal98.org](mailto:dnixon98@ualocal98.org)

Rufus Hamilton, Business Agent (313)542-2758 [rhamilton98@ualocal98.org](mailto:rhamilton98@ualocal98.org)

Jim Cools, Business Agent (248)762-9221 [jcools@ualocal98.org](mailto:jcools@ualocal98.org)

Paul Smith, Business Agent (313)938-2477 [psmith@ualocal98.org](mailto:psmith@ualocal98.org)

Jeff Kavalor, Business Agent (313)938-1554 [jkavalor@ualocal98.org](mailto:jkavalor@ualocal98.org)

Luke Garcia, Organizer (248) 763-2187 [lgarcia@uanet.org](mailto:lgarcia@uanet.org)

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

*"Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards."*

Soren Kierkegaard (1813 - 1855)

*"Besides the noble art of getting things done, there is a nobler art of leaving things undone. The wisdom of life consists in the elimination of nonessentials."*

—Lin Yutang

*"It is dangerous to be right when the government is wrong."*

—Voltaire (1694 - 1778)

*"I am an old man, but in many senses a very young man. And this is what I want you to be, young, young all your life."*

—Pablo Casals (1876 - 1973)

*"Self-confidence is the first requisite to great undertakings."*

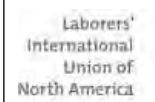
—Samuel Johnson (1709 - 1784)

*"If a man does not make new acquaintances as he advances through life, he will soon find himself alone. A man should keep his friendships in constant repair."*

—Samuel Johnson (1709 - 1784)

*"Abuse a man unjustly, and you will make friends for him."*

—Edgar Watson Howe (1853 - 1937)



Feel the Power

### 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](http://www.laborerslocal1191.org) and the "Laborers' Local 1191" Facebook page for important information about your Local Union.

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

**Monthly General Membership Meetings:** All General Membership Meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Local Union, located at 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208 (except for holidays), unless the Membership receives notice of a meeting cancellation, rescheduling and/or a venue change. *The July General Membership meeting is scheduled for July 10, 2026, in observance of Independence Day. The General Membership Meeting for August 2026 will be held on the 7<sup>th</sup> of August, 2026.*

**Monthly Retiree Council Meetings:** Retiree Council meetings are the last Friday of each month. The meetings are held at 11:00 am at the Local Union, located at 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208. **The July Retiree Council Meeting is scheduled for the 31<sup>st</sup> of July, 2026. The August Retire Council Meeting is scheduled for August 28, 2026.**

**Union Dues For 2026:** Regular monthly dues are \$35.00 for Active Members. Retiree monthly dues will remain the same \$8.00. Members can now Pay Dues online 24/7 on our website at [www.laborerslocal1191.org](http://www.laborerslocal1191.org)!!! To make online dues payments, click the "Pay Dues" tab in upper right-hand corner and follow the instructions.

**Important Notice Regarding Dues Payments:** According to the Uniform Local Union Constitution Article VIII sec. 4. The monthly dues are due on the first day of the month and unless paid on or before the last day of the following month, the member will be suspended by the International Union without notice. **To better serve our membership, the Local accepts in-person Cash, Credit and Debit payments.**

**Save Time & Money: We urge members to make their payments timely to avoid additional costs! Monthly dues can be deducted from your vacation check and sent directly to the Local Union. Please stop by the Local Union office to get one of the "Vacation Monthly Dues Deduction" forms or you may call the Local Union office at (313)-894-2241 to have one mailed to you. FYI: Members who sign up for Vacation deduction and pay (6) months at a time will receive a 1-month rebate!!!**

**New Projects:** Members are urged to report the start of any/all new projects to the Local Union. Members working for a contractor who may be looking to hire additional laborers are urged to call the Union Hall and help a brother or sister get referred out to work. The next time, it may be your name on the list when that call comes in for work.

**Referral List:** Every member who is looking for work must call or come to the Local Union Office on Mondays between 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm to put their name on the Out-of-Work list. You must have an Out-of-Work skills sheet filled out and on file in order to be referred out for work by the Local Union. **FYI: It is the Member's responsibility to regularly notify the Local Union of any changes to his/her skillsets. It could mean the difference of being sent to work or not!**

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

**Drug Test Renewal:** Members are reminded to keep your Yearly Drug Test current and also your 18 safety modules. You can schedule an appointment to take your modules at our training schools located in Perry, Wayne, St. Joseph, or Iron Mountain by calling (517) 625-4919 or by visiting the training school website at [www.mltai.org](http://www.mltai.org) to schedule appointments for modules. You can also contact the Local Union office at (313) 894-2241 to use a Local Union computer to complete required modules.

**Training:** Check out the training classes available to you at no cost. Journeymen and Apprentices may still obtain training through MLTAI's online training at <https://lms.mltai.org>. Types of training you can take include, but are not limited to: OSHA 30, Asbestos Awareness, Silica Awareness, Infectious Disease Awareness, Respirator Awareness, Hazard Communication, Blood-borne Pathogens Awareness, and Lead Awareness. The above training and certifications are all available at the training center. **By taking the OSHA 30 your 18 MUST Safety modules are updated as well.** If you are not able to go to the Training Center for MUST Safety Modules contact the Local Union to assist you with making arrangements to complete them.

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

**Beneficiary Reminder:** Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice on all of your LIUNA Local 1191, American Income Life Accidental Benefit, Pension and Healthcare fund documents. The law requires that in the event of an untimely death your benefits go to your estate and may be taxable if/when no beneficiary has been designated. **Each of the above individual benefits needs to have a designated beneficiary.**

**Death Certificates:** Please always submit to the Local Union a copy of a Death Certificate for deceased active or retired members. **FYI: The death certificate is required for any designated beneficiary to receive available benefits.**

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

**IMPORTANT UNION BENEFIT CONTACT INFORMATION: Michigan Laborers' Fringe Benefits Funds (Annuity, Insurance, Pension)**

\* Telephone: (877) 645-2267

\* Fax: (517) 689-6016

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

\*Delta Dental: (800) 524-0149

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Pension)

\*Telephone: (248) 641-4942

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Healthcare)

\*Telephone: (800) 228 0048

### CASH FOR \$CRAP METAL

**Aluminum - Copper - Brass  
Nickel - Alloys - Carbide  
Radiators - Lead - Batteries**

<p style="margin: 0;"><b>McNichols</b> Scrap Iron &amp; Metal Co. 6500 E. McNichols (near Mt. Elliott) <a href="http://mcnicholsscrap.com">mcnicholsscrap.com</a> <b>(313) 365-6100</b></p>	<p style="margin: 0;"><b>Detroit</b> Iron &amp; Metal Co. 8300 Dix (corner Lonyo) <a href="http://detroitironandmetal.com">detroitironandmetal.com</a> <b>(313) 841-5100</b></p>
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## Local 292 Sheet Metal Workers

### Sheet Metal Workers Local 292

TROY – The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 8, 2026, at Troy Community Center 3179 Livernois, Troy 48083. Use the Banquet Entrance. Nominees/Candidates will have an opportunity to address the membership at this meeting. The E-Board/Stewards meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 29, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall.

**RETIRES NOTICE:** The next Retiree Luncheon will be on 8/6/26 at 12:30 pm at Madhouse Bar and Grill, 32787 Stephenson Hwy, Madison Heights, 48071. It's always nice to catch up and stay connected. Please get in touch with the union hall via our website [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com), click on the "Contact Us" page if you would like to be added to the retiree email list.

**BENEFIT INCREASES EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026:** The Board of Trustees of Sheet Metal Workers Local 292 Supplemental Unemployment Fund is pleased to announce the following benefit improvements effective June 1, 2026.



PAUL GUALDONI

**Journeyman/Apprentice:** The Benefit payable under this Plan will increase from \$225 to \$275.

**Classified A/B:** The Benefit payable under this Plan will increase from \$102 to \$124

**Classified C:** The Benefit payable under this Plan will increase from \$30 to \$37

Please note that all existing credits will also be increased.

**HRA BENNY CARD APP:** We want to share an important update regarding your Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) and your Benny Card. Effective June 8, 2026, your HRA will move to a new platform designed to make managing your benefits easier, faster, and more convenient. To access the Mobile App, search for the **BeneSys Member Reimbursement** app in your app store. Our Member Services team is still here for you. If you have questions or need help during the transition, please don't hesitate to contact the Fund Office at 248-641-4992

**LOCAL 292 ANNUITY/WAGE DEFERRAL:** Beginning 1/1/26 the Annuity Fund will offer both pre-tax 403 (B) and Roth 403 (B) contribution options. Check your mail for flyers from Local 292 & John Hancock explaining the new option.

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

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

**MEMBER ASSISTANCE. UNION EAP.** Union EAP provides professional guidance for mental health, substance abuse recovery, and complex healthcare navigation for all active participants of the Health Plan. Beyond wellness, they offer expert assistance with legal consultations and financial planning to ensure you have the support you need for every part of your life, all completely confidential. Available 24/7, 365 days a year. 1-855-500-1915.

**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. **Please contact Paul or Tony for updated work opportunities.**

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

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

**TEXT BLAST NOTIFICATION:** If you haven't been receiving texts and would like to be added or wish to opt out of text blast, please get in touch with the Union Hall and we will make the change.

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

**SAFETY MODS AND DRUG TESTS:** To access your MUST account, please go to [www.mustonline.org](http://www.mustonline.org) or access it through the "links" tab at [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com). If you haven't already done so, you must create an account to access your information. If you cannot access the MUST site to complete your safety mods you need to contact the Union Hall.

**DUES:** Membership dues must be paid in advance of the month for which they are due. The union hall is not open on Saturday or Sunday; therefore, if you pay dues on either of those days, it will not be processed until Monday. If you are on suspension warning, your dues are 60 days late. To avoid suspension, dues must be paid online or at the union hall by 4:00 p.m. on the last business day of the month. Payments received after 4:00 p.m. on the last business day of the month will not be processed and you WILL go suspended. All members are responsible for making sure any required fees, i.e. late fees or service fees, are included if paid online ([sheetmetal292.com](http://sheetmetal292.com)).

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

**CONSTITUTION AND RITUAL:** The new Constitution and Ritual of the 3rd SMART General Convention is now available online. Go to [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com), click on the Constitution/Ritual tab located at the top of the home page. The Union Hall now has hard copies if anyone is interested in having one.

