



SHORT CUTS

Additional task for jobless workers

LANSING – Unemployed? The State of Michigan has another hoop for you to jump through before you're eligible for jobless benefits.

The following came from the Michigan's Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA) last month. The agency said it "is reminding workers that an increased work search requirement for unemployment benefits" had begun. "Effective Sunday, July 19, 2026, individuals receiving unemployment benefits must complete and report at least three work search activities each week – an increase from the previous requirement of one activity."

This change is part of bipartisan legislation (PA 238 of 2024) that updated Michigan's Employment Security Act.

"If you are a member of a union that must seek work only through the union hiring hall," the agency said, "you are not required to register with Michigan Works!; however, you must still actively search for work and report at least three work search activities for each week you claim benefits."

The UIA said in order to remain eligible for benefits, jobless workers must conduct and report their work search activities unless they have an approved waiver. Activities may include applying for jobs, attending job fairs, creating or updating a resume or online profile, or participating in job search workshops or seminars.

The agency said workers who do not complete and report three work search activities each week may not be paid and may be required to repay benefits they were not eligible to receive.

Workers can report their work search activities online through their Michigan Web Account Manager (MiWAM).

Petroleum prices dominate index

Construction material costs dropped a bit in June, but the nation's overall market index for building industry inputs retains a high degree of uncertainty.

"Although fuel prices dropped in June, they remained far higher than a year earlier," said Ken Simonson, chief economist of the Associated General Contractors on July 15. "In addition, steep tariffs on aluminum, steel and products containing copper have continued to push up construction costs."

The producer price index for inputs to new nonresidential construction dipped 0.5 percent from May to June, but climbed 7.1 percent from June 2025 to June 2026. The AGC said the 7.1 percent annual increase in construction input prices was roughly double the 3.5 percent increase in contractors' bid prices for new nonresidential buildings, suggesting contractors continue to absorb much of the increase in materials costs.

The producer price index for diesel fuel continued to be a dominant factor. Prices at the refinery level plunged 18.4 percent in June but remained 65.8 percent higher than a year earlier. And the AGC said that fuel prices rose even more since those numbers were collected.

Metals prices also remained sharply higher than a year earlier. Aluminum mill shapes prices were up 52.4 percent from June 2025, while copper and brass mill shapes increased 26 percent over the year.

Quotable

"We live in an age when unnecessary things are our only necessities."
—Oscar Wilde (1854-1900)

Traffic now skating over the Gordie Howe Bridge

By Marty Mulcahy, Editor

It's open to traffic. And it's spectacular.

The Gordie Howe International Bridge removed the barriers to its pristine concrete surface to cars and trucks on July 27, marking the opening of the first new crossing between Ontario and Michigan in 66 years. (The International Bridge at the Soo opened in 1960).

"Since construction started in October 2018, more than 15,800 individuals, including a strong unionized labor force, worked over 20.1 million hours to cross this finish line," said the Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority. "The Gordie Howe International Bridge is one of the most significant infrastructure projects in North America, built through partnership, ambition, and a shared belief that investing in modern infrastructure builds a stronger future."

The bridge's 720-foot towers are among the tallest structures in

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THE 1.5 MILE-LONG Gordie Howe International Bridge over the Detroit River opened to traffic on July 27 after nearly eight years of construction by workers from both Michigan and Ontario.

Photo credit: WMrapids via Wikipedia Commons, taken July 19



CONSTRUCTION WAS PROCEEDING on schedule last month at one of the two Northern Michigan University residence halls along Presque Isle Avenue. Construction of the \$55 million project has been led by Stevens Construction, and is expected to wrap up in time for the 2027 fall academic semester.

Photo credits: Jack Deo

NMU prepares more room for students to reside on campus

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

MARQUETTE – Northern Michigan University has described its campus housing availability as "operating at full capacity."

It's no surprise, then, that not one, but two student housing buildings are being erected on opposite sides of Presque Isle Avenue on a site that will help link the NMU campus with the City of Marquette.

Stevens Construction is managing the project, which will feature two slab-on-grade, four-story residence halls that will provide 146 new units upon completion. The company reported last month that Building 1 was slated to wrap up drywall work last month, with cabinets, countertops, flooring, brick veneer, and siding work underway.

Building 1 is a 77,576 square-foot, wood-framed building with four stories and 74 units with adjacent site

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SETTING UP A DUCT for installation at the Northern Michigan University Presque Isle apartment project is David Kacirek of Sheet Metal Workers Local 7. He's employed by Dressler Mechanical.



ASSEMBLING FIXTURES for installation at the Northern Michigan University Presque Isle apartments project in Marquette are Emma Heinz and Landon Reichel of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 111. They're employed by Dressler Mechanical.

Construction ping-pongs a bit, but overall trend is solid

The month-to-month U.S. market for construction starts have been all over the place so far in 2026, with the latest swing showing a 34 percent rise in May followed most recently by a 19.9 percent decline in June.

Earlier months in 2026 also showed an up-and-down pattern, but it was not so pronounced. Dodge Construction Network follows this subset of the con-

struction economy, with the most recent numbers being released July 21.

"After strong megaproject activity in May, construction starts came back down to earth throughout the month of June," said Sarah Martin, director of economic research at Dodge Construction Network. "Residential and institutional construction remain weak, while commercial,

industrial and nonbuilding construction continue to show strong year-to-date growth."

Two relatively stalwart sectors over the past year lost ground from May to June: nonresidential building starts fell back 9.1 percent, while nonbuilding starts (usually infrastructure) decreased 37.7 percent. Residential construction starts continued to lose

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Mass picket protests Stellantis' move away from hiring under NMA

Union members and supporters from a wide range of labor organizations stepped up to help support a labor dispute at an under-construction mega-hub distribution center owned by Stellantis in Van Buren Twp. on July 21 to protest a new hiring policy by Stellantis that ignores the National Maintenance Agreement.

Photo credit: Ron Maracle

More than 150 protesters participated in the July 21 labor action, protesting Stellantis' decision to move forward with construction of the 2-million square-foot distribution center while bypassing the standard National Maintenance Agreement Policy Committee framework. Bypassing the NMA threatens local skilled trades

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Viewpoints



Unions needed more than ever

Robert Reich wrote the forward to a front page article in this edition on the Economic Policy Institute paper, *The case for tripling union membership: How rebuilding union power would strengthen workers, the economy, and our democracy*. Reich said: Imagine union membership tripling in the United States. It may sound radical – if you’ve forgotten history. In fact, more than one in three private-sector workers belonged to a union in the 1950s. The results? Wages grew in tandem with the economy. The middle class thrived. Black-white wage gaps shrank. Broadly shared economic growth was a reality, not an aspiration. That’s because when workers have bargaining power, they win better wages, benefits, and working conditions. This report shines a light on what we stand to win if we rebuild union power. Over the last four decades, big corporations and the billionaires who run them have waged a relentless campaign against unions. And they have largely succeeded in reshaping the U.S. economy. By making it harder and harder for workers to organize and bargain collectively, the rich seized more and more income and wealth, destroying the U.S. middle class. Now the wealth of the richest Americans has exploded: The richest 0.1 percent own more than five times the combined wealth of the entire bottom half of the country. And yet, workers haven’t given up. In 2025, unionization ticked upward. Public approval of unions has reached some of its highest levels in decades, and more than 50 million nonunion workers say they’d join a union tomorrow if they could. That’s because they know what unions deliver. In an economy that has been rigged against working people for decades, unions serve as a counterweight to corporate power – reducing inequality and building the kind of middle class that underpins a strong and inclusive economy. It will take serious policy change to reverse nearly 50 years of deliberate attacks on working people and their institutions. It will require that politicians stand up to the superrich and corporate interests. It will require that workers continue to build power. But, as this report shows, we have much to gain from stronger unions. An organized and empowered workforce has powerful and far-reaching economic benefits. Nearly four decades ago, I helped found the Economic Policy Institute because working people needed a voice in the economic debates that shape their lives. This report is exactly the work we envisioned: rigorous research that puts workers at the center of economic policy, and that arms all of us with the facts to fight for them. At a time when our economy is held in relatively few hands, we need this work – and we need unions – more than ever.

Robert Reich
Professor, writer, and former U.S. Secretary of Labor

To the Editor,
The issue of data centers, their construction and operation strikes at the very core of why unions were formed in the late 1800s. The fundamental arguments in favor of unions were not higher wages, and overtime pay, they were demands for greater worker safety; fewer hours per week, and child labor laws. The labor movement introduced the world to the concept that all people have a fundamental human right to live and work in a safe environment. It appears that over time, these essential elements of the labor movement have been forgotten or relegated to meaningless platitudes on some poster or political banner. The article “Trades council joins group seeking to ‘elevate facts’ on data centers” (*The Building Tradesman*, July 24) does nothing to ‘elevate facts’ but only pushes a tired old line about a short-term spike in construction jobs. The article does not identify any concerns voiced by opponents of these data centers, but focuses on one issue: a potential for 2,500 construction jobs at the \$16 billion Saline, Mich. site. There is no mention of the major environmental and health issues brought forward by legitimate science researchers and public health and safety experts. The vision of this group seems to be too short-sighted and blinded by greed to be given any credence by the rank and file union member. Perhaps though I am just being short-sighted myself. An issue that has so much support from Elon Musk and President Trump has to be good for America. Right?

Bill Stimpson Jr.
Westland, MI

Editor’s note: The writer above maintains that the article “does not identify any concerns voiced by opponents of these data centers...” From the article in the July 24 edition: “The Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council, the umbrella advocacy group for unionized building trades unions in the state, has taken up the banner of supporting data center construction, but only if they’re built with the proper safeguards, under state regulations while following the necessary permitting processes.” “The website (<https://mifordatacenters.org>) has straightforward information on many of the issues that can potentially give people heartburn about data centers. Water usage, and concerns about increases in electric bills, noise and tax implications are some of the items covered.” As a council, we have acknowledged that data center construction can be controversial in some locales. Over the years, the same can be said of nuclear power plant construction. And prisons. And building new roads. And auto manufacturing plants. The concerns of local citizens should be taken into account when such projects are being debated and permitted under whatever governmental authorities apply. As new data centers are being debated, citizens can and should make their opinions heard before local planning and zoning commissions, city councils, and state lawmakers. But once local and state government laws have been met and construction permits issued, what would data center detractors, including some union members, expect from Michigan’s building trades union leaders and their contractors? Don’t sign project labor agreements to build them? Invite nonunion contractors to do the work? Ignore data center and related construction opportunities that may put to work an astounding 10 percent of the state’s unionized construction workforce in a year or two? There are times to protest. And then there are times to build stuff and earn a living.

Marty Mulcahy, Editor

Just joking

How does a polygamist hippie count his wives?
1 Mrs. Hippie, 2 Mrs. Hippie, 3 Mrs. Hippie...
...
Today I was invited by a female janitor to smoke some weed at her apartment, but I politely declined.
I can’t deal with high maintenance women.
...
My wife warned me not to steal the kitchen utensils.
But there’s a whisk I’m willing to take!
...
I told my wife she was drawing her eyebrows too high. She looked surprised.
...
A cop started crying while he was writing me a ticket. I asked him why and he said, “It’s a moving violation.”



NMU prepares more room for students

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parking.

Building 2, the company said, recently completed framing and is progressing through roofing, rough-ins, and exterior enclosure work, with insulation and drywall coming next. The second building is a four-story, 79,222-square-foot project with 72 units. Totalling 156,798 square feet, both buildings will have a total of 392 student beds and will include ground-level amenities like lounges, fitness rooms, lobby, study rooms. This project is designed to the LEED Silver level. Each four-story apartment building consists of one-bedroom, two-bedroom, and four-bedroom apartments with ADA-compliant amenities. The buildings will be located on university property along both sides of Presque Isle Avenue – one between Fair Avenue and Subway on the east, and the other from Cohodas Hall to Waldo Street on the west. NMU said the buildings’ location “create a new gateway to the university along this important urban edge while strengthening the connection between campus and community.” When the project was approved in late 2024, Gavin Leach, NMU’s vice president for finance and administration, told *Northern Today*: “The positive gains we’ve made in enrollment in recent years have increased the demand for housing on campus and in the community. It escalated to the point that we needed to pursue an option for addressing the issue as part of our strategic goals to enhance the student experience, reduce barriers to success and promote well-being. It’s ideal if students don’t have to struggle to find available and affordable housing options when they arrive in Marquette.” Construction of the \$55 million project has been proceeding over the past year and is expected to be complete before the fall 2027 semester.



AT WORK ON AN ELECTRICAL box at the NMU Presque Isle apartments project in Marquette is Freya Wiser of IBEW Local 906. She’s employed by Pieper Electric.

Photo credit: Jack Deo

Moratorium on data centers ‘short-sighted,’ NABTU chief says

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the health and well-being of working families, our privacy and civil rights, and long-term economic and social stability; •The economic gains of AI and robotics will benefit workers, not just the wealthy owners of Big Tech; and •AI does not increase electricity and utility prices, harm communities, or destroy the environment.” McGarvey essentially argued that there are often local safeguards already in place, with city, county and state governments already hyper-aware of arguments for how data center construction should proceed (or not). “Across America,” he wrote, “union workers are partnering with local leaders and community stakeholders to ensure that data centers are built with high standards and serve as engines of shared prosperity for their communities.” Engagement with industry leaders has resulted in strong community benefits

agreements, life-changing workforce investments, commitments to building responsibly with state-of-the-art energy and water technologies, and agreements ensuring that data centers pay for their own energy costs. “In fact, several major tech and infrastructure companies have entered into landmark agreements (MOUs) with NABTU. These partnerships ensure that data centers are built with union labor and benefit the local community.” “Additionally, proactive engagement by local governments and utilities has resulted in agreements to keep rates low, drive investment into, rather than away from, local schools and public services, and build energy resources that communities rely on. “When built by the men and women of NABTU – the best-trained and most highly skilled craftspeople in the world – data centers can provide enormous economic benefits to the communities.”