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

**UNION HALL HOURS:** Hall office hours are 8:00 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

(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 Aug. 13, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

- \*Zone 1 July 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.
- \*Zone 2 July 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m.
- \*Zone 3 July 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. (Freeland)
- \*Zone 3 August 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)
- \*Zone 4 July 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.
- \*Zone 5 August 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

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

Please register on our website at [www.sheetmetal7.org](http://www.sheetmetal7.org) for the most up to date information on meeting schedules for 2026. Once you are registered it must be approved 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 to equalize pay and eliminate the incentive to subcontract outside of your area. For more information visit the official website at [www.labelscantireport.com](http://www.labelscantireport.com) and download the official app by texting "SMART" to 90975.

**Zone 1 Info:** Work in the Zone 1 area has started picking up recently and looks to remain strong throughout the year. If you become unemployed, please update your status with Eric and Vance (Apprentices please notify Ryan as well). If you are experiencing any difficulties with Unemployment, ESTA, Insurance, or Pensions, please contact Eric or Vance for assistance. Any Journeypersons interested in any upgrade classes, please contact Ryan at the Zone 1 Training Center for additional information (269) 781-7183 (class availability depends on the number of individuals interested).

**Monthly Retiree meeting:** 2nd Tuesday of each month 1:00 pm located at Sarah's Place 1100 Page Ave, Jackson MI 49203.

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

**ZONE 2 Info:** Work in Zone 2 is good and looks to be that way through the summer. If your employment status changes please reach out to me. There will be a change in the date of your next Zone 2 union meeting, it was originally set for July 21st it will be moved to July 28th. The meeting will be the same place and time as normal. Don't forget about the 36nd annual Local 7 Golf Outing, Saturday, September 12th at Briar Ridge Golf Course in Montrose, get your four person team signed up as soon as you can. Dues are always due prior to the first of the month and keep me informed of any address or phone number changes. **Solidarity, Mike Adams**

**ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw)** Work in the area is starting to pick up slowly. Next Zone 3 meeting will be at the Freeland hall on 7/8/2026. Be sure your contact information is up to date with the Lansing office if there has been any changes (517)882-4064. Next Retiree meeting is June 23rd at the Ponderosa on Wilder Rd in Bay City. **In Solidarity, Joe Dotson**

**ZONE 3 Info: (Traverse City)** Work is strong and will continue into next year. If anyone needs assistance with anything, contact me. It is up to you to make sure your monthly hours statements from Benesys are correct and make sure your phone and address are correct with the Hall and Benesys. Work safe and keep an eye on your brother or sister next to you. On a bigger note, men and women have died upholding our contract, please follow what is in it. **In Solidarity, John Amalfitano**

**ZONE 4 Info:** Work is really picked up in our area. We have everybody working. Looks like it's going to be a great summer and fall. Don't forget about the Local 7 golf outing at Briar Ridge in Montrose this Sept 12, registration forms available on website. I hope everyone has a great summer. **Thanks your brother Scott Brotherton.**

**ZONE 5 Info** Work in the UP is back in full swing. Don't forget to get your Mine Safety Training up to date. If you need a refresher please sign up for that at [www.upconstruction.org](http://www.upconstruction.org). If you have a change of address please call me or the Lansing hall to get that updated. The next Retiree Breakfast will be at Summer Place in Republic on July 8th at 10:00 am. Also if you still have not responded to the Education/ Training text poll, please send me your top 3 choices **In Solidarity, Brandon Langenfeld.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Eric Farrington** (Agent-Lansing/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

every four certifications) with the 4 Plus logo, hard hat stickers, and bragging rights. If you would like to be a "4-plus" member, contact your Local 292 Training Center at: 313-623-9390 (Dave) or Quintin at 248.495.6764.

**Attention all Welders!** We are looking for any members interested in a Saturday welding class on July 11, July 20 & July 25. These classes would be for members ready to obtain an AWS welding certification, learn how to weld, or need to practice welding.

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



## Local 80 Sheet Metal Workers

### Sheet Metal Workers Local 80

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

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** Next General Membership Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 28 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:** Next executive board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 14th at 5:00 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2nd Floor, Southfield. \*Notice date change\*

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

**RETIREE NEWS & MEETING SCHEDULE:** 2026 Retiree Meetings: Monday June 15<sup>th</sup>, August 17<sup>th</sup>, October 19<sup>th</sup> (annual party) & December 21<sup>st</sup>. All membership meetings start at 12:30 pm, held at the Local 80 hall. Please enter the hall through the ramp entrance.

Any questions regarding joining the Retirees Association please contact Steve Murzen at 248-652-0593. Retiree lapel pins with the SMWIA logo are available to all members of the local 80 retirees' association. They will be available to all retiree association members at our general membership meetings. Please see the general membership-meeting schedule above.

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

**THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE:** Geoffrey Anglin, Joshua Stine, Brandon Schein, Daniel Quinn, Ryan Stolber, Randal Kaufmann Jr., Charles Bair, Iro Galea, Robert Hocking, James Thornton, Nicholas Kelly, Dustin Baugh, Jason Dessert, Timothy Stewart, Justin Frederick & Charles Jones.

**GOLF OUTING: Tickets are SOLD OUT. Please contact the hall to be added to the waitlist.** Please join us on July 11<sup>th</sup> at Cracklewood Golf Club in Macomb Twp. Tickets can be reserved at a cost of \$125 a ticket. Your ticket will include coffee, donuts, a bloody mary bar, lunch at the turn, open bar up until 1 hour after golf, beer & pop available on the course and a wonderful steak dinner. Please contact the hall with any questions you may have or to reserve your ticket! \*Payment must be received to lock in your ticket, there is no holding tickets without payment.\*

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

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

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

**ADDRESS CHANGES:** If you have a new address please make sure to let the hall know. We will take care of your account with the union hall, which includes the tradesman paper. You will also need to call Benesys at 800-400-7710 to update for insurance and pension documents.

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

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

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

**OUT-OF-WORK LIST:** Members must re-register bi-annually: March 1 through March 20 and 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.

**Send proof of UIA benefit payments within 21 days** of the payment date to receive SUB benefits.

Send your unemployment proof to [smw80subfund@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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 11; Picnic – Aug. 1

*"Do what you feel in your heart to be right - for you'll be criticized anyway. You'll be damned if you do, and damned if you don't."*  
– Eleanor Roosevelt (1884 - 1962)

*"The enemy is anybody who's going to get you killed, no matter which side he's on."*  
– Joseph Heller (1923 - 1999), *Catch 22*

*"The greatest good you can do for another is not just share your riches, but to reveal to him his own."*  
– Benjamin Disraeli (1804 - 1881)

*"Americans are overreachers; overreaching is the most admirable of the many American excesses."*  
– George F. Will (1941 - )

*"Organized crime in America takes in over \$40 billion dollars a year and spends very little on office supplies."*  
– Woody Allen (1935 - )



## Heat and Frost Insulators Local 47

### Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 47

LANSING – The next Regular Meeting will be Friday, July 10, 2026 at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at Local 47's Union Hall at 16475 Ingersoll Rd., Lansing, MI 48906.

Reservations are now being accepted for this year's Golf Outing, which will be held on Saturday, July 18. If you would like to participate, please call or text the Union Office at (517) 708-0665 with the names of your team members along with whether each person would like Chicken or Steak for dinner. The cost of this year's outing is \$85 per person or \$340 per team. Please do not wait until the last minute to register, as spots fill quickly. All teams must be submitted no later than July 3.

Please make sure to call or text all starts and layoffs to the Union Office. Be sure to leave your name, the contractor name, and the start or layoff date.

To ensure all Active Members and Retirees continue receiving Robo Calls, please make sure you have not blocked the following number: (804) 441-8365. Several members currently have this number blocked and therefore are not receiving important notifications.

Please notify the Local Union Office of any phone no. or home address changes. We need current member information updated throughout our system, TIC records, and with the International.

If you are a non-active Retiree or a Surviving Spouse and would like to continue receiving the Building Tradesman, please contact the Union Office.

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 Dr., Lansing, MI 48917-9275 Toll Free: (800) 323-8079 Telephone No.: (517) 321-7502 Email: joshkroell@insulators47.com

Joshua Kroell is available by phone to answer questions regarding Pension, Welfare, Vacation Funds, and Special Benefits.

To all Active Members: if you have not submitted your Coordination of Benefits Form, Spousal Form, or Birth Certificates for your children to TIC, no one will be covered under our insurance plan until these items are received. Please contact TIC immediately at (800) 323-8079 and submit the required documentation as soon as possible. Coverage will be reinstated retroactively once the information has been received.

Members with questions regarding Pension and Welfare Funds may contact TIC International at the numbers listed above or visit <http://www.heatfrostlocal47benefits.org>. Please also remember to complete and return all Working Spousal Forms to TIC.

**JATC Coordinator Mitchell Carpenter (616) 375-0538.**

Applications are now open for the Apprenticeship Program. Please call the Union Office or visit [insulators47.com](http://insulators47.com) to complete an application.

Under Duties of Apprenticeship, Section 5.3 Part L, Page 4 of the Apprenticeship Standards states: "According to the Apprenticeship Standards you are required to accurately fill out the online work report no later than ten days from the end of the current work week."



## Heat and Frost Insulators Local 25

### Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25

SOUTHFIELD – UNION MEETING: The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, July 9, at 6 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge Street, Southfield, MI 48033.

We will be having a \$5.00 per ticket 50/50 raffle, with the proceeds benefiting the Breath of Life Foundation to support research for mesothelioma, lung cancer, and other asbestos related diseases.

**ANNUAL PICNIC:** Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25 Annual Picnic will take place on Saturday, Aug. 1, 2026. The festivities will take place at Willow Metropark, Chestnut South Picnic Shelter, 23200 South Huron Road, New Boston, Michigan.

**CHRISTMAS PARTY:** Mark your calendars for the Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25 Annual Christmas Party on Saturday, December 12, 2026. This year's celebration will be held at The Henry, located at 300 Town Center Drive, Dearborn, Michigan, 48126. Additional details will be provided as the date approaches.

**INSTRUCTOR APPLICATIONS:** The J.A.T.C. is accepting applications for instructors. If you are interested in applying, please submit your resume to [marty@heatfrostinsulators25.org](mailto:marty@heatfrostinsulators25.org). If you have any questions regarding the positions, please contact the Apprentice Coordinator, Marty Allen.

**WEBSITE:** Visit our updated website at [www.heatfrostinsulators.org](http://www.heatfrostinsulators.org) to access helpful links and additional member resources.

**CONTACT UPDATE:** We are now using [admin@heatfrostinsulators25.org](mailto:admin@heatfrostinsulators25.org) as the primary email address for all communication with the Union Hall. Please update your contact records accordingly.

**REPORTING JOBS:** A reward will be provided to any member that reports non-union or union mechanical installing insulation under our scope of work. Members with valid leads should contact Eloany Rodriguez at (248) 750-4992 and you will receive a fifty-dollar (\$50.00) gift card.

**JOB STARTS:** As stated in Local 25's Constitution & Bylaws Article III Section 5. Failure to report a job start will automatically result in a fine of \$50.00. 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.

**PER CAPITA:** Please be reminded that 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 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 activated. Please keep in mind, any modules completed outside the quarter requested in, will be paid the following quarter.

**EMPLOYMENT CHANGES:** All employment changes including hire, lay off, fire, shop change, disability, etc. must be called into the Union Hall within 48 hours. This includes employment changes for members, retirees, and travelers. 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 (\$50.00) fine.

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

"A sound mind in a sound body is a short but full description of a happy state in this world."  
—John Locke (1632 - 1704)



## Local 25 Iron Workers

### Iron Workers Local 25

NOVI – The June Union Meeting is Monday June 29, 2026 at 7:00 pm. 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](http://www.ironworkers25.org)).

The Lansing Steward meeting will be Monday June 29, 2026 at 6:00pm. The July Flint Steward meeting will be July 15, 2026 at 5:30 pm. All are welcome.

**A FRINGE FUND PENSION DEPT REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE AT THE NOVI UNION HALL on Wednesday July 1, 2026 from 8:00 am to 12 noon.** If you have questions, give us a call 248-344-9494. Walk-ins are welcome!

**A HEALTH CARE REPRESENTATIVE from the Fringe Benefit Fund office will be at the Novi Union Hall on Wednesday July 29, 2026 from 8am to 12 noon;** to meet with any member(s), to address health care issues or HRA substantiation concerns. Walk-ins are welcome!

**The 125<sup>th</sup> Iron Workers Local 25 Anniversary Celebration & Gala** is Saturday July 18, 2026 from 5pm to 11pm at the Athenium Suite Hotel in Detroit. Individual tickets (\$125.00 ea.) are available on our website [www.ironworkers25.org](http://www.ironworkers25.org)

**Organizer Wanted:** We are seeking a Local 25 JIW in good standing to work as an Organizer to help build our Union's capacity by increasing our Market Share & Signatory Contractors throughout our jurisdiction. Requirements: Self-motivated, team-player, coachable, confident, exceptional listening skills, & high energy. Flexible work schedule. Please send your resume & cover letter by Friday July 31, 2026 to [union@ironworkers25.org](mailto:union@ironworkers25.org)

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

Apprentice applications accepted electronically. Visit our website ([ironworkers25.org](http://ironworkers25.org)) where you can apply online, 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.

The ClickSafety program allows ironworker members to meet a variety of training requirements, offering over 100 online courses in English and Spanish that include many OSHA-authorized courses. Simply log in: <https://sms.copperrange.com/impact/sms/login/>

The username is the member's book # and the password is the FIRST 4 digits of your SSN

**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](http://ironworkers25.org)); to view the 2026 Block Schedule, Roster or Raising Gang Schedule. Please make sure to download the TradeSchool 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.

**The 42<sup>nd</sup> annual Ironworker Instructor Training Program** will be held the week of July 12-17 at Washtenaw Community College in Ann Arbor MI.

24/7 CREDIT-DEBIT CARD processing for Union Dues: Pay via our APP or website [www.ironworkers25.org](http://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).

**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 open-enrollment period (April 1-April 30).

**BENEFIT FOR NEW CHILD:** Any member who has a newborn child, or a new dependent child through marriage MUST NOTIFY the Fringe Benefit Office of your new dependent within 31 days; otherwise wait until the 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.

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

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

Check you online benefit information: [ourbenefitoffice.com/iw25/benefits/](http://ourbenefitoffice.com/iw25/benefits/)

**HRA/Benny Card Audit is continuously under way via US Mail – please respond if you have been contacted. You need to save your receipts for three (3) years.**

**The Iron Workers' Local 25 Novi Chapter Retirees' Club.** The Retirees' Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday, July 7, 2026 at 8:00 am. The Retirees' meeting/luncheon will be Tuesday July 21, 2026 at 10:00 am. All are welcome.

**The West Michigan Chapter Retirees breakfast** will meet Tuesday, July 7, 2026 at 9:00 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 & Picnic will be July 16, 2026; 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 to be held 9:00 am July 31, 2026 at Mom's Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, Michigan, 48183. All are welcome.

**The IRONWORKER Magazine** To subscribe to the digital edition please use the following link: <https://www.ironworkers.org/s/ironworker-digital-sign-up>

**Veterans Crisis Line:** Dial 988, then press 1. Or, you can send a text message to 838255 to received confidential support 24/7. For more information visit [www.veteranscrisisline.net](http://www.veteranscrisisline.net)

**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 Substance-use-disorder.

**When the World feels Heavy: FindTreatment.gov is 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.

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (June 22, 2026 11:11 pm E.S.T.).

"He had discovered a great law of human action, without knowing it - namely, that in order to make a man or a boy covet a thing, it is only necessary to make the thing difficult to obtain."  
—Mark Twain (1835 - 1910),

"It's never too late to be who you might have been."  
—George Eliot (1819 - 1880)



## 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., July 7, at 7 p.m. at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216

**Executive Board Meeting.** The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., July 7, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216

**Mid-Michigan.** The Mid-Michigan meeting is scheduled for Tues., July 14, at 6 pm, at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420.

**Condolences.** It is with great sadness and heavy hearts that we inform you of the passing of the following Brother.

Thomas Huell, Jr. Brother Huell was 51 years old and a 13-year member Brother Huell passed on 6/16/2026. Rest in Peace Brother. Thank you for your years of service.

**Announcement of Resignation – Business Agent Gary Johnsen.** Local 149 announces the resignation of Business Agent Gary Johnsen. We thank Gary for his years of dedicated service, his commitment to our members, and the steady work he put in representing this Local. We wish him the very best moving forward.

**Statewide Election for Business Agent.** We will take nominations for the position of Business Agent at the Aug. 4, 2026, Union Meeting. The newly elected Business Agent will be sworn in at the Sept. 8 General Membership Meeting. This election will be conducted by Statewide Mail-In Ballot. We strongly encourage every member to participate, your vote matters.

**Eligibility Requirements.** To be nominated for Business Agent:

- You must be a Journeyworker member in good standing.
- You must be nominated by a Journeyworker member in good standing.
- No member may be nominated for more than one office.

Additionally — and this is extremely important:

If a current officer intends to seek nomination for Business Agent, they must resign from their current office before accepting a nomination. This is not optional. This is not flexible. This is the rule.

Any member considering running for Business Agent should take the time to understand the duties, responsibilities, and expectations of the position. This is not a title. It is a full-time

commitment to the membership, the contractors, and the industry.

**Detroit Training Center Information.** The next term for all Detroit Apprentices will be as follows: Apprentice 2 & Single Ply 1- Monday, July 20, 2026

Apprentice 1 & Single Ply 2- Tuesday, July 21, 2026  
BUR 1 & Steep Slope 1- Wednesday July 22, 2026  
BUR 2 & Steep Slope 2- Thursday, July 23, 2026  
Apprentice 7 & 8 Hands On + Safety & Health- Thursday, July 23, 2026

All classes begin at 6:30pm  
Journeyworkers upgrade classes to improve your skills, your worth, and our Brotherhood/Sisterhood is available at no cost to all Detroit LU 149 members. Dues must be current in order to enter the Training Center.

If you are interested in any of these classes, contact Thomas Jaranowski at the Training Center, 248-206-7620, or [TJaranowski@DetroitRoofers.org](mailto:TJaranowski@DetroitRoofers.org) to make arrangements.

**Mid-Michigan Training Center Information:** Journeyworkers upgrade classes to improve your skills, your worth, and our Brotherhood/Sisterhood is available at no cost to all Mid-Michigan LU 149 members.

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

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

**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.

**Reminder.** Members please call the Hall when you see a roofing project whether it is one of our signatory companies or not.

The publication above is as 6/22/2026, 2:00pm

— In Solidarity, Brian Gregg Business Manager, Roofers & Waterproofers Local 149

## 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](http://www.ssdfighter.com)





## Local 275

**IBEW 275**  
**COOPERSVILLE – Work Outlook:** Work in the jurisdiction remains steady for journeymen with calls on the job recorder regularly. Please continue to call the job line if you are seeking work in Local 275. We have solar calls coming as well as local contractors picking up jobs.

**Building Corp: Please keep your eye out for a special called Building Corp meeting coming in the next couple weeks. We will send out notification via e-mail, letter, mobile app, and will post the details on the member only Facebook page.**

**Healthcare coverage:** At the April 2026 allocation meeting the body voted to add vision coverage as an additional benefit. Benefits will be in effect as of Aug. 1, we are still working with the administrators for the cards. Some members have reached out about their special fund cards expiring. Please keep an eye on your mail for new cards coming, your current card will remain working until the end of the month.

**PICNIC:** Mark your Calendars for Aug. 8 to join us for the annual Local 275 picnic. The picnic will be held at the union hall. Please contact the hall to RSVP or you can visit [ibew275.org](http://ibew275.org) to RSVP as well. If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to the hall or Niko Jend to sign up.

**Volunteer Info:** Please keep an eye out for future volunteer events.

**West Michigan EWMC:** Meetings will be held monthly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month, 6pm via ZOOM. The ZOOM link will be available on Local 275 Members Only Facebook group as well as on the Local 275 Mobile app. Please Join the EWMC on Oct. 11 at Millennium Park in Grand Rapids as we walk to raise awareness for suicide prevention. Check in starts at 11, and the walk starts at 1pm. All are welcome to attend!

**RENEW:** If you have any interest in helping re-launch the Local 275 Renew committee, please reach out to Mark at the union hall.

**Veterans' Committee:** Meeting will be held monthly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month, 6pm. Please keep an eye on the app for locations.

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

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

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

**General Info:** If you are working on a project in our jurisdiction and are told that you were selected for a random, DO NOT take it, call the Hall first. Randoms are part of the MUST program that was agreed to by NECA and the IBEW in our contract. We've been seeing our contractors who are subs being told by the G.C. that one of our members were selected for a random through their program. We are not signatory to B&V, Barton-Malow or any other G.C., therefore we are NOT subject to their drug testing.