Meanwhile, in Michigan, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer on July 15 announced “the Michigan Affordable and Responsible Growth Action Plan” intended “to ensure that companies pay the full cost of data center construction and operation, strengthen our electric grid, safeguard our natural resources, and are accountable for their development.” Whitmer continued: “It’s simple: any data center company that wants to invest in Michigan must ensure working families do not pay a single penny for data center development or operations, protect our natural resources, and create local, good-paying jobs. On my watch, Michiganders have been protected from any rate increases due to data center development and we adopted some of the strongest protections for people and communities, but we need to do more. I’m calling on all data center companies to sign the pledge, and on the Michigan Legislature to codify every single one of our guardrails in Michigan law. “

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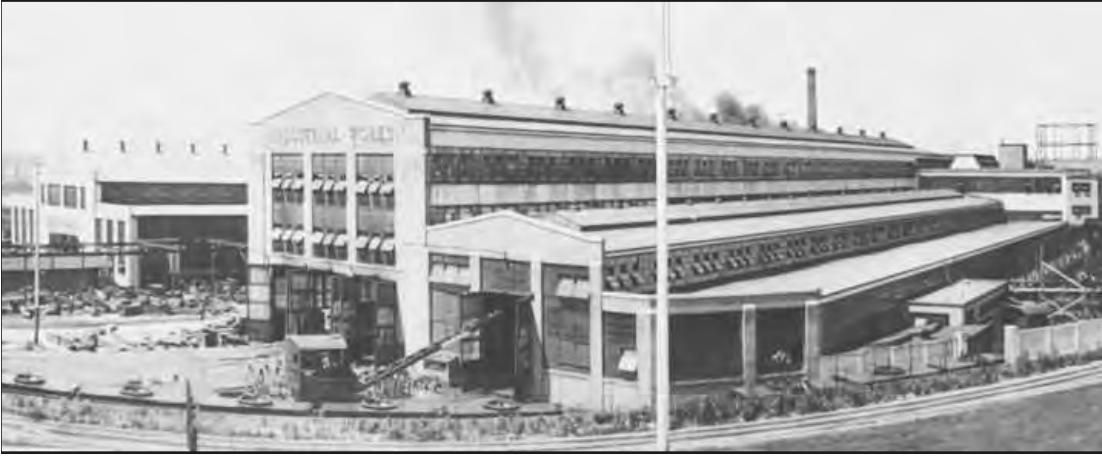


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BUILDING MICHIGAN: Industrial Works of Bay City HISTORY IN THE MAKING

By Marty Mulcahy



A PORTION OF THE INDUSTRIAL WORKS plant in Bay City, shown in July 1920. The three prominent buildings here include (l-r) the plant’s boiler room, the structural/crane assembly shop at center and the machine shop. From 1873 to 1983, the plant on Bay City’s Saginaw River waterfront was the site of heavy manufacturing operations, first by Industrial Works then by Industrial Brownhoist. According to Industrial Works’ 50th Anniversary literature in 1923, “the first railroad steam shovel in the world, so far as we know, was built in Bay City. Its completion marked the beginning of the development of auxiliary railroad equipment.”

Photo credit: Delta College/Bay County Historical Society

Ernest (E.B.) Perry, the longtime president of Industrial Works of Bay City, issued a brag about his company in a corporate booklet marking the company’s 50th anniversary in 1923. His statement wasn’t subtle, but his company has been barely remembered, even if his statement may have been largely true.

“The history of the Industrial Works,” Perry wrote, “is the history of the crane industry in this country.”

Today, that crane history might come as a surprise to the good people of Bay City and the rest of Michigan. That’s because Industrial Works only existed for a few more years after Perry made that statement. And unlike industries like motor vehicle manufacturing, railroad-mounted cranes proved to be a bit of a declining niche market over the years, and are about as common as the caboose today.

But when railroads were king, Industrial Works offered steam- and electric-powered train cranes to help keep America’s commerce moving. And their plant in Bay City kept people working for decades – 2,000 were employed at peak. Industrial Works was founded in 1873 in Bay City on land purchased from the defunct MacDowell Foundry Co., which had been formed 12 years earlier.

“Until 1886,” says a write-up by the Historical Construction Equipment Association, “most railroad cranes consisted of a hand-operated pedestal crane on a flatcar, and the few self-propelled railroad cranes, dubbed locomotive cranes, in America had been imported from England. That was the year that Industrial Works mounted an improved steam wharf crane on a four-wheeled flatcar for use around their plant.

“Later that same year, they introduced the first true locomotive crane to be built in America. This was a 15-ton capacity machine with the boiler at the opposite end of the frame from a full-revolving boom.”

According to *Michigan Railroads*, Industrial Works during its heyday in the early 1920s fronted the east side of the Saginaw River in downtown Bay City and covered 29 acres with 59 buildings. The plant had 440,000 square feet of floor space. Iron ore and coal came in by lake freighter and a railroad spur.



A TRACK-MOUNTED Industrial Works locomotive crane dumps a load of dirt onto a flatbed truck, year unknown. An Industrial Works company history said that in 1891 the firm “found itself without customers for its considerable line of highly specialized products.” The history continued: “A contract was secured with the Exposition Company to supply a number of cranes for erecting and freight handling at the World’s Fair in Chicago in 1893. The cranes handled all of the heavy work of the exhibits and were given a splendid showing with much publicity at the exposition, finally being awarded first prize and a gold medal. Unfortunately, what seemed like such a splendid opening really failed to produce any crane sales, and the company entered the panic of 1893 with frozen assets and no relief in sight.” It survived.

Credit: Construction Equipment

Credit: Engineering News Publishing Co., 1894



THE FIRST ITERATION of railroad-track steam shovels made by Industrial Works of Bay City, circa 1880. While this “Clement Shovel” was ultimately a failure due to mechanical limitations from high cylinder stresses, future designs launched the company into a leadership role in worldwide railroad steam shovel construction. This type of shovel helped install railroad track, others were designed to be taken off tracks and used in road building and other construction. Shovels produced by the Bay City company were extensively used in the construction of the Panama Canal.

The Historical Construction Equipment Association said for the two decades after it was founded, Industrial Works “focused on designing and building many types of railroad and industrial cranes, along with pile drivers and hammers, clamshell buckets, railroad transfer tables, and rail saws. In a precursor to today’s intermodal container services, the Transfer Crane – a bridge crane designed for transferring cargo – was marketed in 1923 for handling less-than-carload freight containers between railroad cars and trucks.”

The association added: “Industrial Works’ locomotive cranes, railroad wreckers, and pile drivers were well-respected and reliable, and these products became their ‘bread-and-butter’ lines. Until the advent of the truck crane, locomotive cranes were the only mobile cranes of any respectable size that were available for general construction use.

“They could be found on railroad spurs and sidings, loading or unloading equipment, supplies and construction materials. They trundled about large aggregate plants, cement mills and quarries, loading product for delivery by rail, and they clammed aggregates into batch plants situated at trackside for convenient delivery of dry materials. They trod cautiously on lightweight, temporary track and trestles as they handled everything from excavation and pile driving to steel erection and concrete pours at bridges, dams, locks and buildings.”

The lifting capability of their railroad wrecking cranes steadily improved from 12-tons in 1893 to 200 tons in 1922, which proved a marketing tool for the company.

Michigan Railroads said the company “stood for years without serious competition. Its general products were used by practically every railroad in the United States, and in the manufacturer of railroad wrecking cranes in particular.”

E.B. Perry was been president of Industrial Works for 35 years. He died in 1927, the same year Industrial Works merged with the Brown Hoisting Machinery Co. A new company, Industrial Brownhoist Corp., was established at the site in Bay City.

Thus began the slipping of Industrial Equipment from the community’s collective memory. It was replaced with Industrial Brownhoist, a company which continued to be successful in the railroad crane business. The Bay City site also produced cable excavators and cranes, dockside and industrial cranes, trenchers, and other material handling equipment. By 1950, the company boasted it had built “more than 20,000 cranes of all types.”

Industrial Works said business fell off after World War II, and Industrial Brownhoist was sold to the Penn-Texas Corp. in 1954; five years later it was sold again, to a hotel group based in Miami Beach, Fla. Business continued to fade, and in 1960 the American Hoist & Derrick Co. of St. Paul, Minn., purchased what remained: a plant with only about 40 employees. Its new life as American’s Industrial Brownhoist Division reinvigorated the plant for a couple of decades before it was shut down for good in 1983.

Today the riverfront site, after extensive clean up of its industrial past, was transformed more than a decade ago into a mixed-use development, Uptown Bay City.

Are stronger unions key to making America great again?

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slog down to today’s 10 percent workforce penetration was punctuated by a number of historical markers: passage of the Taft-Hartley Act in 1947, which allowed the passage of state right-to-work laws; President Reagan’s firing of the striking air traffic controllers in 1981; and the Citizens United Supreme Court decision in 2010, which opened the floodgates for unlimited corporate political spending.

Undermining the nation’s unions has led to record wealth disparity between the rich and poor, to members of Congress listening to the corporate money talking to them, and worker wages that have not kept up with inflation.

The report was written by EPI researchers Heidi Shierholz, Celine McNicholas, Josh Bivens, Jennifer Sherer, Ben Zipperer, and Margaret Poydock.

“I think this report shows that there’s no better way to fix what ails this country than to make it possible for more workers to join a union,” said AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler. “Unions truly do have the power to transform this country. They change lives. They change the course of families. They change entire communities.

“I can’t tell you how many conversations I’ve had with workers, no matter where you go – big city, small town – who basically are saying over and over again: ‘My rent keeps going up, my paycheck does not stretch as far as it used to, I walk into the grocery store and I ask myself, when did shit get so expensive?’ It is just a constant.”

According to the report, tripling union membership would:

- Deliver a 14.5 percent raise for the median worker – amounting to more than \$7,700 annually, or nearly \$270,000 over a 35-year career. “These life-changing increases would benefit union and nonunion workers alike,” the EPI report said.
- Shift \$1.2 trillion to workers annually. This would reverse a third of the increase in inequality experienced since 1979.
- Significantly narrow racial wage gaps. Because unions tend to boost wages more for Black and Hispanic workers than for white workers, tripling union membership would close racial wage gaps by more than one-third.
- Boost the number of people with health insurance. Since unions increase other forms of compensation, like health insurance benefits, the number of non-elderly people without health insurance would fall by about 25 percent. Unions further reduce uninsured rates by advocating for increased public benefits like Medicaid.
- Strengthen communities. States with high union density invest more in public education, have higher unemployment insurance reciprocity rates, and have all adopted Medicaid expansion.
- Protect democracy. Unions boost voter turnout, equip workers with civic skills, and actively defend voting rights. States with high union density have passed far fewer voter restriction bills than low-density states.

How do we get the nation back to 30 percent union penetration, or at least pointed in the right direction?

A ray of hope emerged in June, with the passage – in a majority-Republican House of Representatives – of the “Faster Labor Contracts Act.” The act seeks to end corporate delays when faced with union organizing campaigns. The legislation will likely not see the light of day

in the Senate, however.

Organized labor’s top priority in Congress has been the union-friendly Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act that would ease union organizing and strengthen collective bargaining rights, but has been buried in the GOP-led Congress.

Passage of the Public Service Freedom to Negotiate Act would be the first federal law that guarantees all public-sector workers at the federal, state, and local levels the right to organize and collectively bargain.

Another proposal would guarantee the use of arbitration for newly organized workers to get a first contract with their employer. And the EPI also suggests that if CEOs at a corporation are making 100 times more than the average worker, then by default

workers there can begin the collective bargaining process to form a union.

“Restoring union density to 1950s levels is not a nostalgic pipe dream,” the EPI report said. “Federal and state policymakers have a clear roadmap for tripling union density. While no single reform discussed in this report is a silver bullet for the problems facing the country, taken together they would address one of the worst: the erosion of workers’ right to bargain for their fair share of the wealth they produce.

“These reforms are meaningful steps toward tripling union density, and toward an economy where productivity gains are shared broadly, not captured by corporate elites and the superrich.”



UNION PICKETS LINE Ecorse Road in Van Buren Twp., protesting Stellantis’ ignoring the National Maintenance Agreement hiring guidelines.

Photo credit: Ron Maracle

Mass picket protests Stellantis’ move away from hiring under NMA

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agreements and local hiring.

This marks the first protest of this scope against Stellantis or any of its previous corporate entities (including Chrysler Corp.). Pickets were set up outside the plant along Ecorse Road.

The event was coordinated by Roofers and Waterproofers Local 149 Business Manager Brian Gregg. “I’m so grateful to all the crafts who came together to support our efforts,” Gregg said. “I’ve never seen a turnout like that – the Roofers took the lead, but the solidarity was huge; every craft helped out in some way.”

Gregg said about 40 percent of the building is being built by union crafts – which is especially confounding since Stellantis as a company has consistently built all-union and they have a seat on the NMAPC Advisory Committee. Projects that proceed under “NMA” language are union-constructed. Gregg said Stellantis is claiming they are only leasing the building, but local records indicate they received a local tax break before proceeding with construction.

“Our fight is with Stellantis’ decisions, not with any union craft that may be performing work on that site,” Gregg said. “If Stellantis gets away with that here, they will get away with it anywhere. We couldn’t let this go on without making a statement.”

Construction ping-pongs a bit, but overall trend is solid

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ground, dropping 2.2 percent from May to June.

For the 12 months ending June 2026, total U.S. construction starts were up 10.6 percent compared to the 12 months ending June 2025. During those 12 months, residential starts were down 3.6 percent; nonresidential starts were up 4.9 percent and nonbuilding starts were up 34.3 percent.

Dodge’s latest “Momentum Index” for the industry dropped 1.9 percent in June.

“Despite June’s pullback, nonresidential planning remains on solid ground,” said Martin. “Data center activity continued to drive the Index, but its pace moderated from the extraordinary levels seen in recent months and drove the DMI to pull back over the month. Otherwise, planning activity accelerated across nearly every other sector.”

Meanwhile, U.S. construction employment checked in with some fairly strong numbers on July 21, with the Associated General Contractors reporting that employment was up in 33 of the 50 states from May to June. Unfortunately, Michigan was not one of them.

“Construction employment gains were more widespread in June, with more states adding jobs than losing them over both the month and the year,” said Macrina Wilkins, the Associated General Contractors’ director of market insights. “States benefiting from strong infrastructure, energy, manufacturing, and data center investment continue to lead construction hiring, while higher financing costs remain a headwind for several private construction sectors.”

The numbers for Michigan in June 2026 – and for just about the entire year – have shown the state to be steadily losing jobs and consistently among the bottom 10 states in construction employment. Michigan lost 800 jobs from May to June 2026, but in a wider view dropped 3,600 jobs in June 2026 compared to June 2025. While the lower numbers aren’t ideal, Michigan’s loss of jobs only amounts to 1.8 percent of its workforce. And Michigan has enjoyed a strong post-pandemic bump in construction employment that was bound to cool off.