We've had a few instances of inappropriate comments on the job site. Be aware that the IBEW Constitution that we've all sworn an oath to uphold states, in part; "This Brotherhood will continue to oppose communism, Nazism, racism, sexism, fascism or any other subversive "ism". We have adopted a Zero Tolerance approach to these behaviors and NO ONE - black, white, brown, gay, straight, male or female should have to endure that treatment from anybody. If you are the victim of this behavior, let your Business Manager, Jonas Talbott know and it will be dealt with.

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

(Continued next column)



## IBEW Local 131

Serving Southwest Michigan Since 1916

**IBEW 131**  
**KALAMAZOO - Local 131 Summer Schedule.**

**4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday Hours:** The hall will be closed July 3<sup>rd</sup> in celebration of Independence Day

**Aug. 1 Local 131 Picnic:** We will continue our annual Summer Picnic tradition on Saturday, Aug. 1 from 3-7 p.m. You'll notice we have moved the picnic time to later in the afternoon. Our hope is that folks who may be working on Saturday will still be able to attend. We will have catered BBQ from Q It Up, inflatable obstacle courses, yard games, Tie Dye stations, and of course the park has its own Splash Pad. We hope to see you all there.

**Media and anniversary photos:** If you are able to take photos or videos at work, please send them our way! We are in need of media for our Downtown Media campaign and our 110 year anniversary. You can upload your videos and photos to our google drive folder using the QR below.

**IBEW Local 131 App and Website Launch:** Local 131 has launched its new app, which can be found on Apple Store and Google Play Store by searching "IBEW 131" or you can download the new app by scanning this QR Code below.

**Ulliance** is Local 131's Member Assistance Program that offers mental health counseling, financial planning, legal assistance, divorce support, substance use support, parental counseling, elder care advice, and much more. If you or a friend could benefit from support, please call 1-800-448-8326 to speak with a professionally trained advisor and counselor today.

The next **Renew & EWMC** meeting will be held on Tuesday July 21<sup>st</sup>, 5PM @ the hall

**Veteran's Committee Meeting:** July 2 @ South Haven American Legion Post 49, 129 Michigan Ave.

**Executive Board:** meeting will be held on Monday, July 20 @ 5PM

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

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

**Upcoming Events:**  
**Saturday Aug. 1:** Local 131 Picnic @ River Oaks Park in Galesburg. We have once again booked the Morrow Lake Shelter from 3PM to 7PM

**Saturday, Sept. 12:** 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner and Party @ Gun Lake Casino 5-11PM

**Saturday, Oct. 10:** Member Orientation Breakfast 8-10 a.m.

**Work Outlook:** Blue Oval Battery Plant in Marshall continues to wind down. As work slows down there, more members are taking calls at Palisades Nuclear Facility. Some projects at Palisades are winding down, as well, but Westinghouse has mitigated the layoffs with calls of their own.

The work situation in and around Local 131 appears to be steady through going into summer, but there is uncertainty in the work picture for late summer and fall.

**Diversifying our Work:** As the industrial work picture in Local 131 appears to be slowing,

(Continued next column)

**Local 275, con't**  
 Union Hall Offices, please note that we removed that line several months ago. If you are having trouble reaching the office, please double check that you aren't using that number.

As a reminder, the Local Union Hall offices have changed their hours. The offices will be open from 8am-12:30pm, 1pm-4:30pm.

Monthly dues are still \$50.90 per month, and as of this writing we have not heard of an increase. If you pay for 1 years dues at once, there is a challenge coin that can be picked up at the hall.

**Delinquent Members:** At the time of this writing the following members are three months or more behind on dues: Dave Daum, Andrew Kruithoff, Andrew LaFrance, Wade Langdon, and Mike Nielsen. Please make every effort to get caught up.



## IBEW LOCAL 692

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS BAY CITY MICHIGAN

**IBEW 692**  
**BAY CITY – Union Meeting.** The next monthly membership meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026.**

**The next Executive Board Meeting** will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026.**

**Message from the Business Manager.** Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July Brothers and Sisters! I hope your holiday is filled with sunshine, good food and fireworks. Please remember to be safe and enjoy all of your time spent with friends and family.

Please note the hall will be closed on Friday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> in observance of Independence Day.

I have been having conversations with Training Director Casey Stoike and his team circling around the opportunity of offering classes to our membership who have surpassed the apprenticeship school in their career. The upcoming opportunities approaching for continuing education in the electrical industry are Arc Flash Training and also a class on Medium Voltage Terminations.

The first class revolves around Arc Flash Safety. The Arc Flash course will teach proper personal protective equipment, safety boundaries, and various other safety related topics revolving

## Local 131, con't

the Local seeks to create opportunities wherever possible. If any member is interested in developing their own IBEW contracting business, please reach out to me ([current@ibew131.com](mailto:current@ibew131.com)). There are IBEW and entrepreneurial consulting resources that may help you on your journey. There is nothing better for the IBEW than its own members becoming signatory contractors who extend our market reach. We will support such endeavors for members loyal to Local 131 and do whatever we can to help them along the way.

**Liberty Solar Project:** This NMA project would employ 70 wireman and apprentices for a year, however local opposition has pushed the project out indefinitely. I attended the Richland Planning Commission meeting on May 27. Virtually every reason to oppose this project was either superficial or inaccurate. Everything from soil erosion to decreased property values, to industrial waste was given as reason to delay the project. In just about every respect a solar field is less harmful than a corn field, but we know this is not about rational arguments. Trades people pushing back against the propaganda suffocating our state's infrastructure and development can help preserve our work and Michigan's economic future.

**Retiree's lunches at the following locations:**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month Lunches. All are welcome. July 15, Red Lobster 6535 S. Westnedge Ave. Portage, MI. 11AM

August 19, Old Mill Brewpub & Grill 717 East Bridge St. Plainwell, MI. 49080

Sept. 16, Julianna's Restaurant, 205 Lake St., Kalamazoo, MI. 49001

On the last Friday of each month, a group of retirees and others, meet at Jac's Cekola's Pizza, 3112 S. Ninth Street, Kalamazoo, MI. 49009. @11:30.

Every Tuesday, Retirees can meet at The Crew, 5200 Portage Road, Portage, MI @10 a.m.

**Death of Members:** 45-year member Betsy Rice passed away on Sunday, June 14. Betsy was a Journeyman Inside Wireman, served as Recording Secretary for many years, served on the 6<sup>th</sup> District Women's Committee Advisory Panel, and also ran for the Michigan House of representatives in 1992 and 1994. A celebration of life is being planned for Betsy at a future date.

**Delinquent Members:** Chad Arlington, Kenneth Chamberlain, Marty Maher, James Pecho

**Jonathan Current Business Manager IBEW Local 131**

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ing around Arc Flash potential. Please Contact Training Director Stoike at (989) 686-4890. A date for this class will be determined once we have the number of members interested.

A medium voltage cable terminating class will also be held in the near future. If you are interested in signing up, please contact Training Director Casey Stoike at (989) 686-4890. A certificate of completion will be offered upon completion of course. A class date will be determined once the class has been filled.

**Work Report.** The work report in our jurisdiction remains solid.

**AZCO** continues work at Consumers Energy's Karn Solar site in Essexville. Although weather has been an issue, more calls are still expected this spring.

**Bay Valley Electric** is working at a nice dorm project at Alpena Community College.

**Clements Electric's** work at the Mersen in Bay City and Midland's Center for the Arts and Dow Gardens Welcome Center continues, as work at the Bay County Health Department is wrapping up. Work on a mixed-use development in Downtown Bay City has started. Bay City Animal Control and Bay County Road Commission projects have been secured with work to start soon.

Clements was also awarded a nice project out to Michigan Sugar.

**Conti Electric** has ongoing work at the Karn Generation Facility and Consumers Energy's dams along the Au Sable. Conti's ongoing work at Michigan Sugar may see a few calls. Phase 3 of Little Trout Solar in Hawks is wrapping up early summer.

**Countyline Power** continues work at Midland Waste Water, has upcoming work on the Tittabawassee dams, and secured a high voltage termination project at Michigan Sugar.

**Escon Group** has some work in Midland's I-Park and McLaren's Bay City West campus (late spring). Escon was also awarded Bangor Schools (summer).

**John's Electric** continues work at Clear Lake and Hoefl State Parks.

**J. Ranck Electric** will be adding a battery storage facility on the Mission Road Solar project in Rosebush late this spring. J. Ranck has begun pole testing at solar sites in West Branch and Cheboygan to fully mobilize in 2027.

**Master Electric** continues work at Clare County Road Commission and has also picked up a couple nice projects out to CMU.

**Nelson Electric** is wrapping up projects at Bay City Powertrain and continues access control and security work at the Amazon warehouse in Clare.

**Northern Power** has secured spring and summer work at Alpena Schools.

**Northern Valley** continues work at the AMRIZE Cement Plant and has started Alpena's Meijer remodel. Their residential and generator divisions continue to secure a fair amount of work.

**S&G and Hardies Electric** are keeping their crews busy this spring on various projects.

**Swan Electric** has secured a decent upcoming project at TCE Charlton in Johannesburg.

**Teds Electric** continues work at Clare Schools.

**Van Ert Electric** continues work on their solar project in Gladwin, calls for this project will pick up soon.

Consumers Energy has recently announced plans for future work in our jurisdiction. Essexville's Karn site plans to add a new battery storage facility and two new gas-fired turbines to replace units 3 & 4. Three large solar sites will start civil and dirt work this spring and require substantial manpower in 2027. Those sites are in Prescott, Spruce, and Harrisville.

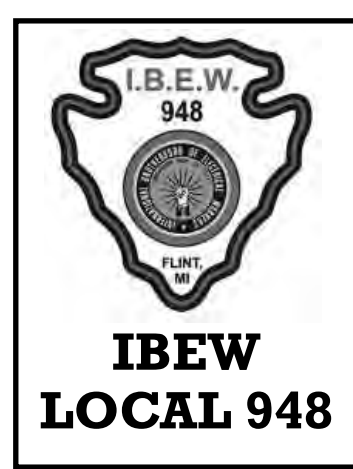
If you are looking for work, please do not hesitate to contact the Union Hall. Please note when calling the job line to use ext. #1.

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

**Organizers' Report.** Job calls are now posted on our website, [www.ibew692.net](http://www.ibew692.net). The out-of-work list has been updated with additional information such as ding detail, a job log, and a list of recently rolled members. Please note initial sign of the out-of-work list should be in person at the hall. Re-signs after rolling can be done by emailing, texting, or calling Business Manager Ryan Charney.

Solar calls may become a great onboarding opportunity for

(Continued next column)



## IBEW LOCAL 948

**IBEW 948**  
**FLINT – Meetings.**

**Membership Meeting -** Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will be July 13th, 2026 at 6:00 PM.

**Retiree Meetings -** Retirees next meeting will be July 7th, 2026 at 9:00am.

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

**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 Eric Crites.

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

**New Membership -** Welcome to our latest members Hunter DeVasher and Alex Gregory. We look forward to working with you and hope to see you in the field.

**Retirees -** Congratulations to Robert Bishop and Rolland Eastwood 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 Keith McKenzie & Floyd Dodge. We are tremendously sorry for your losses and will continue to keep our Brother in our hearts.

**Local 692, con't**

unrepresented licensed electricians. If you know anybody currently working non-union who may be interested working those jobs, please have them reach out to organizers. The latest solar call has been filled with Book 2 and 3 applicants.

Apprentices will be receiving COMET and PAL training courses over the next two months. COMET stands for Construction Organizing Membership Education Training, while PAL stands for Politics, Activism, and Livelihood. Any members or retirees interested in sitting in for either course should contact Deon or Kevin.

**Brendan "Deon" Baranek 989.327.4131 Kevin Klapish 989.252.9225**

**Union Dues.** There is no dues rate increase for the 2026 calendar year. Monthly dues will remain at \$49.20.

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

**Death Benefits.** We regret to inform you of the death of retired Brother Tom Theisen, Card No. D680402, who passed away on June 5, 2026. Brother Theisen was born on June 2, 1950 (76 years old). He was initiated on Nov. 20, 1989. Tom resided in Bay City.

**#360 (Theisen).** Local death fund assessment \$10.00 each (due within 30 days) payable to: IBEW Local 692, Bay City, MI 48706

**Retirees Lunch.** The July retiree lunch is scheduled for 1 P.M. on Thursday, July 16 at Log Cabin Bar & Grill, at 181 Main St. in Freeland.

**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.

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

**Health Plan & Pension** FUND 855.633.4584 – ASK FOR ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE [www.michiganelectrical.org](http://www.michiganelectrical.org) NEBF/NEAP: 301.556.4300 IO Pension: 202.833.7000



## Local 665

**IBEW 665**

**LANSING – IBEW Local 665 100 Year Anniversary:** Business Manger Pangborn and the staff of IBEW Local 665 would like to thank everyone who came to the 100 Year Anniversary party.

**WORK OUTLOOK:** Projected to be busy throughout 2026. There are many projects going currently in IBEW Local 665 jurisdiction. LG battery plant is still going strong with more work to come. MSU plans to spend \$2 billion over the next four to five years.

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

**Upcoming events at IBEW Local 665: IBEW Local 665 Picnic will be on June 27 at Sleepy Hollow State Park.** Starting at 12 noon and going to dusk. You can come to the picnic or rent a camp site. See you there.

**CPR/First Aid:** on Tuesday, June 30, at IBEW Local 665 Hall. Class time is 5-7pm. Contact the LEJATC to sign up for the class.

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

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

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

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

**OUR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** is on the third Monday of each month and starts at 6:30 pm at the Hall. Remember that we have a wage allocation this year and nominations are in May's meeting for Business Manager, E-board, Recording Secretary and Delegates for the IBEW International Convention.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS:** are held on the second and third Monday of each month starting at 5:00 p.m.

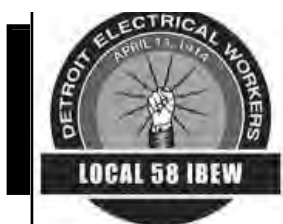
**DUES AND DEATH BENEFITS:** Quarterly dues are due. We are on death benefit #368. Please look at your dues to ensure that you are current.

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

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

Charles Vanhorn 05/09/26, Ronald Bullen 04/09/2026, Steven Goodine 03/17/2026, James Foster Jr. 02/28/2026, Joseph Perkins 02/20/2026, Bruce Pettinger 12/01/2025, Charlie Fabiano 12/21/2025, Richard Dunlap 12/11/2025, Darold English 11/28/25, Michael Quintieri 11/15/25, Douglas Maki 09/17/25, Randolph Dehate 07/01/25, Glendon "Bill" Toaz 06/10/25, David McLellan 05/28/25.

**BUILDERS LICENSE TRAINING MIDDLETON** Real Estate Training Inc. 901 Tower Drive, Suite 120 Troy, MI 48098 [www.middletontraining.com](http://www.middletontraining.com) 248-885-8311



# IBEW LOCAL 58

IBEW Local 58

**DETROIT - The next General Membership meeting:** will be held on Tuesday, July 21, 2026. 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!

**UPDATE** – Sub Pay is NOT available at this time. **If you have any questions, please contact the Local 58 Union Hall 313-963-2130.** If you have any questions regarding the Port Huron office, please contact Business Agent Paul Ledsworth, 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. Donation per Brick. NOTE: No symbols or clipart can be added to brick pavers. To purchase or for questions about the brick pavers contact Stacy at the Union Hall 313-963-2130, ext. 3015.

**Local 58 Dues Department – The Dues Department will be CLOSED on Friday, July 3, 2026, in observance of Independence Day.**

Please look at your Dues Receipt – If your paid through date shows 12-31-2025, you are not current and owe a reinstatement fee of \$30.00. If your dues are not paid by June 30, 2026, you will lapse membership. It is Your responsibility to pay your dues on time. This could affect your retirement or death benefit. You can pay on the APP/Website, send a check, or call and pay over the phone. Dues statements for the third quarter have gone out. We ask that you keep the Local up to date with your address, email, and phone number. Thank you!

**IBEW Local 58 Retirees Association:** Our next board meeting will be on Wednesday, July 8, 2026 at the local union hall in the main conference room. Meeting starts at 10 a.m. All are welcome.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Our west-side luncheon venue is still closed, after experiencing an electrical fire. The board has decided instead of cancelling the July Luncheon, we will move it to the Gazebo, and hopefully our westside venue will be up and running for our next (September) luncheon. Our next luncheon will be Wednesday, July 22, 2026 at The Gazebo Banquet Center, 31104 Mound Rd., Warren 48092. Doors open at 11 a.m. and lunch is served at 12:30. The cost is \$25 per person (payable to the Retirees Association), mail your reservations and checks to IBEW #58, Attn. Retirees Association, P.O. Box 32756, Detroit MI, 48232-0756. Questions, call Elaine Crawford at 313 408-5885.

**OUR ANNUAL PICNIC,** happening on Wednesday, Aug. 26 will be back at Rotary Park in Livonia. We are excited to be back outdoors at the park. The city has finally completed the pavilion rebuild and it will be open as of July 1. More details to follow in this column and in the July Newsletter.

We have a full bus for our annual September Bus Trip to New York City. Travelers please send the balance due (checks payable to the Retirees Association) for the trip by July 1, 2026 to 22700 Grove St., St. Clair Shores 48080-1878. Questions, call Dave Riley at 586 206-8075. There is a short wait list.

**Electrical Workers' Joint Boards of Trustees (Fringe Benefits Office)** – Any questions regarding Local 58 Pension, Annuity, Health insurance or Life insurance should be directed to the IBEW Local 58 Benefits Office at 586-575-9200. They also distribute the 1099R tax form for the Local 58 Pension.

**Retirement:** The NEBF pension applications are no longer available at the Local 58 union hall. They are available either by contacting NEBF directly at 301-556-4300 or through your online account at NEBF.com. Standard processing time for NEBF pension applications has been 90 days. Please allow

at least 3 months prior to your retirement date to submit your application to NEBF directly for processing. The IBEW PBF (International Pension Benefit Fund) applications can still be obtained at the Local 58 union hall. For questions regarding the NEBF or IBEW PBF pensions, please call Rebecca at 313-963-2130 ext. 3013. Questions regarding the Local 58 Pension should be directed to the Local 58 Benefits Office at 586-575-9200.

**Detroit Electrical Industry Training Center** - Know anyone interested in learning the Electrical Trade? Please inquire with the Training Center at www.detroitetc.org for information on Apprenticeship and training opportunities.

**Detroit Electrical Workers Benevolent Fund (DEWBF):** Next meeting will be Tuesday July 7, 2026 at 5:30 pm.

Our next golf outing will be the Brad Ballard Memorial Golf Outing. This year it will be Friday, Aug. 28 at Pine Valley, a month earlier due to the IBEW International Convention. Please make sure to save the date! Registration is now open and registration forms are available at the hall.

**Members of the Community Service Committee:** The next committee meeting will be Tuesday, July 14 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 a.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, July 14, 2026, 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, July 20, 2026 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. The fourth coin in the series for our challenge coin fundraiser is now available for sale. Our IBEW car flags are also in. We will be selling them at any upcoming union events and Membership meetings.

**The Safety Committee meeting** will be on Monday, July 13, 2026, at 5:30 PM.

**The Veterans Committee** - The IBEW Veterans Committee serves all those who have served, building community and strengthening veteran voices within the IBEW and throughout the entire electrical industry. We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 5:30pm at the hall with an option to attend via Zoom. At our next meeting we plan on reviewing the Veterans Committee field manual that has been put together by the I/O.

In recognition of service to country and union, all IBEW members who have served in the military can claim their free challenge coin by visiting the website: <https://ibew.org/about-ibew/affinity-groups/veterans-committees/>

**Local 58's Women's Committee** – The next committee meeting will be Thursday, July 23 at 5:30 p.m. at the Hall and on Zoom. If you have questions, please contact Committee Chair Angela Milam (586-291-8014) Email at 58womenscommittee@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.

(Continued on Page 12)



# IBEW Local 445

IBEW Local 445

**BATTLE CREEK – IBEW 445 Night at the Ballpark** Come enjoy IBEW 445's Night at the Ballpark on July 11, 2026. The game starts at 7:05 p.m.

**IBEW 445 Golf Outing** Save the date for the IBEW 445 Golf Outing of July 25, 2026.

**IBEW 445 Picnic** Save the date for the IBEW 445 Picnic on Aug. 15, 2026, at Binder Park Zoo. We will be giving out Service Awards at 11am and then eating at noon with zoo tickets available after lunch.

**First Aid/CPR JIW training** The First Aid/CPR will be on September 14, 2026, after the Union Meeting.

**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 through 13, 2022, approved several amendments to Article IX of the IBEW Constitution.

As of **January 1, 2026**, 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 on 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](http://IBEW445.com). Make sure you check out the **Benefits Tab** for important related websites.