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UA Local 190

ANN ARBOR – **UNION MEETING (AUGUST):** The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, Aug. 10 at 6 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor. All members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

UNION MEETING (SEPTEMBER): Please be informed the *awards banquet* will take place on Monday, Sept. 14 at 6 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor. All members are invited to attend this wonderful event. Due to this event, normal business will be suspended. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

UNION HALL CLOSING FOR AN UP-COMING HOLIDAY: Our office will be closing at 12 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 4 and will be closed all day on Monday, Sept. 7 to observe Labor Day. Wishing you and your family a happy and safe holiday.

52nd ANNUAL GOLF OUTING: THANK YOU: A very special thanks to Brian Keating, Beth Keating, Karen Spearin, DJ Ollila, Doug Stark and Heather Stark, along with the many other volunteers for the hard work put forth in making this another outstanding golf outing!

Congratulations to Brian Morris, Freeman Lee, Alan Wireman and Ishmael Picklesimer, 1st place winners. Congratulations to Blaine Coulter, Josh Friend Michael Barker and Gavin Eliot team for winning SKINS. Congratulations to Matt Tschirhart, Don Petitjean, Vern Greene and Gary Balitzkat team for winning SKINS.

Thank you all for your generous donations. This year we raised \$1,060 for the Howell Nature Center. This year we raised \$1,200 for the Huron Valley Human Society plus \$231 to purchase toys for the animals at the Huron Valley Human Society. A very big thank you to everyone who attended the outing this year!

LOCAL 190 SUMMER PICNIC - SAVE THE DATE: Aug. 29, the picnic will be held at Hudson Mills Metro Park, 8801 N. Territorial Rd. Dexter, MI 48130 from 12 Noon -4 p.m. You will be receiving an invitation soon. Please RSVP by Aug. 14.

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 contactor and the date you reported back to work.* PLEASE NOTE: All members can now go to the website under “members only” and fill out a “back to work” form or “laid off” form.

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. 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, 2026. Please remember to bring in the 2026 Annual Physical Verification Form and email the completed form to Bernadette Maus bmaus@ua190.org. This form is on our Local 190 website UA190.org and also the Benefits website UA190benefits.org. go to documents, health care, 2026 annual physical verification form (towards the bottom of the page)

NEW BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD APP: Attention all members you can

download the free Blue Cross Blue Shield APP on your smart device. This will allow you to see a copy of your BCBS card, review your claims, explanation benefits and much more. **Download: BCBSM**

Bernadette Maus will be available by phone Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or in person 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 1.

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

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

Available Journeyman classes:

Lead/Asbestos/Blood-borne Pathogens Training (4 hrs): Please register through the website: ua190.org 2026 Schedule - 5 p.m. Monday, Sept. 28.

First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs): Please register through the website: ua190.org 2026 Schedule - 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 5.

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.**

The welding lab will re-open on Sept. 8. Welding lab is Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesday & Thursday nights from 4pm to 8:30pm. Saturdays 7am to 3:30pm. There is limited space and first come, first served. Saturdays will only remain open with member participation. Welding tests will be scheduled after participants are approved by welding instructors and the training coordinator.

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 **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 (Continued next column)



Plumbers,
Pipe Fitters
Local 370 and HVAC Service

UA Local 370

FLINT – The next membership meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2026.**

Retiree Breakfast will be on Monday, Aug. 10 at 9 am.

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:

Rigging: Sept. 8 thru Oct. 8. 4-7:30p.m. Testing Oct 12-16.

CPR: Sept. 16 @ 4:30p.m.

Braze Test: July 30 @ 5p.m.

All classes and test days can be signed up with the Training Center at 810-720-5243 Ext 15

Local 190, con’t

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 **Must have a current State of Michigan Plumbing License to certify with ASSE.**

Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class to be Med Gas certified. Must have a minimum of 4 years, documented experience in the plumbing and/or piping industry. **2026 Schedule: Sept. 1.** The courses will run for 5 weeks, Tue and Thur. Limited to 16 participants. Call the Training Center to sign up for one of these courses or register through the website: ua190.org

Med Gas Installer Up-Date (8hrs): This is a two-day course. **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

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

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

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.

RETIREE MEETINGS – PLEASE JOIN US: The next SPADES meeting will start at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 6 at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and coffee.

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

or at training@ualocal370.org

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

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

Committee and Board meetings are as follows:

Examining Board – Tuesday, August 11th, 2026 at 4:00pm

FMR Committee – Tuesday August 11th, 2026 at 4:00pm

PAC committee – Tuesday, August 11th, 2026 at 5:00pm

Executive Board – Tuesday, August 11th, 2026 at 5:00pm

Building Committee – Tuesday, August 11th, 2026 at 6:00pm

Finance Committee -Tuesday, August 11th, 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 MUSTBSAFE.com website and complete all 18 safety modules. Members will not be eligible to work at any job site requiring them until all 18 modules are complete and are current on their drug test. If your drug test is expired, you must take one before you can be dispatched to any GM work. Drug tests are only valid for 1 year. Call The hall and we will print you a drug test authorization form.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Remember to keep your dues current. Any member failing to pay for 3 months shall stand suspended, unable to vote for a period of 1 year or run for office for a period of 2 years and subject to a \$50 reinstatement fee. Dues must be paid in 3-month increments according to our bylaws. Dues will be accepted up to 6:45 on union meeting nights.

Members wishing to take the U.A. welding certification test 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. Sweat shirts are \$30 and the long sleeve tee shirts are \$15. Golf polo and golf wind shirts are available for \$25.

T.I.C. fringe administrators’ number is 1-888-797-5862.



Local 357
Plumbers,
Pipe Fitters &
HVAC Service

UA Local 357

KALAMAZOO – **UNION MEETING:** The next regular Union Meeting will be on **Tuesday, Aug. 11** at 6:30 pm. Other meetings that day will be the Finance Committee at 4:30 and the Executive Board at 6:00. Note that Lori will be out of the office the entire week starting Aug. 10, so there will be no Union Dues collected at the back window on Union Meeting night.

GOLF OUTING: You can now Sign Up for the Annual Local 357 Golf Outing to be held on Saturday, Sept. 12 at Pineview Golf Course. The price this year is \$75 per person = \$300 per foursome. Single players need to team up with others to make a foursome and may sign up and pay at the Union Hall.

You must pay for your golf prior to the outing date. The price of your golf gets you breakfast (7:30-8:45), refreshments, 18 holes of golf, lunch, dinner and prizes. All participants in the outing must be signed up and paid by September 4th. Anyone interested in helping at the Golf Outing – Please contact Lori at lhathfield@ualocal357.com.

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

RETIREE MEETING: Retire lunch meetings will now be **BREAKFAST** on the 1st Monday of every month. Breakfast will commence at 9 am at **The Crew**, 5200 Portage Rd, Portage. Phone no. for the location: (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 Zachery Heckman on his recent marriage. Congratulations to Connor Mathies and family on the birth of a son, Scotty.

Congratulations to Nathaniel Ringer and family on the birth of a son, Nico.

Congratulations to Collin Fillmore and family on the birth of a son, Dakota.

Congratulations to Taylor Weldy and family on the birth of a daughter, Saleh.

CONDOLENCES: Condolences to Matt Romain and the rest of his family on the passing of his mother in law.

“A sound mind in a sound body is a short but full description of a happy state in this world.”

–John Locke (1632 - 1704)

“We pay a price for everything we get or take in this world; and although ambitions are well worth having, they are not to be cheaply won, but exact their dues of work and self-denial, anxiety and discouragement.”

–L. M. Montgomery (1874 - 1942)

“Raise your sail one foot and you get ten feet of wind.”

–Chinese Proverb



Local 671

UA Local 671

MONROE – The next union meeting will be held on **August 27th, 2026, at 7pm**, due to the National Convention. We will send a push notification out in the App. The Executive Board will also have a meeting on **August 27th, 2026, at 5pm**. If anyone would like to come in front of the E-Board, please contact the Union Hall.

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

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

Condolences: I am sorry to report on the passing of Mitchell Lawson. Mitch was a newly organized member that was working for Campbell Services. Mitch was 47-year-old and left 3 children behind to honor his memory. Mitchell Lawson passed on July 23rd and at this time the family does not have any funeral services planned.

I am also sad to report on the passing of retiree Martin Krueger on July 23rd. Martin was a 44-year-member and past shop owner. There will be a celebration of life planned for a later date. Condolences go out to his wife Dawn and his family.

It is also with heavy heart that I report a longtime friend and matriarch of Local 671 and wife of retired member Don Horney, Mary Jo (MJ) Horney passed away on July 23rd from her long battle from cancer. MJ was always a pleasure to work around, and she will be missed dearly by all. We express our heartfelt condolences to Lou Don and his family.

Congratulations: I like to congratulate Brother Jon Hubbard and his wife Briana on the birth of their baby boy, Eli Allen Hubbard on July 24th. I wish health and happiness on your new son.

The annual picnic is set for August 29th. Please mark your calendars. We are always looking for volunteers to help with setup and clean up. Letters will be going out this week, please take the time to RSVP if you are bringing a dependent child.

Health & Welfare: We have launched a new website for our Health and Welfare. You should have received a notice in the mail about accessing the new website. You will be able to access important documents, and you are able to submit forms and other materials electronically using the secure website. For questions or help getting logged on contact Greg Smith at TIC at 517-327-2148.

Retiree Luncheon: There will be no Retiree Luncheon in August due to the picnic. We will see you all in September.

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. There will be a new platform for the app coming soon. Stay informed about what’s going on in the Local by using the app.

In Closing: If you are not registered to vote, make sure you do so. We determine our future at the ballot box. Vote and vote often. God bless Local 671 and its members!

Mike Jewell: email: mike@ualocal671.com

Kirk Lavoy: email: Kirk@ualocal671.com

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

“Facts are stubborn things; and whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictates of our passion, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence.”

– John Adams (1735 - 1826)

“It’s okay if you mess up. You should give yourself a break.”

–Billy Joel (1949 -)



The Building Tradesman

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

Steve Claywell
Secretary-Treasurer

Greg Herman
President

The Building Tradesman is published bi-weekly (every other Friday) by the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council, Detroit office. 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216

Printed at Grand Blanc Printing, a union shop

ISSN-007-3717



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Subscription Rate \$15 annually (group rate for unions)
Periodical mail postage paid at Detroit, MI and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER
send postage returns to:
The Building Tradesman
1640 Porter St. Detroit, MI 48216
Phone: (313) 961-3800
Union members with address changes are asked to contact their local union.



UA Local 85

SAGINAW – The next **Union Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, August 26, 2026**, at the Union Hall at 3535 Bay Rd., at 7 PM.

The next Zone 2 Union Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2026**, at the Grayling Eagles Lodge, 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 csteale@ualocal85.org

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

GOD BLESS ORGANIZED LABOR AND THE LABOR MOVEMENT!

SUB Fund:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Website Address: Please visit www.ualocal85.org.

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

(Continued next column)

**Local 636**

Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters, Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Service

UA Local 636

DETROIT – Our next **Regular Meeting** will be at 7:00 pm on **Tuesday, August 25, 2026** at **St. George Romanian Cultural Center 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. (Southfield Service Drive) Southfield, MI 48075.**

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

PIPEFITTERS LOCAL 636 ONLINE MERCHANT STORE IS LIVE! Sign into the members section on our website 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.

Tradeswomen Build Nations – The 16th Annual Tradeswomen Build Nations will take place in Houston, TX Oct. 9-11 hosted by North American Building Trades. This event is the largest gathering of Union Trades Women and growing each year. Featuring conferences, workshops, speakers and a banner parade through the host city. If interested in attending please contact the Union Hall. Reminder, registration does fill fast.

Local 636 Annual Picnic will be held Aug. 29 from 11- 4 pm at the Sara Club 3945 Club Dr. Brighton, MI 48114. Please join us for food, drinks, kid's games & prizes, swimming and fishing. To volunteer or for more information please call Tony Sievert 248-939-3636.

The Annual Labor Day Parade is scheduled for Sept. 7. We will be meeting at 7:00 a.m. at the IBEW Local 58 Hall. Address is 1358 Abbott St., Detroit, MI 48226. If you want to volunteer to help, contact Business Agent, Jeff Lewis. His contact number is: 248-939-8636.

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, David Dobis, Daniel Mosey.

Get Well Wishes to: Tim Tabin, Daniel Albergo, Rebecca Blair, Douglas Detomaso, Michael Ferrante, Daniel Foltz, Ryan Hartmann, John Holcomb, Winston Jones, Michael Kovak III, Raymond Kuhowski Jr, John Lilly, Anthony Lumetta, Roger Pruitt, Allen Snider Jr, Christopher Sovey, Fred Stiehr, David Stone, Jeremel Ducharme, Mike Marshall, John Pastorius, John Hurley.

Deceased Members: 35 Year Member Robert Howe July 10, 2026.

Congratulations to Cliff and Allison Liptak on the birth of their daughter Piper June on July 22, 2026. Congratulations to Alex & Kelsey Schwarz on the birth of their son Alexander Schwarz Jr. July 15, 2026.

DUES – 3rd 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 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 August 20, 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, our next day trip will be to the **Detroit Institute of Arts Friday, Sept. 25.** We will meet in the parking lot of St. George Romanian Cultural Center 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. Southfield, MI 48075 and board the bus 8:30 am – 9:15 am. 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.

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

Defined Contribution Pension Plan. The customer service number for Empower is **833-569-2433.** For account information please create log in at **empowermyretirement.com** or download the Empower mobile app.

Considering Retirement?

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

Are you "Work Ready"?

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

Training Center News. Regular NIGHT WELDING: Monday and Thursday nights from 4pm till 8pm.

Certified BRAZING CLASS: Monday and Thursday Nights 4 till 8.

QUALIFIED BOLTING CLASS: Monday and Thursday nights from 4-8 with Kurt Moran. Call Kim to sign up.