**2026 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 on the fourth Monday of each month starting at 4:30 p.m. Respectfully Submitted, **Wanda Secret Recording Secretary**

*"The man who has nothing to boast of but his illustrious ancestry is like the potato - the best part under ground."*

—Thomas Overbury (1581 - 1613)

*"Men are equal; it is not birth but virtue that makes the difference."*

—Voltaire (1694 - 1778)

*"The best way to escape from a problem is to solve it."*

—Alan Saporta



IBEW Local 252

**2026 LOCAL ELECTION RESULTS:** President: Jeff Burdick. Vice President: Travis Stachlewitz. Recording Secretary: M. Lisa Grover. Treasurer: Stacie Butler. Business Manager/ Financial Secretary/ Convention Delegate: Ryan Husse. Executive Board: Dan Beck, Jake Church, Yohance Jennings, Dennis Locks, Geoff Morning, Erik Randall. Examining Board: Brian Ellison, Robert Laraway, J. Randolph. Convention Delegate: Dan Beck, Geoff Morning, Matt Schroder. Any protests of the election are to be filed in writing with the International Vice-President of the District within 30 days following the election. The decision of the International Vice-President shall conclude the processing of a protest within the IBEW. In the event the protesting member is not satisfied with the decision of the International Vice-President, the member may submit his/her protest to the U.S. Department of Labor.

**ESTA MESSAGE FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER:** Several NECA contractors have recently stopped paying ESTA despite favorable decisions from the Michigan Wage and Hour Division. We will continue to work diligently to try to resolve this matter for all members. If you are requesting ESTA payment from your employer, we are asking you to email those requests to your employer. If denied ESTA pay, please file a complaint to the State of Michigan Wage and Hour Division at <http://www.michigan.gov/wageclaim>. The act references substantial fines and penalties for failure to comply but you must file your complaint with the State.

**BE SURE TO KEEP BENEFICIARY FORM UPDATED:** A friendly reminder that beneficiary forms are available at the fund office AND at the hall for anyone that may need to update beneficiary information. If your information needs to be updated, it needs to be updated at BOTH. **TRAINING CLASSES. All classes start at 5 p.m.**

1. Journeyman prep- Every Tuesday beginning June 16 and ending on July 21
2. BICSI Fiber/ Tech- Every Monday beginning June 8 and ending Aug 31
3. Fire Alarm- Every Wednesday except Union meeting night, starting Sept 2 and ending Oct 21.
4. NICET PREP- Every Wednesday except Union meeting night, starting Oct 28 and ending Dec 23 (book purchase required, call the training center for more information
5. Sept. 1 & 15, Dec. 1 & 8.

Additional classes will be added as they become available. For interest in a class not listed, call the training center. 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.

**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.

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

**DUES PAYMENTS ONLINE:** We can now accept payments for union dues online. Visit our website [www.ibew252.org](http://www.ibew252.org) and click on "Pay Dues". Follow the instructions to create your account through the payment portal. Your dues receipt will be mailed to you.

**GEORGE PERROS GOLF OUTING:** will be held on July 18 at Pierce Lake Golf Course. Registration at 7 a.m., 8 a.m. start. Cost is \$20/golfer. Retirees and first year apprentices are free. Please contact the hall at (734) 424-0978 to sign up.

**LOCAL 252 PICNIC:** This year's picnic will be Aug. 15, at 12 p.m. at Apple Creek Campground, 11185 Urban Rd., Grass Lake, MI 49240. All food and beverages will be provided. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Dan Beck at

# IBEW LOCAL 252

(810) 858-0033.

**UNION 4 LIFE GOLF OUTING:** Join Union 4 Life on Saturday, Aug. 22 at Pierce Lake Golf Course, 1175 S. Main St. Chelsea, MI 48118 for their charity golf outing to benefit University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center's breast cancer research fund. This event will take place 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fee is \$125/player, \$500/team and includes 18 holes + cart, lunch, dinner, & drinks, contests & prizes. Contact Hope Salyer [hopes@aaejate.org](mailto:hopes@aaejate.org) / (734) 475-1180 with questions. Register online at [union4lifecharity.com](http://union4lifecharity.com).

**DETROIT TIGER'S UNION DAY:** the game will be on Sept. 26 against the Pittsburgh Pirates. Tickets are \$30 and include entry to the game, bus transportation, and \$10 fun money to spend at the park. The bus will depart from the union hall at 10:30 a.m. Tickets are first come, first serve, and will not be held until they are paid for. Call or stop by the union hall to sign up.

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR VETERANS** to join our veteran's committee. The meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 5 p.m. at the Union Hall. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact John Gilbert at (517) 920-1422.

**MSO Hall of Fame:** Local 252 Retiree Harlan Van Blaricum is in the MSO Hall of Fame. He has won over 100 medals in Track and Field events including cycling, mountain biking, road race, team triathlon, and race walk, and has competed in field events including triple jump, high jump, javelin, shot put, and pole vault. In the National Senior Games he won a silver in 2005 and a gold in 2011. He also won a gold in the 1500m power walk and the 5000m power walk in Houston. In later years he added swimming events and overall won 41 Gold, 66 Silver and 74 Bronze medals from MSO. He holds one MSO record in the Triathlon as a 65-year-old with a time of 55:16.0 set in 2006. In the 2020 MSO Winter Games he won Gold in the 60-meter hurdles that he ran as a 70-year-old, even using the 30-inch hurdles. Participating has led him to volunteering in multiple local races and assisting Dexter's first ever Girl's State Championship Cross Country team. Congratulations Harlan!

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

**DUES PAYMENTS** – Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 3/2026, your dues are not current. The Union Hall accepts payment by cash, check or credit card. There is a 3% discount for paying by cash or check. Dues for "A" members are \$143.25 by cash or check, or \$147.55 by credit card per quarter for 2026. Dues for "BA" members are \$73.80 by cash or check, or \$76.01 by credit card per quarter for 2026. 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 Tuesday, June 30, 2026.**

**IMPORTANT DATES:** June 30: 11:30 a.m. Deadline for 2nd Quarter Dues  
August 15, 2026: Picnic  
Sept. 9, 2026: Retiree's Night  
Oct. 24, 2026: Trunk or Treat  
Dec. 12, 2026: Holiday Party

**DUES RATES**  
Jan 1, 2026 – \$164.10/Quarter.  
**Info Updates** – Any member with a new address, phone number, email address, etc. should contact Local 498 with these changes.

Please remember it is your responsibility to pay your dues on time.  
Remember to check the hall recorder Job line at night after 4 pm for any jobs that might be available. 231-943-4980 ext 2.



IBEW Local 498

TRAVERSE CITY – Meetings.

**Regular E Board-** The next regularly scheduled E-Board meeting is set for Monday, Jul 13, 2026 @ 5:30pm.

**Regular Meeting** – The next regularly scheduled membership meeting is Scheduled for 7pm Monday, Jul 13, 2026.

**Election Results: Officers to be sworn in on July 13, 2026**  
**President** – Nicholas Harris  
**Vice President** – Richard C. Cushman

**Recording Secretary** – Neil C. Carey  
**Treasurer** – Shaine R. Kuczynski

**Business Manager** – Dylan C. O'Dwyer

**Executive Board** – Joshua J. Brown, Glenn A. Stein, Dane C. O'Brien, Matthew M. Bankey, Daniel J. Tuttle, Jeffrey G. Lane  
**Examining Board** – Noah Lambertson, Hudson D. Richards, Ethan A. Wagner, Charles P. Gronda, Austin C. Caldwell

**Alternate to the International Convention** – George Shumar

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

**Retiree breakfast-** Several of the retirees meet at Sparky's Diner off of South Airport Rd. 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.

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

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

**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](mailto: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](http://www.michiganelectrical.org)

**MEEPP (MI Pension)** 1-855-633-4584

(New address Michigan Pension and Health Plan)

**3001 Metro Drive Suite 500, Bloomington, MN 55425**  
NEBF 1-301-556-4300  
NEAP 1-301-556-4300  
IO Pension 1-202-833-7000

**DUES RATES**

Jan 1, 2026 – \$164.10/Quarter.

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

Please remember it is your responsibility to pay your dues on time.

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

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**IBEW Local 557**

**SAGINAW – MEETING START TIME CHANGE** - The next Local 557 Union Meeting will be held Tuesday, July 7 at 5:30pm. A motion passed at the May Union Meeting to start the meetings at 5:30pm.

**4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY HOLIDAY** – With the 4<sup>th</sup> of July falling on a Saturday, the holiday shall be observed on that Friday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Any worked performed this day shall be paid at the double time rate. Please enjoy the Holiday and much needed break from the daily grind.

**GOVERNOR CANDIDATE CHRIS SWANSON ENDORSED** – IBEW Michigan has endorsed Sheriff Chris Swanson to be the next Governor of the State of Michigan. Sheriff Swanson has been to Local 557 to address the membership and was well received. Please do everything you can to spread the word about this amazing candidate for Governor who is a great friend of Labor and card-carrying union member.

**LOCAL 557 GOLF LEAGUE** –Tee times are 6:00pm every Thursday at Twin Oaks.

**RENEW COMMITTEE MEETINGS** – These meetings occur immediately following each Monthly Union Meeting.

**JOBSITE SAFETY** - Jobsite safety is and should always be #1 on all IBEW jobs. 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. All members should be as diligent as possible when it comes to making sure work is completed in a safe manner.

**LOCAL 557 ORGANIZING**- Organizing is the lifeblood of any Local Union Rex and Gus are doing great work for Local 557 on the organizing front. Organizing is a tough task. 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.

**UNION HALL OPERATIONS**- Normal Business Hours are Monday-Friday 7am to 12pm, CLOSED for lunch, and re-open again from 1pm to 4:30pm. The Union Hall will be closed on Friday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> in observance of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday.

**BOOK SIGNING**- If you are a Local 557 member and receive a lay-off while working on a 557 Book 1 referral or apprentice training assignment, you must come to the hall and register on Book 1 or the apprentice out of work list in-person. Many Locals throughout the State of Michigan will continue to accept fax/email initial book signings. If you are interested in this reciprocated benefit and would like to be on some out-of-town Books, please call the hall to arrange this. Book 2 members can have their Union Hall send an email to either [jobline@ibew557.org](mailto:jobline@ibew557.org) or [renee@ibew557.org](mailto:renee@ibew557.org)

**WORK OUTLOOK**- Local contractors continue to work on various projects at schools, hospitals, auto plants, waste water plants, and other various jobs. It is expected within the next month to have calls come in for a Battery Storage Project in Alma and also Merrill. Delays continue regarding the Downtown Saginaw Medical Diamond. The Ingersol Township area Solar Farm has also been delayed. There is also a solar project in the works in the Fremont Township area. Neither of these have been green-lighted as of yet, but we are hopeful they both will very soon.