Co2 Class with Jason Blouin Starts Monday Aug.17th from 5-8pm

Ice machine maintenance with Kevin Burns Starts Thursday Aug. 17th, from 5-8pm

BOILER TEARDOWN with Kevin Burns Starts Thursday Aug. 20th

We will accept applications again for CONSTRUCTION Apprentices only beginning in Dec 2026. ONLINE ONLY @ www.pipefitters636tc.org

**Local 333 Plumbers & Pipe Fitters**

UA Local 333

LANSING – **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 2ND WENDSDAY OF THE MONTH.**

CORRECTION: September's union meeting will be held Sept. 16, 2026, at the Lansing Training Center, 16180 National Parkway, Lansing, MI. 48906, dinner will be held at 6pm.

October's union meeting will be held in Battle Creek, Oct. 21, 2026 at the IBEW Local Union 445 Hall, 4071 W. Dickman Rd, Springfield, MI. 49037. Meeting will start at 6:30pm.

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

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, 10 weeks starting Sept. 9, 2026, for all three Regions.

Lansing:

Monday and Wednesday 4:30pm – 8:30pm

Tuesday and Thursday 4:30pm – 8:30pm

16180 National Parkway, Lansing, MI 48906

Jackson: Monday and Wednesday 4:30pm – 8:30pm

Tuesday and Thursday will open only if Mon/Wed class fills Limit 8 people, 3101 Allied Industrial Dr., Jackson, MI 49201

Battle Creek: Monday and Thursday 4:30pm – 8:30pm Limit 12 people

(KCC)RMTC, 405 Hill Brady Rd. Battle Creek, MI. 49037

Tube Bending Rigging: INDUSTRIAL RIGGING/SIGNALPERSON – NEW CERT – FALL 2026 DATES TBD 4:30 – 8:30PM.

need 6 people to hold class

INDUSTRIAL RIGGING/SIGNALPERSON – RENEWAL – FALL 2026 DATES TBD 4:30 – 8:30PM. Starting Oct. 2026, rigging/signaling recertification classes will only be held quarterly. Please plan accordingly.

Backflow: ASSE BACKFLOW – NEW CERT – FALL 2026 DATE TBD (Tues & Thurs) 4:30-8:30 PM

**must have a Journeyman plumber license and 5 years of piping experience or be in the 5th year of apprenticeship

ASSE BACKFLOW – RENEWAL – FALL 2026 DATE TBD (Tues & Thurs) 4:30-8:30PM

starting October 2026, ASSE Backflow certification classes will only be held quarterly. Please plan accordingly.

Medical Gas. Installer: MEDICAL GAS INSTALLER – NEW CERT – FALL 2026 DATE TBD (Tues & Thurs) 5:00 – 8:00PM

MEDICAL GAS INSTALLER – RENEWAL – FALL 2026 DATE TBD (Tues & Thurs)

5-8 PM. starting October 2026, med gas certification classes will only be held quarterly. Please plan accordingly.

Pipefitting: LANSING: ADVANCED PIPEFITTING & LAYOUT – OCT 2026 DATE TBD must be a 2nd year or greater

JACKSON: ADVANCED PIPEFITTING & LAYOUT – OCT 2026 DATE TBD must be a 2nd year or greater

PIPEFITTING FUNDAMENTALS – OCT 2026 DATE TBD

Tube Bending: TUBE BENDING CLASS – OCT 2026. **must have 6 people to hold class

Trimble Robotic Station: TRIMBLE ROBOTIC STATION – OCT 2026 DATE TBD **limit to 6 people per class

Blueprint Interpretation Reading: INTO BLUEBEAM – OCT 2026 DATE TBD **limit of 6 people per class

Basic First Aid: BASIC FIRST AID – 1 NIGHT 4 HOUR CLASS – WILL SCHEDULE WHEN A MIN 6 PEOPLE HAVE SIGNED UP

CPR: CPR – 1 NIGHT 4 HOUR CLASS – WILL SCHEDULE WHEN A MIN 6 PEOPLE HAVE SIGNED UP

Please note for all certifications: 2 weeks before class begins, you will be notified of all class details. Please note moving forward, classes will be held quarterly. Please plan accordingly.

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 am at the Alpha Coney Island at 1188 Jackson Crossing, Jackson.

"The Ulliance Member Assistance Program is available to all members and their families. This benefit includes free and confidential mental health counseling. To find out more, go to lifeadvisor.com or call 800-448-8326 or call your respective agent or Dustin at the Union Hall

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.

Chris Keck gives a very heartfelt thank you to everyone that volunteered and played at this year's golf outing. Once again, it was a great success. We would like to thank our many sponsors for their generous sponsorship.

Gold Sponsors: Bluntly & Co., Local 190, Local 333, TIC Midwest, Michigan Building Trades, Novara Law Group, Milwaukee Tool, UA Local 85, Miller Boldt Mechanical, Goyette Mechanical

Silver Sponsors: Strategic Capital, MMMCA, WM Floyd, Pipefitters Local 636, Limbach, Precision Piping, National Investment Services, Pro Services, UA Local 370, NFP, Maqueen Insurance, R.S. Dale

Bronze Sponsors UA Local 190, Platinum Mechanical, Foster & Foster, UA Local 357, Janus Henderson Advisers, AJ Miller

A big thanks to: John E. Green, Ferguson Plumbing Supply, Milwaukee Tool

Congratulations to Joe Martin who became a UA Local 333 Life Member, July 23, 2026.

Joe was a pipefitter from Region 3, he retired on November 20, 2016. Thank you for your years of service and dedication.

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



Sprinkler Fitters Local 704

SOUTHFIELD – The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday, Sept. 9, at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

Reminder there is no meeting in August.

Our condolences to the Jeans family on the passing of brother Bryan Jeans a 31-year member. Viewing for Brother Bryan Jeans: Thursday, August 6th from 6-8pm, Sharp Funeral Home, 8138 Miller Rd. Swartz Creek, MI 48473. Funeral: Friday Aug. 7, Viewing from 10- 11am With service to follow at 11am. Cornerstone Baptist Church, 6273 Miller Rd. Swartz Creek, MI 48473.

Local 704 will be hosting a health gauge event on Oct. 24. information on how to sign up for a time slot for health gauge will be sent out in the coming weeks. This service is open to members and spouses.

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.

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.

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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.

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• ONLY SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY CASES

• WE WILL PERSONALLY REPRESENT YOU

• OUR FEE PAID AFTER YOU WIN

www.ssdfighter.com



Local 174
Plumbers, Pipe Fitters
& Service Trades

UA Local 174
COOPERSVILLE – MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The monthly membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 1, 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.

The retiree breakfast will be held **Thursday, Sept. 3** at 9am at New Beginnings Restaurant in Coopersville.

Office Closed: The front office will be closed 9/7/26 in observance of Labor Day.

Labor Day Parade Muskegon: The annual Labor Day Parade in Muskegon will be Monday, Sept. 7. Staging will begin at 9:30am and the parade starts at 11 am. We will be handing out shirts and hats in front of the CIO Hall located at 490 W. Western starting at 9:30am. See you there.

Manistee Labor Fest Parade: Saturday Sept. 5 at 11:30 a.m. Staging at the Armory, at 555 1st St, Manistee, MI 49660. Parade starts at 12:30 sharp. Anyone walking in the parade will receive free admission into Labor Fest and a free drink ticket.

Hiring New Organizer: The Michigan Pipe Trades is currently accepting resumes for an organizer. Any UA journeyman member from Michigan can apply. If you have any questions or are interested in applying, please contact Ryan Bennett.

Condolences: It is with sadness we report that brother Jason Whitman passed away 7/26/26. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

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 1st, the members voted to accept the bargaining committee’s recommendation and ratify the new three-year collective bargaining agreement. The new agreement is as follows:

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

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

Section 10.2 - Health care will be on hours paid not hours worked.

*The contractors will now be administering the ESTA benefit.

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: *Work throughout the state is busy. I’ve been on the east side of the state speaking to workers and educating them on the benefits of joining or forming a union. I would ask each of you to reach out to workers you know that are working non-union. The biggest battle I have is the relationship these workers have with their bosses. When these workers hear from you and how it really is, they’re going to listen. They deserve what we have; every worker in our industry should have a contract and not a handbook that benefits the business owner! As always, thank you!*

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 OF-

FICE 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 Toll Free

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

Solxsys, Aetna, Retiree First:

If you have issues with any of our fund service providers, contact Ryan Bennett at rbenett@ua174.org. Please try to remember who you spoke with; this will help the company fix the problem.

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

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.

Autopay for Window Dues:

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

Dispatch: We have split up the dispatch responsibilities between the Business Agent and the Assistant Business Manager positions. Each person will be on dispatch for 2 weeks. There is a dispatch email of: dispatch@ua174.org which both offices have access to. The dispatch phone extension will switch between the two offices depending on who is on dispatch.

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

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 dispatch date, please contact the Union office. **It is up to you to let the Union office know that you are due for a raise.**

Labor Councils: - Kent Ionia and the Lakeshore have merged their meetings and are now held on 3rd Wednesday of the month / 5:00pm / in Local 174’s Assembly Hall.
All members are encouraged to become active in our area Labor Councils. Please contact Nathan Phillips for details.

Training News:

TRAINING CENTER NOTICE:

Day classes will **not** be held during the month of August. During this time, our instructors will be preparing for the upcoming training year and participating in instructor development. Although classes will not be in
(Continued on Page 7)



UA Local 98

DETROIT – Local 98 is proud to announce the recipients of our 2026 Detroit Plumbers CARES Scholarship.

This year we awarded five \$2,000 scholarships to the children of our hard-working members. These scholarships continue to recognize the discipline, academic achievements, and promising futures of our next generation.

Congratulations to the following recipients: Vanessa Critchfield, Dejah Taylor, Anika Gaber, Devon Critchfield and Cassidy Watkins.

Local 98 and our Scholarship Committee are incredibly proud of these students and their families! This opportunity would not be possible without our annual Detroit Plumbers CARES Golf Outing, so a huge thank you to our Members, Contractors, and Vendors for the support. Please continue to participate and make these awards attainable!

Our next regular monthly union meeting will be held on Thursday, Aug. 13, 2026 at 6 pm.

The next board meeting is Thursday, Aug. 6, 2026 at 4:30pm. The Executive Board meetings are *generally* held the first Thursday of the month at 4:30pm and before all Union Meetings.

Please be advised The Michigan Pipe Trades will be accepting resumes for the position of Organizer Organizer to work in Central and Southeastern Michigan. All interested Journeyman members in good standing should submit a resume no later than Aug. 19, 2026. Bilingual speakers (English and Spanish) should apply. The organizer’s main territory will be Ann Arbor and Metro Detroit for the foreseeable future.

The Michigan Pipe Trades will conduct panel interviews in Lansing, MI on Aug. 26 & 27, 2026. The anticipated start date for the position is Sept. 8, 2026. All interested candidates should send a resume to dmull@uanet.org and cc gglasser@ualocal98.org no later than Aug. 19, 2026.

Retiree Luncheon: The next retiree luncheon is **Wednesday, Aug. 12 at Noon** at the PLUMBERS LOCAL 98 hall. Please contact Dave Schroeder or Dominic Fanto if you have any questions, or call the hall.

Labor Day Parade: Save the Date, Monday, Sept. 7. Please come march with fellow Local 98 members and the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council on Labor Day Sept. 7. We encourage all members to come and bring their families to the Parade. Details to follow.

Adopt-A-Highway: Save The Date – Our semi-annual Plumbers 98/Mike Kalso Memorial Clean Up of I-94 in Macomb County is Saturday, Sept. 19, 8am-noon (inclement weather back up day is Saturday, Sept. 25). We will meet at Bob Evans in Roseville at 8 am. Please RSVP with Jeff Kavalor so we can be sure to have enough supplies.

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 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.

NOMI is part of our health care benefits starting Aug. 1, 2026. The NOMI Health Network is an additional power network to make your healthcare experience more accessible, affordable and tailored to your unique needs. Information has been mailed to our active members, under 65 and do not have retiree Humana health care. Any questions, please call BeneSys for additional information.

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.

Detroit Plumbers CARES 2026 Scholarship Golf Outing was held on Saturday, Aug. 1 at the Mystic Creek Course in Milford. Thank you to all of our sponsors, members, families, and friends who joined us for the event honoring the Detroit Plumbers CARES charity. The day was filled with great camaraderie by all who attended.

The event was a terrific suc-

cess, despite the afternoon rain-out. We would especially like to thank the following sponsors for their generosity and support: Aiello Law Group, AJ Miller Mechanical Inc., American Graphics Printing Co., Americare Medical, AsherKelly Attorneys at Law, Baird, BeneSys, Boyd Watterson, Bultynck & Co., De-Cal, dencap Dental Plans, Detroit Diamond Drilling, Detroit Spectrum Painters Inc., Ecker Mechanical, Goyette Mechanical, Guardian Plumbing & Heating, Guideline Mechanical, Health Alliance Plan, Hoy, Brumm & Link, Hudson Edge Investment Partners, Painters and Allied Trades District Council 1M, John E Green, Labaton Keller Sucharow, Limbach, Local 2 Bricklayers, UA Local 85, UA Local 190, UA Local 333, UA Local 357, UA Local 370, UA Local 636, UA Local 671, UA Local 704, Long Mechanical, Marathon Health, MCA Detroit, medtipster, Merit Benefit Advisors, Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council, Maritime Trades Department, Miller Cohen PLC, Miller-Boldt, Milwaukee, National Investment Services, Nickel & Saph Insurance, Novara, Tesija & Catenacci Attorneys and Counselors at Law, Scott & Scott Attorneys at Law, Serling & Abramson PC, Stefansky, Holloway & Nichols Inc., Strategic Capital Investment Advisors, The Local Credit Union, The Macomb Group, TMR Insurance Agency, TruHearing, Ulliance, Ullico, UPI, WJ O’Neil, Western Mechanical, and the Local 98 Officers.

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.

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. This also includes notifying the hall for jury duty, bereavement, short term disability and worker’s compensation. *We have a dedicated email to send your unemployment certifications and/or backup documents to receive SUB pay. Please email correspondence to: sub@ualocal98.org by Thursdays at 3:00pm to ensure ample time to process the payments.* Make sure your contact information is up to date, as well as MUST and other certifications. If you have any problems with state agencies involving unemployment, or questions on MUST models and staying current, please contact Rufus Hamilton.

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 Non-Union, have them call us.

Applications are now being accepted for our apprenticeship program. Learn more at www.plumbers98TC.org/apprenticeship. Additional information can be found at www.ualocal98.org, Facebook and Instagram.