**CONTACT NUMBERS**- Michigan Electrical Employee Pension fund and Michigan Health Plan (855) 633-4584. Website is: [www.michiganelectrical.org](http://www.michiganelectrical.org)



(Continued from Page 11)

**The RENEW Committee:** The next committee meeting will be Tuesday, July 28, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. at the Hall and on Zoom.

**Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings** take place every Wednesday at the IBEW Local 58 Union Hall, (1358 Abbott St, Detroit, MI 48226), starting at 6:00 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. Electrical Workers Credit Union is offering a short time special for **Auto Refinancing** starting at 4.25%\* **Terms: Must come from another financial institute, up to 60 or 72 months.** Give the Credit Union a call to see if you qualify! 313-963-6060. Credit Union hours are Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm; Closed Friday between 11:30 am – 12:30 pm for lunch). You may now apply for membership online. Go to [ewcu.net](http://ewcu.net).

Dormant accounts! Please call the credit union to see the options to make your account active.

**Be sure to keep the Union Hall** updated with any changes to your phone number, address, email and beneficiaries. If your marital status has changed, please be sure to **update any beneficiary forms** for the Local 58 Pension and the IBEW.

**Local 58 Senior Softball:** Looking for seniors 55+ years old to join and have some fun. Beginning in May 2026 on Monday and Wednesday mornings. For more info please contact: Dennis Schwieger 586-725-0452 or Jim Miles 586-933-3551.

**Local 58 Senior Golf:** Looking for seniors 55+ years old to grab your clubs and join us for multiple dates of golfing and fun. Golfing starts at 9:00 am for each date.

July 16 – Rouge Park Golf Course 11701 Burt Rd Detroit, MI 48228  
Aug. 13 – Rackham Golf Course 10100 10 Mile Rd Huntington Woods, MI 48070

Sept. 17 – Bee Tee Golf Course 22871 21 Mile Rd Macomb, MI 48044

Oct. 8 – Sanctuary Lake Golf Course 1450 E. South Blvd Troy, MI 48084

Please contact Jeff Gregory via phone call or text @ 248-240-7449. Thank you!

**Wiremen’s Golf Association (WGA) Members:** This year the 2026 Wiremen’s Golf Association Tournament will be hosted by Local 306, Akron, OH on Aug. 18-21. The host hotel/tournament headquarters for this year is the Double Tree by Hilton in Akron/Fairlawn, OH ((330)867-5000) with the overflow hotel being directly across the parking lot at the Holiday Inn Express

**IBEW Pension:** Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: Janos Apati, Robert Bankovich Jr. and Gerald Burak. We wish you all the best as you begin your new journey. Thank you for your years of service with the IBEW.

**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. **Jessica Balmes**, Spouse of Aaron Balmes, Journeyman Inside Wireman; **David Czeponis**, Pension member, 29 year IBEW membership; **Leonard Diederichs**, Pension member, 72 years IBEW membership; Father to Paul Diederichs, Pension member, 46 year IBEW membership, Thomas “Tommy” Diederichs, Local 58 Business Agent & Technician 1, and Mary Nielson, Retired Local 58 Exec. Admin. Assistant; Grandfather to Joseph Diederichs, Assistant Exec. Director at SMNECA & Technician 1; **Armand Garza**, Pension member, 44 year IBEW membership; **Duane Gualdoni**, Pension member, 43 year IBEW membership; Nephew to Gerald “Jerry” Garascia, Pension member, 61 year IBEW membership; **Marjorie Hines**, Spouse of William Hines, Pension member, 72 year IBEW membership; Mother to Robert Hines, Pension member, 48 year IBEW membership; **Edward Horsman**, Pension member, 64 year IBEW membership; and **James Lemond**, Pension member, 70 year IBEW membership; Father to JIWs David & Darin Lemond.

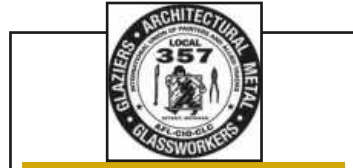
**Painters DC 1M**

WARREN – Dear Members,  
**DC1M WEBSITE:** [www.iupat-dc1michigan.org](http://www.iupat-dc1michigan.org)  
**DC 1M UNION CARDS\***

Any questions regarding a lost, damaged Union cards, or have dues inquiries or have not received a card please contact the DC1M offices at:

Warren Office: (586)552-4474 extension 100  
Freeland Office: (989) 695-6888

**FTI TRAINING JOURNEYPERSON UPGRADE CLASSES**  
June 29<sup>th</sup>: Lead Abatement



**Glaziers & Glassworkers Local 357**

**WARREN** – The July union meeting has been cancelled due to falling close to the holiday.

Our next regular union meeting will be Monday, Aug. 3, 5 pm. Please make it a priority to attend. We still 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.

This year’s annual STAR safety picnic will be held Sept. 19 at the Warren District Council. In order to be eligible to come, you must be an active working member in good standing, with at least 8 hours of upgrade training, and zero work related injuries.

The IUPAT pension has updated the pension website. There is new information that could be helpful. [iupatpension.org](http://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.



**Sign, Pictorial & Display Local 591**

Sign Pictorial & Display 591

**WARREN** – The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 7, at 6:00p.m. trustees and union stewards meet at 5:45 p.m.

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

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

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

*“Generosity is giving more than you can, and pride is taking less than you need.”*  
–Kahlil Gibran (1883 - 1931)

*“Nothing gives one person so much advantage over another as to remain always cool and unruffled under all circumstances.”*  
–Thomas Jefferson (1743 - 1826)



**Part 1 @ 5pm Warren School & Owosso School**  
June 30<sup>th</sup>: Lead Abatement  
**Part 2 @ 5pm Warren School & Owosso School**  
July 6<sup>th</sup>: First Aid/CPR Part 1 @ 5pm Warren School  
July 7<sup>th</sup>: First Aid/CPR Part 2 @ 5pm Warren School  
July 8<sup>th</sup>: Silica and Asbestos Awareness @ 5pm Owosso School  
July 11<sup>th</sup>: First Aid/CPR @ 9am Warren School  
July 11<sup>th</sup>: Lead Abatement @ 9am Owosso School

To sign up contact FTI Director Shawn Oneill at 517-304-4425 or email at [dot@iupatdc1m.org](mailto:dot@iupatdc1m.org).

**FTI of the GREAT LAKES looking to hire a Paint Instructor**

The FTI Apprenticeship School is looking to hire a full time Paint Instructor. Experience with all aspects of the Painting Industry is a plus, i.e Commercial, Wallcovering, Industrial, etc. Some travel involved in the State

**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

**Place:** 3115 Joyce St. Burton, MI 48529

**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](http://www.iupat-local514.org).

**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 826**  
**Business Rep:** Rocky Ackerman  
**Meeting date:** 2nd Thursday of every month at 5:30 p.m.

**Local Union 1052**  
**Business Rep** – Jake Fluty  
**Meeting date:** The Fourth Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

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**The Deadly Consequences of Medical Misinformation**

By Mike Rosenbaum

**MISINFORMATION ISN'T** new. Given human nature, it wouldn't be surprising if there were radical, pre-historic cave-men who shouted conspiracy theories about neighboring tribes to whoever would listen. In today's digital age, however, misinformation can literally circle the globe at the speed of light, reaching millions of people. And when that misinformation is about medicine, the results can be catastrophic.

Recently, the World Health Organization coined a new word, “infodemic,” which it defines as “an overabundance of information, both online and offline” that “includes deliberate attempts to disseminate wrong information to undermine the public health response and advance alternative agendas of groups or individuals.”

False information about vaccines makes up a large segment of medical misinformation, though even before vaccines were introduced, misinformation regarding masks and the severity of Covid-19 abounded.

**Preventable Deaths**

For example, according to research by the Kaiser Foundation, covering June-November of 2021, approximately 163,000 American Covid-19 deaths during those six months were prevented if the victims had been vaccinated. We'll never know how many of those individuals refused vaccines due to exposure to misinformation, but the sheer volume of misinformation on this topic makes it probable that the percentage is high.

In a recent survey published by GoodRx, among a representative sample of more than 1100 Americans, 73 percent reported being exposed to medical misinformation, and another 16 percent were unsure. Not surprisingly, the leading source of misinformation was social media (82%), followed by friends (66%), TV news (64%) and general internet searches (60%).

**Look out for “Truth Decay”**

On the plus side, the digital age ensures that useful information is out there. But to take full advantage of that accurate information, you must be able to sniff out opinions presented as facts. That leads us to another recently coined phrase, what the RAND Corporation calls “Truth Decay,” which it defines as “the diminishing role of facts in American public life.”

While “Truth Decay” has diminished trust in science and educated experts, it has also left many wondering where to turn for reliable information.

Writing in the RAND Blog, Jennifer Kavanaugh, lead author of RAND’s semiannual Truth Decay report, suggests seeking out experts for information on any complicated subject. “For example,” she writes, “if you’re looking for information about how Covid-19 spreads, seek out physicians or scientists who specialize in infectious diseases.”

Additionally, be careful about taking advice from health professionals who advance political points of view that are out of

**While “Truth Decay” has diminished trust in science and educated experts, it has also left many wondering where to turn for reliable information.**

the mainstream. Legitimate scientific inquiry includes rigorous questioning and critical thinking, which shouldn't be confused with popular rhetoric that creates fear and distrust.

**What And Where To Look?**

If you're looking for help online, the National Institutes of Health (a nonprofit, non-political, government organization), lists several criteria for finding sound medical advice, such as:

- verify a website's sponsor/owner
- is the author stating opinions or a limited set of facts?
- what is the site's purpose?
- is the article recent?

Check out the entire article at: <https://www.nia.nih.gov/health/online-health-information-it-reliable>.

Especially for Covid-19 information, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (cdc.gov) is a good starting point. Other medical websites with sound reputations include:

- Mayo Clinic ([mayoclinic.org](http://mayoclinic.org))
- Cleveland Clinic ([clevelandclinic.org](http://clevelandclinic.org))
- Harvard Medical School's Health Publishing ([health.harvard.edu](http://health.harvard.edu))

But when it comes to your own health questions and concerns, remember that the internet is no substitute for a conversation with a trusted health professional.