CONTACT INFORMATION: Hall Operating Hours 8am to 4pm
Gary Glaser, Business Manager (313) 580-0148 gglasser98@ualocal98.org
Dan Nixon, FST (248) 752-3702 dnixon98@ualocal98.org
Rufus Hamilton, Business Agent (313) 542-2758 rhamilton98@ualocal98.org
Jim Cools, Business Agent (248) 762-9221 jcools@ualocal98.org
Paul Smith, Business Agent (313) 938-2477 psmith@ualocal98.org
Jeff Kavalor, Business Agent (313) 938-1554 jkavalor@ualocal98.org
Luke Garcia, Organizer (248) 763-2187 lgarcia@uanet.org

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

(Continued on Page 7)



SETTING PIPE HANGERS in a hallway at the Northern Michigan University Presque Isle residence halls project is Dustin Reinhart of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 111. He’s employed by Dressler Mechanical.

Photo credit: Jack Deo



Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service

Local 111

UA Local 111

MARQUETTE/UPPER PENINSULA – UNION MEETING: The next Union Meeting will be held in **Marquette on Thursday, August 27** at 7:30 PM. All members are encouraged to attend.

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 shut-downs should contact Business Agent/Dispatcher Scott Pendergraft in the Escanaba Office. Call the Escanaba or Marquette Office for updates: Layoff Line – Extension #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**. If you have any questions, please contact Business Agent/Dispatcher Scott Pendergraft.

MRA FUND: Members are reminded that the Local 111 Health & Welfare Fund’s Medical Reimbursement Account covers **eligible expenses** such as copays, deductibles, coinsurance, eligible self-pay medical costs, non-covered dental and vision services, non-covered medical services and prescriptions, and durable medical equipment.

The MRA **does not** cover home exercise equipment, sporting equipment, hot tubs, saunas, mattresses or bedding, beauty products, recurring memberships, fitness trackers, vitamins, vacations, or other expenses that are primarily for general health and wellness. Please refer to the Summary of Material Modifications (SMM) for complete details or **contact the Fund Office at (866) 823-4730 with any questions.**

MRA cards can no longer be used for purchases through the on-line 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.**

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.

NEW HEARING HEALTH BENEFIT: UA members have access to an exclusive hearing healthcare program through Amplifon Hearing Health Care. The program includes discounted hearing aids, a free hearing exam, a 60-day risk-free trial, warranty coverage, and follow-up care. To learn more about this valuable member benefit, check out page 45 of the UA Journal magazine or contact Amplifon at 866-488-3873

NEW MEMBER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: Beginning December 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, including stress, anxiety, depression, relationship concerns, substance abuse, eldercare or childcare referrals, and financial or legal guidance. Services include short-term counseling, coaching, crisis intervention, and community resources. To access services, call 800-448-8326 or 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 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 and click Safety Links to complete your online safety training. Members must complete training for each site; trainings are valid for one year.

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



LAYING A BRICK WALL at the Northern Michigan University Presque Isle apartment site is David Saari of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2. He's employed by Boettcher Masonry.

UA Local 174, continued from Page 6

session, Training Center staff will remain available and can be reached by phone or email. We appreciate your understanding and continued support as we prepare for another successful year of training.

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

ASSE TESTER: Class begins Sept. 8. Typical class days are Mondays and Wednesdays.

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

MEDICAL GAS INSTALLER RECERTIFICATION CLASS: If your installer's certification expires before the end of the year get ahold of us by Sept. 21. Calss dates are Sept. 28,29 Oct. 1 and test on the 5th.

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, Aug. 13, 2026.**

WELD TEST: No test event will be held in August. Next capabilities will be Tuesday, Sept. 8 and the test to follow Thursday, Sept. 10 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 contat 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 Local 98, continued from Page 6

TRAINING CENTER NEWS. Phone # 248-585-1435
www.Plumbers98tc.org

The Apprenticeship Application process is currently open. The application deadline for the next class is Friday, Dec. 18, 2026. Applications are submitted online only. Go to our website and read all requirements for the application process. The Training Center is open for normal business 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please call the Training Center at 248-585-1435 if you have any questions.

MED GAS INSTALLER RECERT. Register by Friday, Aug. 7. Class days will be Tuesday, Sept. 1 and Thursday, Sept. 3. \$100 to reserve place in class.

Monthly Code Class – Next class is **pending**. This is **not** a code update class. Open to any member looking to have discussions about the interpretation of the Michigan Plumbing Code. Great refresher for anyone wanting to take a state plumbing exam. **Please call Paul Baker** at the Training Center at 248-585-1435 ext. 123 **to register.**

If you are a member that has the practical portion of the state test scheduled for Nov. 10, 2026, we have two available evenings to come in and practice for it, Wednesday, Oct. 8, and Wednesday, Nov. 4. **Call** the Training Center if you are interested in attending either of these sessions, or both. You will be required to bring all your supplies as you would for going to the actual test.

CALL THE TRAINING CENTER TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CLASSES OFFERED IN FALL 2026. All classes are register and pre-pay by check or money order only.

All Fall classes will begin the week of Sept. 14, with a deadline to register by Aug. 28.

ASSE Backflow Tester Re-Certification: *Please be sure to check your expiration date, it is now required that you complete your update class prior to your expiration. This class is offered quarterly.* \$100
4 hour recert class October 20 & 21 Deadline is September 25

ASSE Backflow Tester (Full 40 hour): \$200

A SSE Repairer: * Prerequisite: Must hold a current 5110 Tester Certification** \$100

ICRA and Water Quality: * Prerequisite: Must Have OSHA 10 or 30 -** \$200

Medical Gas Installer (Full 40 hour): \$200
Hydronic Heating and Cooling: \$100
Steam Fundamentals for the Repair Plumber: \$100
CAD/BIM: \$100

****2026 brazing and welding sessions will be scheduled on the 1st Saturday of the month.** If your brazing or welding certs are ready to expire, call to schedule an appointment. The next **Welding and Brazing sessions** will be Sept. 12, 2026. You must call to schedule your brazing OR welding tests at least 3 days prior to the test. Please note: All members must be dressed appropriately to be in the shop area.

OPEN WELDING – is available on **Monday and Wednesday evenings.** Please call Chris Opalka 248-585-1435 ext.146 for any welding related inquiries and to check on booth availability. For those that can't find time to get in during the weekdays, open welding will be available on the first Saturday of the month, call to get a booth.

OSHA Training - OSHA 10 (\$59), and OSHA 30 (\$159) available as an online class at www.careersafeonline.com . These OSHA classes are not affiliated with the UA or our Training Center. OSHA 10 and 30 Hour Training is also offered online through the MUST website. Go to www.mustonline.org. **Be sure to take the Construction Safety courses; not the General Industry courses.

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

If the person you are trying to reach at the Training Center is unavailable, please leave a message to ensure we can return your call. We attempt to return all messages by the end of the business day.



Local 514 Cement Masons & Plasterers

215-5063.

Operative Plasterers and Cement Masons Local 514

DETROIT – The next membership meeting is Tuesday, Aug. 18, at 7 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!
August 2026

Ricardo Chapa-25 Years
Marc Grams-25 Years
Jerry Griffith-25 Years
Daniel Pumford-25 Years
Duane Villarreal-30 Years
Dennis Jackson-40 Years
James Plowman-40 Years
Joe Solano-40 Years
Robert Venturi-60 Years
Looking forward to everyone coming out and marching in the Labor Day parade. More information to come!

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 office 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.Mustb-safe.com to see how many modules you have. You must create a new username and password. **We will send ALL MUST drug authorization forms to the members' email addresses.**

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

Beneficiary Reminder: Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice, especially after a divorce, on all your OPCMIA Local 514, American Income Life Accidental Benefit, Pension, and Healthcare funds. The law requires that, in the event of an untimely death, your benefits go to your estate and may be taxable. Each 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 to enter your work hours. When you get to the website, click the link "About" and then click on "Apprentice."

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

The Local's website is: www.opcmiami.org. Please refer to 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)

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. 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 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, 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/Welcome Select 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.

(Continued next column)

August 7, 2026

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN 7



Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

BAC Local 2

WARREN – UPCOMING MEETINGS. SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING will be held on Saturday, Aug. 8, 2026, at 10:30AM, BAC Local 2 Union Hall, 3321 Remy Drive, Lansing, MI 48906

HOUGHTON MEETING: Thursday, August 13th, 2026, at 7:00 PM, 37737 Highway 26, Toivola, MI 49965

MARQUETTE CHAPTER: Monday, August 17th, 2026, at 7:00 PM, 119 S Front St., Marquette, MI 49855



ALL AUGUST CHAPTER MEETINGS WILL BE CANCELLED – EXCEPT FOR BRETT THE MARQUIETTE CHAPTER AND HOUGHTON MEETINGS - DUE TO THE SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR AUG. 8, 2026.

MEMBERSHIP GOLF OUTING: Come out on Sept. 12, 2026, to golf with your fellow brothers and sisters at our 13th Annual Membership Golf Outing. It will be held once again at Hawk Meadows Golf Course in Howell, MI with check-in at 7:00am.

Sign-up is based on first-come, first-served with a PAID registration. Your spot cannot be guaranteed without pre-payment prior to the outing. This event has sold out in the past, so register early to secure a spot for you and your foursome. To participate, one person on each team **MUST** be a good standing BAC Local 2 member with their dues paid up to date. Registration forms can be found on our Facebook page, emailed directly to you or call the Warren office to sign up & pay with a credit card.

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

Local 514 cont'd

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, and toll free 1-877-876-9357.

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

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

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, visit: www.michiganbricklayers.org

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

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

TEXTING PROGRAM: Local 2 wants to use every means possible to communicate with you. Sometimes we have time sensitive information (such as job openings, picket lines, funeral arrangements and other such communications) that would be most efficiently done via text message. You must be signed up to receive these messages. You can sign up via the following: Text **2MI** to **50607**

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

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 292
Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers Local 292

TROY – The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, **August 12, 2026, at Troy Community Center 3179 Livernois, Troy 48083.** Use the Banquet Entrance

The **E-Board/Stewards meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, August 26, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.** at the Union Hall.

RETIREEES NOTICE: The next Retiree Luncheon will be on 10/1/26 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, click on the “Contact Us” page if you would like to be added to the retiree email list.



PAUL GUALDONI **LABOR DAY PARADE:** Join your brothers and sisters on Labor Day (September 7th) and march with us in the annual Detroit Labor Day Parade. We will be handing out T-shirts and hats (there is a limited supply of children’s sizes) to all members who take an hour or two out of OUR holiday and spend it with us. We will meet at the Local 58 Electricians Hall (1358 Abbott St, Detroit, MI 48226) at 7:30am. There will also be a complimentary picnic immediately following.

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.

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 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.

MEMBER ASSISTANCE: Local 292 has a new partner for 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.

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

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; 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 or access it through the “links” tab at 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).

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

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

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

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

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

Attention all Welders! We are looking for any members interested in a Saturday welding class on , August 8, and August 29, Sept 12, Sept 19, Sept 26.

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

(Continued next column)



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, August 25th at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield. *There will be a tentative ratification/allocation vote at this meeting, more details to follow* *Nominations for Warden will be held at the August 25th Meeting*



JASON GRUNENWALD

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: Next executive board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 11th 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 August 17th, October 19th (annual party) & December 21st. 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

NOMINATIONS: At the August 25th meeting we will be taking nominations for Warden. In order to be nominated or elected your dues must be paid prior to the first day of the current month, for example August’s dues must be paid prior to August 1st. Candidates must have a record of continuous good standing for a minimum of 2 years prior to the nomination, election or appointment.

CONTRACT RATIFICATION: There will be a tentative ratification/allocation vote at the Aug. 25 union meeting. More details to follow.

THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE: Clayton Schaffhauser, Karl Williams, Willie Cannon, James Salo, Nicholas Fischer, Alexandra Lightbody, Walter Rabideaux, Martell George, William Harding, Charles Taormina, Tim Robins and Earl Stewart.

CONDOLENCES: Our condolences go out to the family of retiree Kenneth Knapp. Ken passed away on July 23, 2026 and was a member for 31 years. He will be greatly missed.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT: Congratulations to member Stephan Gucwa and his significant other Alexandra on the birth of their baby girl. Harper Rose Gucwa was born on July 28, 2026 weighing 6lbs 7.4 oz.

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

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

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

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

ACCIDENTAL DEATH and DISMEMBERMENT INSURANCE FROM OUR INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Members who have their dues paid in advance (prior to the month of the accident) are eligible for accidental death and dismemberment benefits up to \$7,500.00. This benefit comes as a dues paying member 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 or fax it to **248-557-0297**. To ensure payment by Friday, proof due by **2:00 PM on Tuesdays**.

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

SHORT WORK WEEK SUB PAY: If you miss work due to weather, and you are not laid off, the company must provide written documentation confirming the loss of hours was weather-related. If you work 16 hours or less in a week, you may be eligible to collect SUB, but only if the hours worked are at the beginning or end of a layoff. To apply: Complete the SUB application at the hall; Provide a pay stub for the week. The hall will submit your information to the fund office. Make sure to follow these steps to ensure your eligibility.

MEMBERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: If you’re facing challenges in your family, relationships, or dealing with stress, emotional difficulties, grief, or substance use, please reach out to our Assistance Program **Ulliance** at 1-800-448-8326 or visit www.LifeAdvisorEAP.com. Mention Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 when you call.

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

SAVE THE DATE: Labor Day Parade – Sept. 7
Training Center News.

Upgrading Classes. Upgrading Classes for the Fall 2026 term begin the week of Sept. 14 and enrollment starts Monday, August 3, 2026. To view the most up-to-date schedule, go to www.smw80jac.org/Upgrading_Class_Schedule. To enroll in a class, call the training center starting at 7:30am on Monday, August 3, 2026 - 586-979-5190.

Local 292 cont’d

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 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 p.m.

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

*Zone 2 September 15th at 6:00 p.m.

*Zone 3 September 9th at 6:00 p.m. (Freeland)

*Zone 3 August 6th at 6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)

*Zone 4 September 8th at 6:00 p.m.

*Zone 5 August 14th at 6:00 p.m.

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

Please register on our website at www.sheet-metal7.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.labelitscanitreport.com and download the official app by texting “SMART” to 90975.

Zone 1 Info: Condolences to the family and friends of Retired Business Representative Dennis Crane, who passed away July 19, 2026.

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 remains steady and looks to stay that way into the fall. If your employment status changes please get a hold of me and apprentice’s also let Tanner know as well. Thank you to all that came out to the last Zone 2 meeting, it was great to see everyone. The Local 7 Dollars Against Diabetes golf outing is Saturday, September 12th at Briar Ridge Golf Course in Montrose, MI. Anyone interested should contact the Lansing hall. Shotgun start at 9:00am and it is limited to 110 golfers, so get your registration forms in asap.

Lastly, dues are always due prior to the first of the month and please let me know of any address or phone number changes so we can get them changed with the Lansing Hall and TIC Midwest. **In solidarity, Mike Adams**

ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw) Work in the area remains steady. Make sure to contact me if you are out of work, there is travel work available.

Be sure to check your dues receipt to make sure you are current; dues are due before the first of every month.

Please contact the Lansing office if your address or phone numbers have changed.

The next Zone 3 membership meeting is September 9 at the Freeland Hall at 6pm.

Next Zone 3 Retiree meeting is September 22nd at the Ponderosa on Wilder Road in Bay City.

Local 7 Golf outing is Sept 12 at Briar Ridge Golf Course in Montrose registration is still open.

Fundraiser to Support Jake Denman Aug 29 at Crump Fox Club 2-6 pm more info on our website. **In Solidarity, Joe Dotson**

ZONE 3 Info: (Traverse City) Work in Northern Michigan is strong and will continue into the New Year. Go to www.ourbenefitoffice.com/smw7-3/Benefits to check your hours for pension and HW benefits. Time is running out to schedule your physicals for this year, don’t get placed in the higher deductible group. The Mine Safety Training on the ITI Website should be updated/taken as there will be two projects that are coming up that will require it. The ITI site also has other upgrading courses to take for future employment in different areas of our trade. Work safe out there and stay cool. **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. **We have a date change for Zone 5 area meeting, New date is Friday Aug 14 at 6pm (was originally scheduled for Sat Aug 8th).

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. If you have a change of address please call me or the Lansing hall to get that updated. The next retiree breakfast will be August 12th at 10:00 am at The Summer Place in Republic - **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.

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Local 25

Heat and Frost Insulators

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IBEW LOCAL 58

IBEW Local 58

DETROIT – The next General Membership meeting: will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2026. Dinner with the brotherhood begins at 5:30 pm and the meeting starts at 6:30 pm.

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 questions regarding the Port Huron office, please contact Business Agent Paul Ledsworth at 313-802-4970.

The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline (formerly known as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) offers 24/7 call, text and chat access to trained crisis counselors who can help people experiencing suicidal, substance use, and/or mental health crisis, or any other kind of emotional distress. Please Call, Text, Chat! IBEW Local 58 Cares! Call 988!

IBEW Local 58 Brick Pavers- are available for purchase, if you would like to purchase a brick, please contact the Union Hall for an Order Form. 7x9 brick pavers can have up to 6 lines of lettering and 17 spaces per line, \$100 Donation per Brick. To purchase or for questions about the brick pavers contact Stacy at the Union Hall 313-963-2130, ext. 3015.

Local 58 Dues Department – Please look at your Dues Receipt, if the paid-through date shows 12-31-2025, you have lapsed membership and need to call the hall to set up an appointment with the Executive Board to be reinstated. If your dues receipt has a paid-through date of 03-31-2026, you owe the \$30 reinstatement fee, plus dues and will lapse at the end of the 3rd quarter if your dues are not paid. You can pay on the APP/Website, send a check, or call and pay over the phone. We ask that you keep the Local up to date with your address, email, and phone number. Thank you.

IBEW Local 58 Retirees Association: Our next BOARD MEETING will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 12 at the local union hall in the main conference room. All are welcome.

OUR ANNUAL PICNIC is on Wednesday, Aug. 26 and will be back at Rotary Park in Livonia. The picnic starts at 11 a.m. with lunch served at 12:30 p.m. Put this event on your calendar, we look forward to another great outdoor picnic this year. 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, 313 408-5885.

Bus Trip travelers, if you still need travel insurance for the September Trip, here is the contact information, on-line www.TravelConfident.com or call 1-(855)376-2037.

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 Sept. 1 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 meeting will be Tuesday, Aug. 11 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. Questions can be directed to Ray Kujawski at (248) 496-1916 (call, text, leave a voicemail). Contact the Union Hall (313) 963-2130 or Ray Kujawski (number above) for further information about volunteering or participating.

The next Entertainment Committee meeting will be Tuesday, Aug. 11 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, Aug. 17 at 6pm. This will be an in-person meeting with a ZOOM option. Please make sure your cell phone no. and your email address are up to date. The meeting information will be sent out as soon as available. 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 Electrical Workers Minority Caucus, SE Michigan Chapter, thanks all those who came out and supported our 2nd Annual Coats For Kids Golf Outing on July 24. Rouge Park Golf Course provided a flawless setting, and the weather was perfect for being on the course. All the golfers got a chance to do some networking and to enjoy a delicious hot lunch at the turn. The raffle prizes, both curated and donated, were worth their weight in tickets. And the 50/50 raffle proved to be a hit. Congratulations to all of our winners. We would truly like to send a huge “THANK YOU” to all of our wonderful sponsors.

This year’s increased attendance and additional sponsorships will guarantee that we can once again be able to help the children in our community stay warm this winter. We appreciate being able to give back to the community and your continued support ensures that we can make a difference in the lives of the children and families that we engage with.

Save the date – Friday, Nov. 13 – for our “Tux & Chucks Casino Night Party.” More information to come.

The Safety Committee meeting will be on Monday, Aug. 10, at 5:30 PM.

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 meeting will be Thursday, Aug. 27 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: 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.

The RENEW Committee: The next meeting will be Tuesday, Aug. 25, 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 pm. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop
(Continued next column)



IBEW Local 948

IBEW Local 948

FLINT – Meeting.

Membership Meeting - Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will be Aug. 10, 2026 at 6:00 PM.

Retirees next meeting will be Sept. 1 at 9 am.

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

Our work outlook is steady. 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 - Wel-

IBEW 58 con’t

drinking. All trades welcome.

Electrical Workers Credit Union: Our website is <http://www.ewcu.net> (313) 963-6060.

Electrical Workers Credit Union is offering **New Auto loans** starting at **3.99%** and **Used Auto loans** starting at **4.99%**. 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.

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 no., 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 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 am each date.

Aug. 13. Rackham Golf Course 10100 10 Mile Rd Huntington Woods, MI

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 18-20. The host hotel/tournament headquarters for this year is the Double Tree by Hilton in Akron/Fairlawn, OH ((330)867-5000).

IBEW Pension: Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: Brian Chapman, Todd Gross, David Hamilton II, Robert Jensen Jr, Michael Kononovich, Arnold Nowak, Stephen Rossi and Jerome Watkins. 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. **Thomas Climer**, Pension member, 46 year IBEW membership; **Michael Duchenne**, Technician 1; **Carl Glatz**, Journeyman Inside Wireman; **Gary Hellmer**, Pension member, 48 year IBEW membership and Former IBEW Local 58 Business Agenet; Son of Bruce Hellmer, Pension member, 79 year IBEW membership; and Cousin to James Hellmer, Journeyman Inside Wireman; **Carol Martin**, Widow to the late Pension member Benjamin Martin; **Kevin McKay**, Pension member, 47 year IBEW membership; and **Johnathan Smick Sr**, Pension member, 37 year IBEW membership.

come 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.



IBEW Local 445

BATTLE CREEK – Pension Benefits Workshop. The Benefits Workshop will be on Nov. 19, 2026, at 5pm. Please RSVP for this event.

IBEW 445 Golf Outing was a huge success! Thank you to all who participated, but most of all to all that gave such generous donations. The members of IBEW Local 445 and the Food Pantry appreciate you all!

Save the date for the IBEW 445 Picnic on Aug. 15 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 Sept. 14 after the Union Meeting.

If you pay your Monthly/Quarterly Union Dues late, you will be charged a \$10 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.”**

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

2026 dues structure. The Delegates of the 40th IBEW International Convention, which was conducted in Chicago, Illinois, during the week of May 9-13, 2022, approved several amendments to Article IX of the IBEW Constitution.

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 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 p.m. at the Hall.

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

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 Secrest Recording Secretary**



IBEW LOCAL 252

IBEW Local 252

ANN ARBOR - 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 2026: ALL CLASSES START AT 5 PM

1. **First Aid/ CPR- Sept 1, Sept 8, Dec 1, Dec 8**
2. **Fire Alarm- Every Wednesday except Union meeting night, starting Sept 2 and ending Oct 21**
3. **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**

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, now available in the app store.

RETIREES CARD GAME: The first Thursday of every month Local 252 and UA 190 retirees meet at the Union Hall for card games and donuts. The games start at 9 a.m. Please join the fun.

RETIREES’ BREAKFAST: will take place on the second Wednesday of each month at **9 a.m.** at Leo’s Coney Island, 160 South Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103.

DUES PAYMENTS ONLINE: We can now accept payments for union dues online. Visit our website 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.

THIS YEAR’S LOCAL 252 PICNIC will be Aug. 15 at 12 p.m. at Apple Creek Campground, 11185 Orban Rd., Grass Lake, MI 49240. All food and beverages will be provided. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Dan Beck at (810) 858-0033.

EWMC GLIZZIES AND SLIZZIES: Join EWMC for a game of kickball on Aug. 23 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Lillie Park South, 4365 Platt Rd., Ann Arbor. Lunch will be provided, donations accepted. Families welcome. Kids activities provided. Sign up with Yohance Jennings (313) 283-3294.

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 U of M 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@aaejatc.org/ (734) 475-1180 with questions. Register online at union4lifecharity.com.

MICHIGAN WIREMAN’S GOLF OUTING: This year’s tournament will be Saturday, Aug. 29 at Lake Forest Golf Club, 3110 W. Ellsworth Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Registration at 7 a.m., shotgun start 8 a.m. Cost is \$160.00/person and includes golf and cart, hospitality room, dinner and prizes. There is an additional \$10 membership fee for first time golfers. The hospitality room is open Friday, Aug. 28 at the golf course from 5-8 p.m. There are 15 tee times blocked for practice rounds on Friday starting at 8 a.m. Please RSVP for hospitality night to John Brzozowski. Please send entry forms and checks made payable to John Brzozowski to 1076 Westfield Dr., Jackson, MI 49203. For questions or to RSVP contact John, (517) 795-8347.

RETIREE’S NIGHT: The regular membership meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 9 starts at 6 p.m. sharp. The purpose of this meeting is to honor our retired members who have worked so hard to make our Local what it is today. Please make every effort to attend. Dinner and refreshments will be served. Members receiving their 50-year pins are: Robert A. Jacobs and Keith A. King. Members receiving their 55-year pins are: Frank E. Dufek, Edward C. Ernst, Paul N. Everett, John W. Iverson, Richard R. Kett, Thomas F. Ruthven, Odie J. Smith, Gregory A. Stephens, Jim I. Tobias, and Frank B. White. Members receiving their 60-year pins are: William E. Fox, Douglas A. Hartman, Gary A. Hedding, Larry R. Lochey, John R. Melling, Gary C. Peck, Gerald R. Pitts, and Ira H. Shubel. Richard G Wilbur is receiving his 70-year pin.

DETROIT TIGER’S UNION DAY: The Union Day Tiger’s 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.

VETERAN’S COMMITTEE: 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. **The August Meeting has been moved to Aug. 26 at 4:30 p.m. to combine with Renew Committee.**

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

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 6/2026, your dues are not current. The Union Hall accepts payments 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 third quarter dues (July through September) are due now. **Payments for third quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Wednesday, Sept. 30.**

IMPORTANT DATES: •Aug. 15 Picnic •Sept. 9 Retiree’s Night •Sept. 30 11:30 a.m. Deadline for 3rd Quarter Dues •Oct. 24, Trunk or Treat •Dec. 12, Holiday Party



IBEW 692

BAY CITY - Union Meeting. Due to the Labor Day Holiday, the next monthly membership meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, Sept. 14, 2026.**

Executive Board Meeting. The next Executive Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, August 17th, 2026.**

Message from the Business Manager. 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 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. We have had open calls recently in Zones 1 & 2.

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

Bay Valley Electric is finishing work 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 continues, as work at the Bay County Health Department is wrapping up. Work on a mixed-use development in Downtown Bay City, Water Street Lofts, 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, in addition to a handful of other local projects.

Conti Electric has ongoing work at the Karn Generation Facility and Consumers Energy’s dams along the Au Sable. Phase 3 of Little Trout Solar in Hawks is wrapping up late 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 and Bangor Schools.

John’s Electric continues work at Clear Lake and Hoeft State Parks.

J. Ranck Electric will be adding a battery storage facility on the Mission Road Solar project in Rosebush late this summer. 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 summer work at Alpena Schools.

Northern Valley continues work at the AMRIZE Cement Plant and has started Alpena’s Meijer remodel. Work at Alpena Community College’s solar field is also ongoing. Their residential and generator divisions continue to secure a fair amount of work.

S&G and Hardies Electric are keeping their crews busy 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 again 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 (Rauhorn Electric) and two new gas-fired turbines to replace units 3 & 4. Three large solar sites will start civil and dirt work this summer 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. 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 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, 3, and 4 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.

Brendon “Deon” Baranek 989.327.4131 Kevin Klapish 989.252.9225

Registrar’s Report. Please check your emails for information on which candidates received IBEW endorsements for Michigan’s August 4th Primary. IBEW Michigan and Local 692 have endorsed Chris Swanson for Governor. Sherriff Swanson will be at our Union Hall on Monday August 3rd at 2 PM for his final campaign stop before the Primary. Please feel free to attend.

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.

American Income Life Accidental Death Benefit. The first mailing has gone out recently regarding the \$3,000 Accidental Death & Dismemberment benefit available through a partnership with the IBEW and American Income Life. All active and retired members are eligible for this benefit.

The letter states that you need to return the enclosed yellow card in order to qualify and name your beneficiary. Please note you are **NOT REQUIRED to return this card** in order to name your beneficiary; the beneficiaries you have on file at the hall are sufficient. The \$3,000 benefit would be paid to your named beneficiary, not to your estate. American Income Life does offer other policies and services. If you are interested in having a representative contact you to discuss available options, you may return the yellow card in the postage paid envelope provided. If you have any questions, please contact the hall at 989-684-4510.