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



Elevator Constructors Local 36 DETROIT- ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED; Our next regular membership meeting will be July 27, 2026 at 5:30pm at 1640 Porter Street Detroit, MI 48216.

Attention All Members, the International Union of Elevator Constructors Local 36 cordially invites you and your IMMEDIATE family to join us on Saturday, July 25 for our Annual Local Picnic at St. Lawrence Knights of Columbus Picnic Grounds, 11541 21 Mile Road, Shelby, Mi. 48315.

The park will be open from: 10:30 A.M. until 6 P.M. Refreshments will be served from 11 A.M. until 5:30 P.M. Food will be available from 12 Noon until 4 P.M.

Our Fun and Games schedule will be as follows: Kids Games will begin at 12 Noon. Adult Bingo will begin right after the kids' games.

We remind everyone that this is a FAMILY AFFAIR, and all members will conduct themselves accordingly.

We also remind everyone that beer and seltzers will be available TO THOSE MEMBERS AND GUESTS WHO ARE 21 YEARS OF AGE. ID WILL BE REQUIRED.

Upcoming meetings: July 6th - Probationary

Meeting at 5pm July 20th - Executive Board meeting at 5 pm July 27th- General Membership meeting at 5:30pm. Save the date: The Kyle Owsley Memorial Golf Outing will be held on Saturday Sept. 26 @ Links of Novi 50395 West 10 Mile Road, Novi, 48374.

If you haven't already signed up for the IUEC Voluntary Income Protection (VIP) Plan for short-term, Long-term, Life and AD&D insurance, the enrollment will be open from July 1, 2026 to August 31, 2026 and effective Sept. 1, 2026.

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 Donnell, EIWP National Co-Chair @ 410-312-1474.

Local 36 website is up and running, this is still a work in progress, and we would appreciate any feedback to improve the site to work for our members and retirees.

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.

starting a new job please use the website job reporting at www.iueclocal36detroit.org/job-reporting. This will help us keep track of jobs easier than just calling the hall.

If you move or your address changes, call the hall and make sure you fill out the address change form on the NEIBP website. Mail a copy to the fund office and one to the hall. If you are going to be off with an injury (work related or non-work related), surgery or illness for a prolonged length of time, call the fund office (800)523-4702 and inform the hall.

Attention All Mechanics, just a reminder to Mechanics who 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.

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.

It's with a heavy heart that I must announce the passing of Honorary Brother Robert Michael Downie, please keep the Downie family in your thoughts and prayers. We would also like to wish a speedy recovery for the Brothers and Sisters on our sick and injured list.

Election: Tuesday, August 4 Vote in the statewide Michigan Primary Election. Here are Building Trades endorsements

Following are candidates endorsed by the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council and its local affiliate councils for the statewide Aug. 4 primary. Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council Governor: Chris Swanson Greater Detroit Building and Construction Trades Council Macomb County 39th District Judge, non-incumbent (Fraser): Derek Boedecker Oakland County Oakland County Community College Trustee: Robin McGregor Oakland County Probate Judge: Jessica Ann Hallmark (non-incumbent) Wayne County Wayne Executive: Warren Evans Wayne County Commission-District 5: Angelique Peterson-Mayberry Highland Park City Council-District 2: Scott Boswell River Rouge Treasurer: Mike Bowdler Genesee, Lapeer, Shiawassee Building Trades Council Flint City Mayor: Sheldon Neeley Genesee County Probate Court Judge: Ashley Prew, Andrea L. LeGendre 67th District Court Judge (Fenton area): Cheryl A. Lopez, Lina Stamos Upper Peninsula Building Trades Council Marquette County Commission-District 1: Cody Mayer Marquette County Commission-District 3: Jenna Smith Ishpeming City Council: Colin Fleury (IBEW Local 906 member) Gladstone School Board: Brandon Langenfeld (SMART Local 7 member) Masonville Township Trustee: Travis Cary (IUPATDC Local 7 member)



SANDING DRYWALL seams in the junior ballroom at the JW Marriott Detroit Water Square hotel project is Francisco Martinez of Michigan Painters District Council 1-M. He's employed by Brinker.



IT'S IN HERE SOMEWHERE: Electrician Eshon Flowers of IBEW Local 58 grabs a tool out of a cart while working at the JW Marriott Detroit Water Square hotel project. He's employed by GSIE.

ALL BUILDING TRADESMEN

Notice of Asbestos Health Hazards in Michigan

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- Mesothelioma Lung Cancer Asbestosis Pulmonary Fibrosis Throat Cancer Colon Cancer

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Exposure to asbestos can cause deadly diseases such as MESOTHELIOMA, LUNG CANCER, ABESTOSIS, PULMONARY FIBROSIS, THROAT CANCER, and COLON CANCER.

Many building tradesmen worked with or near asbestos. Some are not aware they were even exposed. Family members may be at risk of bystander exposure.

\$1.8 MILLION VERDICT

GPW obtained a \$1.8 million verdict in a Lung Cancer claim, the largest Asbestos Verdict in the history of Michigan Asbestos Litigation.

For more than 30 years, GPW has helped thousands of Michigan workers. We have represented mesothelioma, lung cancer, and asbestos disease victims, obtaining over \$1 billion in compensation for our clients.

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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.



## Outdoors



# Studying Zombie fish in Lake Superior

### From the Michigan DNR

This month, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and fish pathologists from Michigan State University made an expedition aboard the RV Lake Char to Superior Maximus, the deepest point of Lake Superior. The reason for this research vessel's foray to the deep? To investigate the emaciated siscowet lake trout found in this Great Lake.

These fish, nicknamed "zombies" because of their thin and undernourished bodies, have increased in number in deep waters, sparking concern and interest from the public and scientists alike.

Lake trout in this zombie-like condition were discovered by a DNR fisheries research team during recent Lake Superior deepwater surveys of siscowet lake trout. During the upcoming research expedition, the crew plans to investigate – and, they hope, rule out – the possibility of a fish pathogen causing the highly emaciated appearance of these lake trout. They also plan to collect more of these fish for thorough testing.

Unlike the zombies of movies and television, "zombie" fish aren't thought to have a contagious disease that they are spreading by biting other fish. Rather, their condition is believed to be a natural ecological phenomenon due to a lack of food in the deep waters in which they live. These extreme waters are prone to ecosystem shifts such as low food availability.

This phenomenon was observed only in the deepest parts of Lake Superior in Michigan inhabited by few species due to very low productivity and extreme conditions. The top predator out there, the siscowet lake trout, is a deepwater form of lake trout that is adapted to live in areas of the lake with very low food resources.

In recent years, DNR researchers have documented an increase in the number of thin, zombie-like siscowet in offshore Michigan waters at the deepest parts of Lake Superior, from 600



AN EMACIATED "ZOMBIE" siscowet lake trout captured near the deepest point of Lake Superior compared to a typical siscowet.

feet to around 1,320 feet.

The overall incidence of "zombie" siscowet in deep water has risen from approximately 3 percent in 2015 to about 20 percent in 2024 and 2025. At Superior Maximus, 37 percent (11 fish) of siscowet captured in the 2024 survey were "zombies"; in 2025, 54 percent (15 fish) of those captured fell into this category.

After the Upper Lakes meeting of the Great Lakes Fishery Commission in March, at which DNR fisheries research biologist Shawn Sitar presented these find-

ings, members of the public have expressed concern about the presence and prevalence of "zombie" fish in Lake Superior.

"Some social media content has drifted from the facts," said Sitar. "I've seen posts that said things like 50 percent of fish in Lake Superior are 'zombies,' which is absolutely not the case."

Researchers are carefully monitoring the populations of siscowet where these "zombie" fish have been found. The expedition to Superior Maximus this summer will help answer important ques-

tions about fish health that these fish have raised.

"While this trend is cause for further investigation," said Sitar, "it's not cause for alarm."

Monitoring fish populations and health in Lake Superior and the other Great Lakes is made possible by the DNR's fleet of research vessels, which are essential for monitoring ecosystem health by surveying fish in the largest bodies of freshwater in North America.

Learn more about the DNR's Great Lakes research at Michigan.gov/FishResearch.



A SISCOWET LAKE TROUT is captured on a video image aired by *Great Lakes Now* on June 7. This "Zombie" fish is shown at the bottom of the deepest part of Lake Superior, down about 1,300 feet. "Superior Maximus," the DNR said, "the deepest point of Lake Superior, is full of mysteries. Few have plumbed these depths, and little is known about the phenomena that emerge from them, such as the emaciated siscowet lake trout – "zombie fish" – that have been observed in these waters."



LEAVE BABY WILDLIFE alone – their moms are usually nearby looking out for them.

## For baby wildlife, alone does not mean abandoned

(From the Michigan DNR)

Baby wildlife season is here. If you come across baby wildlife like fawns, bunnies or birds, the best thing you can do is leave them where they are.

Animals like rabbits and fawns are often left alone for hours while their mothers look for food. This is normal and expected behavior. The babies are born without a scent, so it's difficult for predators to find them. If moms (or people) hang around too much, their scent can attract predators to the babies.

Unless an animal is clearly injured or in immediate danger, keep your distance so the parent feels safe enough to return. If a wild animal is injured, call a licensed wildlife rehabilitator.

You can use binoculars or the zoom function of a camera to enjoy the view while keeping wildlife wild, but avoid interacting with fawns, bunnies and baby birds. Sometimes the kindest thing we can do is simply let wildlife be.

Many wild animals have adapted to live in urban and suburban areas and often nest near homes and businesses. Even though humans might accidentally disturb nests, these locations are carefully chosen for safety, since proximity to humans can prevent other predators from finding the nests.

Birds build their nests in all kinds of places, and once in a while, that causes a problem – if a nest is above the door to your house, for example.

You can remove a nest only if there are no eggs in it, but birds and their eggs are protected by state and federal laws and must be left alone. Under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, it is illegal to destroy, touch, move or possess active nests with eggs or chicks without a permit.

However, you can prevent birds from nesting in problem areas by blocking a potential nesting location with physical barriers, fake owls or streamers before egg-laying begins.

If you find an active nest near your home, be a good neighbor: Leave it alone and keep pets and children away.

Baby birds sometimes fall from their nests while learning to fly, but their parents will continue to feed and care for them even when they are on the ground. A baby bird on its own is not abandoned; the parents will be back. If you move the fledgling bird, the parents may not be able to find it again. You can help by keeping dogs, cats and kids away from baby birds.

Baby birds have the best chance for survival in their habitat and learn how to survive in the wild by exploring on their own. We can help by giving them space to spread their wings.

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