Retirees Lunch. is scheduled for 1 P.M. on Thursday, Aug. 16 at Mulligans Pub, located at 107 Center Avenue in Bay City.

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

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

Important links & numbers

Health Plan & Pension Fund 855.633.4584 – ASK FOR AC-COUNTS RECEIVABLE

www.michiganelectrical.org NEBF/ NEAP: 301.556.4300

IO Pension: 202.833.7000



Local 665

IBEW 665

LANSING – WORK OUT-LOOK: 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 900 members in the Local. Of which 220 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: On Aug. 26, the Renew Committee will be cleaning up the field next to the hall. Apprentices will get committee service hours for helping. Food and drink will be provided by the hall.

Oct. 1 is the start of IBEW Locals 665 Annual Food drive and goes until Nov. 20. Please drop your donation off at the hall.

IBEW Local 665 Golf Tournament is on Oct. 3. Look for the Flyer in your email for more information.

The Renew Committee will be hosting a Euchre Tournament on Oct. 17 at the Hall. Look for the flyer in your email.

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@lejatec.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@lejatec.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.lejatec.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 Mays meeting for Business Manager, E-board, Recording Secretary and Delegates for the IBEW International Convention.

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

DUES AND DEATH BENEFITS: Quarterly dues are due. We are on death benefit #370. Please look at your dues to ensure that you are current.

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

IN REMEMBRANCE: In remembrance of 665 local members who have passed away. May their memory be eternal. Brian Thompson 05/26/26, 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.



Local 275

IBEW 275

COOPERSVILLE – Work Outlook: Work in the Local has hit a small stall with a large layoff at one solar site. We have a few projects that are starting and some that will be manning up in the future. Please make sure to call the recorder for jobs.

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 and we are being told by the administrators that there will not be an additional card but would be the same information as your delta dental cards. They also have an app that we will work on distributing. 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.

Building Corp: At the July 2026 Building Corp meeting, the body voted to submit an offer on the building in Walker. We are working with our agents to secure a date and time when we will have an open house to tour the building and be able to lay out what we are thinking about the building. Please look for updates on the times via Members only page, the app, email and communications from stewards.

Labor Day: Please join Local 275 in the Muskegon Harbor Day parade. The parade will be on Monday, Sept. 7, with the parade starting at 11 sharp. Please keep an eye on all our media platforms as to where we will be in the parade (assignments haven’t been given out as of this writing) for lineup. We once again will be doing Tie Dye shirts for all those that participate in walking with us. As a reminder, you must walk or ride with Local 275 to get the Tie dye. As a reminder, the hall will be closed in observance of Labor Day.

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

West Michigan EWMC: Meetings will be held monthly on the 4th 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! The newest EWMC coin is at the hall for sale! Coins are \$20 cash and you may purchase up to 5 coins.

RENEW: Local 275 had a successful first meeting of RENEW on Thursday, July 16. Thanks to all those that attended, and please consider attending future meetings if you are able. The next meeting scheduled is on Tuesday August 11th at the Union Hall.

Veterans’ Committee: Meeting will be held monthly on the 4th Tuesday of every month, 6pm. Please keep an eye on the app for locations.

Training: Apprentices- Please pay attention to Trade-school for upcoming schedules for classes for the 26/27 year.

The JATC is now offering master’s Exam Prep courses. Please reach out to the JATC for more information. wmjatec@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*

(Continued next column)



IBEW 906
UPPER PENINSULA— MEETINGS. There will be normal unit meetings for the month of August, 2026

Marquette- 119 S Front St. First Tuesday @ 7:00pm EST

Iron Mountain- 1800 N Stephenson Ave. Second Tuesday @ 7:00pm CST

Escanaba- 1219 1st Ave S. Second Wednesday @ 7:00pm EST

Work Outlook- Work is busy. Upcoming projects include Harden Hall 1st floor remodel in Marquette, VA Hospital in Marquette, Brimley solar, and Republic solar.

We currently have a 1 man call for B&B Electric in Escanaba, a 1 man call for K.A.T. at the Soo Locks, a 2 man call for Michels Power in Naubinway, a 1-man foreman call for MJ Electric, and a 2 man call for Code Electric. Please call the hall 906-226-7497 if you’re interested in any of these calls.

IBEW Local 906 accepts book 2 signing via email. Please email cflcuryibew906@gmail.com for all book 2 signings.

Union Hall Hours of Operation- Normal Business Hours are Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm.

Golf Outings- IBEW Local 906 is once again the title sponsor for the Project Jade golf outing on August 23rd at Wawonowin Country Club in Champion, MI. Shotgun start at 9:00am.

Merchandise- To all members interested, we have merchandise at the hall. It can be picked up or coordinated to be brought to a union meeting. Payment can be done in person, over the phone, or on the website/app under the Merchandise order form page. All products are available for viewing on the website/app. We have new challenge coins and pins so please be sure to take a look!

Retiree Events- There is a retiree lunch the third Thursday of every month at the Vierling Restaurant in Marquette at 11 am EST.

There is a retiree breakfast the first Saturday each month at Hardies in Iron Mountain at 8 am CST.

There is a retiree breakfast the fourth Thursday of every

Local 275, con’t

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 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 office will be open from 8am-12:30pm, 1pm-4:30pm and is closed from 12:30-1pm for lunch.

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: Dan Foster, Andrew Kruithoff, and Jeremy Rinehart. Please make every effort to get caught up.

month at Burger King in Houghton at 10 am EST.

We have a new website and mobile app. Please reference those new tools for any new announcements and updates within the local. The website can be found at ibew906.org and the app can be found under IBEW 906. Dues payments can also be made through the app and website. If you are in arrears, you will not be able to pay on the app or website. If you have any questions or are having trouble with the app please call the hall.

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

IBEW Local 906 is hosting the summer picnic on Aug. 29 at Lake Antoine in Iron Mountain. Please call the hall to sign up or if you plan to bring a dish to pass around at 906-226-7497.

Union Dues- A friendly reminder that dues are \$49.00 per month. Please keep this in mind if you are mailing a check for dues payment. There will be no Dues increase for 2026. If you are paying for the whole year at one time you receive a free tee shirt.

Fringe Benefits- Please make sure to make sure your beneficiaries are updated, especially if you’ve recently been married, divorced, had children etc. Beneficiary forms can be obtained at the union hall.

New Journeyman- Congratulations to Dylan Krause, Jersie Skrzyniarz, Dylan Trudell, and Dan Cass.

Retirements- Congratulations to Joel Smith and Gary Laurila on their retirement!

Members that have passed away- Our heartfelt condolences to the families and friends our of fallen Brothers and Sisters. Brother **John Hogan**, Pension member, 60-year IBEW membership

Labor History- IBEW Local 906 is looking for labor history in the Upper Peninsula for our local/union. If you have any information that you’d like to submit or meet up for an interview please call the hall.

“A problem is a chance for you to do your best.”

—Duke Ellington (1899 - 1974)

“The people I distrust most are those who want to improve our lives but have only one course of action.”

—Frank Herbert (1920 - 1986)

“In the right light, at the right time, everything is extraordinary.”

—Aaron Rose

“Not everything that can be counted counts, and not everything that counts can be counted.”

—Albert Einstein (1879 - 1955), (attributed)

“I got kicked out of ballet class because I pulled a groin muscle. It wasn’t mine.”

—Rita Rudner

“The reason most people never reach their goals is that they don’t define them, or ever seriously consider them as believable or achievable. Winners can tell you where they are going, what they plan to do along the way, and who will be sharing the adventure with them.”

—Denis Watley

“Recommend to your children virtue; that alone can make them happy, not gold.”

—Ludwig van Beethoven (1770 - 1827)

“Trust one who has gone through it.”

—Virgil (70 BC - 19 BC)

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Local 25

Iron Workers

Iron Workers Local 25
NOVI – There will not be a Union Meeting in August due to the 45th Iron Workers International Convention “Forging Our Future” being held in Chicago IL Aug. 31 through Sept. 5, 2026. Local 25 has 12 Delegates attending this year.

The Flint Steward meeting will be held Wednesday, Aug. 19, 2026 at 5:30 pm and the Saginaw Steward meeting will be Thursday, Aug. 27, 2026 at 6:00 pm. All are welcome.

The 42nd Annual International Iron Workers Festival will be held Aug. 7-9 2026 in Mackinaw City MI. Please plan ahead and reserve your hotel room(s). **There is no camping at the festival.** For more information, please go to www.mackinawchamber.com/events

Awards Night will be held on Monday, SEPT. 14 THIS YEAR at the Novi Union Hall. **A LETTER WILL BE MAILED SOON to those eligible members.** We will have a social hour with appetizers/beverages starting at 5pm. Awards ceremony starts at 7pm. **All are welcome.** Awards Night is not being held in August due to the International Convention.

The 10th Annual Local 25 ICIF Fundraiser will be (one week later than usual) Saturday SEPT. 19 2026 at the Novi Union Hall at 4 pm. Tickets are \$25.00 each and can be bought at the door or through any Business Agent. **Join us for food, drink and comraderie. We have great prizes to raffle off as we’ve done in the past!**

CHANGE: A FRINGE FUND PENSION DEPT AND HEALTH CARE REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE AT THE NOVI UNION HALL on Wednesday Sept 2 from 8 am to 12 noon. If you have questions, give us a call 248-344-9494. Walk-ins are welcome! *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) 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); 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.

24/7 CREDIT-DEBIT CARD processing for Union Dues: Pay via our APP or website www.ironworkers25.org. **The phone number is 866-635-2826. Or pay union dues with personal check or money order** and mail to: Iron Workers Local 25 – P.O. Box 965 – Novi, MI 48376-0965. Pay union dues in person at the Novi Union Hall (M-F) from 8 am to 3 pm (NO Cash).

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 1-30).

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

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 (where you can create a log-in)

Check your online benefit information: ourbenefitoffice.com/iw25/benefits/

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

The Iron Workers’ Local 25 Novi Chapter Retirees’ Club. The Retirees’ meeting/luncheon will be Tuesday, August 18, 2026 at 10 am. The Retirees’ Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday Sept 1, 2026 at 8:00 am. All are welcome.

The West Michigan Chapter Retirees breakfast will meet Tuesday Sept 1, 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 will be October 15, 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’s next quarterly Retirees breakfast will be held 9:00 am October 16, 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

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.

In Memory: Richard “Dick” Binder #745832 passed away July 18, 2026 at the age of 86. He was a 60-year member, survived by his wife Betty and numerous dear family and friends. *Our sincere condolences to all of the family and friends on the loss of your dear loved one(s).*

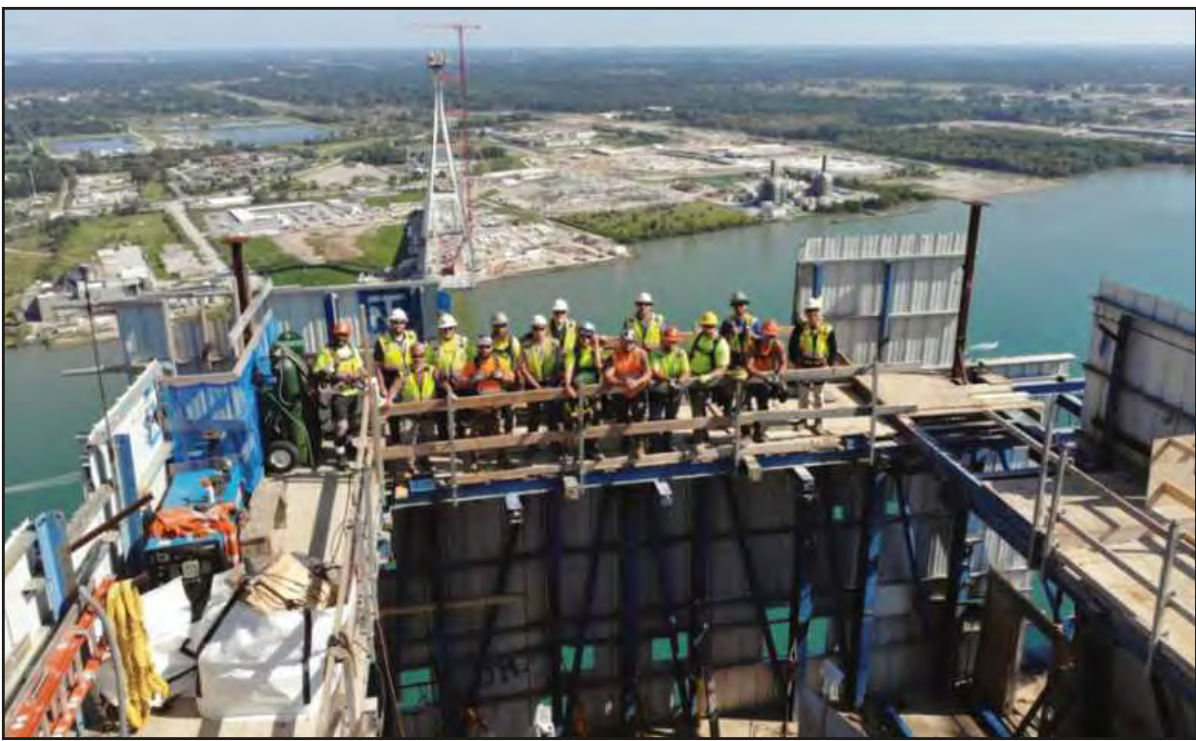
This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (Aug 3, 2026 10:00 am E.S.T.).

“Be not afraid of greatness: some men are born great, some achieve greatness and some have greatness thrust upon them.”
–William Shakespeare (1564 - 1616), “Twelfth Night”

“Slow down and enjoy life. It’s not only the scenery you miss by going too fast – you also miss the sense of where you are going and why.”

–Eddie Cantor (1892 - 1964)

A GROUP OF TRADESPEOPLE assemble for a photo earlier in the construction of the Gordie Howe International Bridge.



Credit: Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority



Local 169 Boilermakers

ALLEN PARK – Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will take place on **August 21, 2026, at 8:00pm** at the Boilermakers Local 169 Union Hall. Address is 1755 Fairlane Dr, Allen Park, MI 48101.

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

We have successfully ratified a new CBA our new wage sheets are on our web site, and new agreement books are being printed. I would like to thank our negotiation team for a job well done.

Congratulations to Matt Root, he placed 2nd at the Great Lakes Apprentice of the year contest in Hobart, Indiana the week of June 2nd through June 4th and will represent Local 169 at the National contest August 10-12 at Local 549 in Benicia, CA. We wish him good luck.



MICHAEL CARD

Boilermakers Local 169 Area Picnics.

Area 1 - Picnic will be **August 8, 2026**, at Camp Dearborn, noon until 7:00pm. 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 **September 7, 2026** (Labor Day) following the parade. More information to come.

Area 3 – Picnic was held on August 1, 2026. If anyone has pictures they would like to add to the website, please email them to lynn@boilermakerslocal169.com.

Area 4 – Information will be coming soon.

Labor Day is quickly approaching. The following areas will have parades and picnics afterwards.

Area 1 – Meeting at the IBEW Local 58 parking lot September 7th. Jamie will be handing out hats and t-shirts starting at 7:30am and going on until 8:30am. You can walk into the parking lot from Abbott St. or Porter St the parade will start at 9:00am.

Area 2 – Meeting at Heritage Landing Muskegon September 7th. Tony will be handing out hats and t-shirts starting at 10:00am parade starts at 11:00am.

Area 4 – September 7th in Escanaba more information to follow. 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 back-ground 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.

Retirees: Retiree luncheons

Area 1 Retirees luncheon is on the first Wednesday of every month at 11:00 am at the White Rhino Sports Bar located 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 located at 4610 Airline Rd, Muskegon MI. All retirees and members from all areas are welcome to attend.

Area 3 Retirees luncheon is the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 11AM. The next lunch will be on August 19, 2026, at The Boulevard Lounge. The address is 316 S. Saginaw Rd, Midland, MI 48640. 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 \$50.00 XL and smaller 55.00 for 2XL, 60.00 for 3XL and 70.00 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 member needing the services of a Notary Public can do so at no charge at the Boilermakers Local 169 Union Hall. Please call ahead to ensure availability.

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

Retired member, Bruce Campbell Passed away on July 26, 2028. Services were family only, but please keep his loved ones in your thoughts during this difficult time.

“You will need to find your passion. Don’t give up on finding it because then all you’re doing is waiting for the Reaper.”
– Randy Pausch

“Develop interest in life as you see it; in people, things, literature, music - the world is so rich, simply throbbing with rich treasures, beautiful souls and interesting people. Forget yourself.”
– Henry Miller (1891 - 1980)

“The great tragedy of Science - the slaying of a beautiful hypothesis by an ugly fact.”
–Thomas H. Huxley (1825 - 1895)

“Quarrel not at all. No man resolved to make the most of himself can spare time for personal contention.”
–Abraham Lincoln (1809 - 1865)

“The art of medicine consists in amusing the patient while nature cures the disease.”
–Voltaire (1694 - 1778)



HANDS ACROSS the middle of the Gordie Howe Bridge, tradespeople from Ontario and Detroit meet over the Detroit River during the span’s construction. Credit: Operating Engineers Local 32

Traffic now skating over the Gordie Howe Bridge

(Continued from Page 1)

the Windsor-Detroit region, and the main span they support is the longest for any cable-stayed span in North America. The total length of the bridge is 1.5 miles. The bridge is named for the late Gordie Howe, a native of Saskatchewan who played 25 years for the Detroit Red Wings.

Construction of the bridge wrapped up in June, but its opening was delayed several weeks due to objections by President Trump seeking a better deal for the U.S. on how bridge tolls would be allocated. That’s despite the fact that the Canadian government has paid for 100 percent of the construction the span, including the vast U.S. customs plaza and re-worked Detroit road system leading to the bridge. Canada expects to recoup the construction costs through the collection of bridge tolls, which will take decades.

“The Gordie Howe International Bridge has always been a great deal for our state,” said Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. “Thousands of Michigan workers built this critical bridge, which will speed up auto production, lower costs, ease traffic, strengthen agriculture, and give people on both sides of the border better-paying jobs and brighter futures. I’m proud to have fought for its opening and congratulate my partners who have worked on this issue alongside me for years. This bridge is a testament to the enduring partnership between Michigan and Canada and what we can get done when we think big and bet on our shared future together.

“Thank you to our allies in Canada and to the Michiganders who advocated for years to get this done. Let’s keep working together to build a bright future for Michigan and Canada.”

Designed with six bridge lanes, 16 toll lanes and 60 Canada and U.S. inspection lanes, the new crossing and its modern ports of entry are expected to enhance efficiency, reliability and security for commercial and passenger traffic. The iconic Ambassador Bridge, which opened in 1929 and stands about three miles downriver from Gordie’s bridge, will remain open as an alternative crossing for motorists, as will the Detroit-Windsor Tunnel.

“The Gordie Howe International Bridge will support increased trade and good-paying jobs on both sides of the border, adding to the \$82 billion in cross-border trade that Michigan and Ontario do every year,” said Ontario Premier Doug Ford. “This bridge is a testament to the incredible legacy of Gordie Howe, and to the millions of Americans and Canadians who work together every day to make both of our countries more secure, safe and prosperous.”

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Local 149 Roofers & Waterproofers

Roofers Local 149

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

The General Membership Meeting is set for Tues, Sept. 1, 2026, at 7 p.m. at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216

The next Executive Board Meeting is scheduled for Tues., Sept. 1, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216

Mid-Michigan. The Mid-Michigan meeting is scheduled for Tues., Oct. 13, at 6 pm. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420.

Stellantis Mega Hub Distribution Center Picket Line. What happened on that picket line wasn't just solidarity, it was a reckoning. It was Labor standing up as one. We thank the United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers & Allied Workers Locals 11, 23, 26, 70, 134, our own Local 149, our Rat Patrol, the International Union, our Contractors, the Michigan Building Trades Council, and to every single Trade. We thank you all for your support.

We didn't just show up, you came ready to fight for what's right. We came ready to defend our craft, our families, and our future. EVERY SINGLE TRADE stood with us, marched with us, or supported the line. Not one trade stayed home. Not one trade didn't represent. EVERY TRADE stood shoulder to shoulder with Local 149, and that unity sent a message that cannot be ignored. We rolled out 10 inflatables, giant rats, fat cats, greedy pigs, and even Mother Jones herself towering over the line like a guardian of labor. We had around 150 Brothers and Sisters marching in full force. We had a member from NABTU in attendance. And yes, a couple politicians showed up because they knew exactly where the people stand and who carries the real power.

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

If you are interested in any

of these classes, contact Thomas Jaranowski at the Training Center, 248-206-7620, or 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.

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

Are you moving? If you have a new address please make sure to let the Union Hall know.

Reminder. Members please call the Hall when you see a roofing project whether it is one of our signatory companies or not. The Hall needs this information for recruitment purposes, and hopefully to get a picture of our members for Facebook.

The date of this publication above is 8/3/2026, 2:00pm
In Solidarity, Brian Gregg Business Manager, Roofers & Waterproofers Local No.149



Local 36 Elevator Constructors

Elevator Constructors Local 36

DETROIT – ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED: Our Aug. 24, 2026 regular membership meeting has been cancelled. Any changes to this schedule or venue will be in the Building Trades Article or sent via email.

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

Upcoming meetings:
Aug. 10 – Probationary Meeting at 5pm.

Aug. 17 – Executive Board Meeting at 5pm.

July 27– 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.** To register contact Justin Smith (248)709-0341 or Mike Waker (734)389-9633 or go to, <https://www.eventregisterpro.com/event/annualiueclocal36golfouting>

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, there are two enrollment dates, the first enrollment will be open from Aug. 1-31, 2026 and effective Sept. 1, 2026 and the second enrollment will open Sept. 1 to Oct. 31, 2026 and effective Nov. 1, 2026. This will be the ONLY chance to sign up for this till 2027. www.IUEC-VIP.com or call (224) 487-5030

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. Locally contact Scott Erison (Local 36 VAP Chair) (586)482-0768 or email him at sanosire1973@gmail.com or Ricky Azzopardi (Local 36 Co-Chair) (586)719-7465 or email him at rickypardi@yahoo.com if you would like to get involved or have questions.



INSTALLING A PIPE in a hallway at the Northern Michigan University Presque Isle residence halls project is Robert Glover of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 111. He's employed by Dressler Mechanical.



THE BIG SMILE comes from 40-year Michigan Regional Carpenters Council member Michael O'Boyle. The Local 1510 member is employed by O'Boyle and Co., and is working at the Northern Michigan University Presque Isle apartments project.



GLUING PVC pipe at the NMU Presque Isle apartments project is Emma Heinz of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 111. She's employed by Dressler Mechanical.

Photo credits: Jack Deo

"We should every night call ourselves to an account; What infirmity have I mastered today? What passions opposed? What temptation resisted? What virtue acquired? Our vices will abort of themselves if they be brought every day to the shrift."

—Seneca (5 BC - 65 AD)

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."
— Martin Luther King Jr. (1929 - 1968)

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Outdoors

Help locate our gray foxes



From the Michigan DNR
Michigan has two fox species. Have you seen the gray one? Recent research suggests gray foxes may be harder to find than previously thought, and the DNR is asking the public to help locate them.

While the red fox is familiar to many Michiganders, a smaller, more elusive relative – the gray fox – also calls our state home, and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources is hoping you can help pinpoint where this secretive species resides.

The DNR recently partnered with Northern Michigan University, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians and The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians to conduct a research project on both red and gray foxes, with some results suggesting gray foxes may be much rarer in Michigan than previously believed.

To better understand their distribution across the state, wildlife researchers are launching a statewide effort to collect gray fox observations from the public. If you’ve seen a gray fox, whether recently or years ago, the DNR wants to hear from you. Photographs are especially valuable because they help researchers confirm sightings and gain more clarity on where gray foxes are living in Michigan today.

“Gray foxes are one of Michigan’s least understood mammals,” said Cody Norton, DNR furbearer specialist. “By sharing sightings and photographs, residents can help us get a better sense of where these animals occur and provide information that will shape future research and conservation efforts.”

Hidden in plain sight?
Gray foxes are found throughout much of northern South America as well as North and Central America, including across Michigan, which is at the northernmost point of the species’ range. However, declining trends across many Midwest and Northeast states have led to additional efforts to determine the status of gray fox populations and what factors may be causing declines.



Gray fox



Red fox

LOOKING FOR GRAY FOXES: Gray foxes are generally smaller than red foxes, with salt-and-pepper gray fur and a black stripe down the tail, and have shorter legs. Unlike red foxes, gray foxes are skilled climbers and can climb trees to escape predators or search for food. If you spot a gray fox, the Michigan DNR would like to know.

In Michigan, gray fox detections from surveys designed for other species have detected very few occurrences of gray fox, mainly in the Upper Peninsula or southern Lower Peninsula.

Researchers hope public reports will help determine whether gray foxes are absent from certain areas, simply difficult to detect or occupy habitats that traditional wildlife surveys may miss.

“We’ve learned that gray foxes often live closer to people than many realize,” said Tyler Petroelje, DNR Upper Peninsula research specialist. “They use structures such as garages, sheds and out-buildings near wooded areas. Be-

cause of that, community scientists may be in the best position to help us understand where gray foxes are occurring. These observations can provide information we simply can’t collect through traditional research methods.”

Since gray foxes share characteristics of red foxes, coyotes and even domestic cats, the DNR is particularly interested in reports accompanied by photographs to help wildlife biologists confirm species identification and observation locations. Because gray foxes often live near people, many of these images may come from trail cameras, doorbell cameras and home security systems.

Additionally, if you have photographs and location information of gray foxes from previous years, the DNR encourages you to submit those observations as well.

Gray fox or red fox?

Gray foxes can be distinguished from red foxes by their grizzled gray coat, black-tipped tail and reddish coloration on the neck, chest and legs. They are also one of the few members of the dog family capable of climbing trees like a cat, due to their semiretractable claws.

Gray fox observation.

You can submit observations through the DNR Reporting system, Eyes in the Field.

The Michigan form is available at: www2.dnr.state.mi.us/ors/Home

The gray fox observation report is available for selection at that website in the mammals category. When submitting a report, please include photographs, observation details and contact information, for follow-up questions.

“Every gray fox sighting

helps us better understand a species that has remained largely out of the spotlight,” Norton said. “A single photograph or sighting may seem small, but when combined with reports from across the state, it can provide valuable insight into Michigan’s gray fox population. Together, those observations can help shape the future of gray fox conservation.”



A COLONY OF BATS roosts in a confined space, highlighting the importance of summer roost sites for resting, raising young and sheltering throughout the season. *Photo courtesy of Joy and Richard Kuyt.*

Holy bat roost! Monitoring effort returns for second summer

From the Michigan DNR

Michigan residents are helping uncover where bats roost, one observation at a time.

From tree cavities and trunks to bridges and barns, bats are settling into a variety of summer roosts across Michigan. Just as they did last year, residents can help scientists better understand where these important mammals are living, by sharing information about the bat activity they see around their homes and communities.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Michigan Natural Features Inventory are asking the public to report bat roost locations through the Michigan Bat Roost Monitoring Program.

Providing the information is easy. The online form asks for basic information such as the date and time when you saw bats using the roost, whether the location is on public or private land, the type of structure (house, barn, bat box, etc.), and how many bats you observed using the roost. There also is an opportunity to share photos.

This project focuses on summer roosts – places where bats rest and raise their young during the warmer months. Bats typically use summer roosts through August or early September. As temperatures cool in the fall, many species move to winter roosts, called hibernacula, where they hibernate until spring. Reports of summer roosts can be submitted at any time, even if the observation occurred earlier in the year.

How does this information help? During the first year of the program, community members submitted over 130 bat roost observations from 52 counties across the state. The reports are helping researchers identify where bats are raising young and sheltering during the summer months.

The 2025 results showed that the counties with the most reported summer roost observations were Kent and Newaygo (between seven and 13 reports each) and Calhoun, Monroe, Oakland and Wayne (between five and six reports each). Now entering its second year, the program invites residents to continue reporting bat roost locations to help support bat conservation and monitoring efforts in Michigan.

“Summer bat roosts are critical places where bats rest, raise pups and shelter during the season,” said DNR bat specialist John DePue. “However, these are some of the least understood parts of the bat’s life cycle. By learning more about where bats are roosting, we can better support conservation and management efforts for these species.”

Learn more about Michigan bats – and report roost locations at www.Michigan.gov/Bats.

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