

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN

Official Publication of the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council

VOL. 74, NO. 19

Since 1952 • Serving the highly skilled men and women in Michigan's building trades unions 65 Cents September 19, 2025

SHORT CUTS



Overpaid jobless \$ sought again by state

LANSING—Michiganders who received more unemployment benefits than they were entitled to are being notified by the Michigan Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA) that collections on those overpayments will resume at the end of September. The agency said those who cannot afford the back payments can apply for a waiver.

As part of a court-approved settlement in the *Saunders v. UIA* class action lawsuit, a pause in collections was lifted effective Sept. 12. The UIA said first payments for affected workers are due two weeks later, on Sept. 29.

“We are legally obligated under the Michigan Employment Security Act to seek repayment and we must fulfill our responsibility to ensure taxpayer money is returned to the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund,” said UIA Director Jason Palmer.

Workers will receive a reminder starting Sept. 9 in their Michigan Web Account Manager (MiWAM) accounts that they were overpaid benefits which must be returned. Claimants will receive a follow-up collection notice—known as a Form 1088—Sept. 12 or after that includes the amount owed and information about applying for a waiver.

Questions concerning balances should be directed to the Benefit Overpayment Collections Unit at 1-866-500-0017, option #1, then option #4, and then option #1. A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document can be found at Michigan.gov/UIA.

Roughly 350,000 workers with claims in collections dating back to March 2020 will be required to return benefits to UIA. The majority of people affected by the collections pause filed claims in 2020 and 2021, during the height of the COVID pandemic.

Steel tariffs start to have an impact

Producer price increases for U.S. construction industry materials and services overall rose 0.2 percent in August, and a modest 2.5 percent compared to August 2024.

But there's one major segment of the construction material economy—steel product prices—that are giving economists cause for concern.

An analysis of government data released Sept. 10 by the Associated General Contractors of America and the National Center for Construction Education and Research found that producer price for aluminum mill shapes jumped 5.5 percent last month and 22.8 percent since August 2024. The index for steel mill products rose 1.5 percent in August, but climbed 13.1 percent over the previous 12 months.

The AGC pointed to the Trump Administration's tariffs levied earlier this year (steel and aluminum were raised to 50 percent on June 4, following an earlier increase of 25 percent on March 12) starting to have an impact.

“The huge increases in steel and aluminum tariffs appears to have enabled domestic producers to push up their selling prices,” said Ken Simonson, the AGC's chief economist. He noted that the survey found that 43 percent of contractors reported at least one project in the past six months had been canceled, postponed or scaled back because of higher costs.

Quotable

“Somebody should tell us, right at the start of our lives, that we are dying. Then we might live life to the limit, every minute of every day. Do it! I say. Whatever you want to do, do it now!”

—Michael Landon (1936 - 1991)



THE REBUILT SANFORD Dam is shown with the setting of its first crest gate in August, a milestone announced early last month by Spence Brothers. The failed earthen dam collapsed after heavy rains in 2020; the replacement dam involves the placement of thousands of yards of new concrete.

Photo credit: Spence Brothers

Sanford Dam hits milestone as reconstruction continues

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

On May 19, 2020, heavy rains in mid-Michigan brought about the catastrophic failure of both the Edenville and Sanford dams in Midland and Gladwin counties.

An estimated 2,500 build-

ings were damaged, and 10,000 people were evacuated from the region. The overflowing of Wixom Lake at the confluence of the Tittabawassee and Tobacco rivers brought about “one of the worst environmental disasters that the state of Michigan has ever experienced,” U.S. District

Court Judge Paul Maloney wrote in a ruling on the case.

All told, about \$400 million will be spent to repair, replace and improve the four dams affected by the flooding: Sanford, Edenville (Wixom Lake), Secord and Smallwood.

(Continued on Page 2)



A ROW OF ELECTRIC VEHICLE chargers at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo can accommodate 20 vehicles. A new state-sponsored study suggests if EV use becomes more widespread, the state is going to have to exponentially expand the number of available chargers.

Photo credit: WMU

Study offers energetic, optimistic goal to plug in more EV chargers

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

Michigan is running low on electric vehicle charging stations. And the whopping price tag to get us up to speed: \$998 million.

That's according to a newly released state-sponsored study that said at the end of 2023, Michigan had 3,133 public EV charging stations. But here's looking at you, electricians: the study suggests 66,602 charging stations should be installed statewide in Michigan, as EVs are showing (for now) a trend

line of increasing market share.

The “EV Charging Infrastructure Study,” sponsored by the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity, was released in August by principal investigator Dr. Mehrnaz Ghafari, associate professor of civil and environmental engineering at Michigan State University. The study may well offer an accurate picture of the dearth of electric vehicle chargers in Michigan—but it cannot account for the unknown economic and political variables that make any predictions about the future market for electric ve-

hicles a bit of a crapshoot.

“While advancements in battery technology have extended driving ranges, many EVs still require recharging on long trips,” the study said. “Michigan's DCFC (Direct Current Fast Charging) network is not uniformly distributed, creating critical gaps that deter long-distance EV travel and contribute to range anxiety, detours, and delays. Without a well-planned charging network, these issues will continue to hinder widespread

(Continued on Page 3)

Happy Labor Day! Trump marks holiday with more union attacks

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C. — President Trump “celebrated” Labor Day this year by expanding his historic efforts to bust federal unions.

Unions representing workers at eight federal agencies were the latest targets on Trump's pre-Labor Day weekend hit list. The president used his executive powers to cancel collective bargaining contracts with workers at NASA, the National Weather Service, the International Trade Administration, the Agency for Global Media, the Patent and Trademark Office, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Satellite Service and units of the Bureau of Reclamation.

“This is how President Trump is commemorating Labor Day: Continuing his administration's all-out attack on workers and unions,” responded AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler. Trump “again distorts the law by ripping away the collective bargaining rights of federal workers in an attempt to silence their voices on the job.”

Trump's latest anti-union executive order was signed on Aug. 28, under a document with

“This is literally the largest act of union-busting in American history’

—Mike Podhorzer, former AFL-CIO political director

an all-caps, bold-face heading: “FURTHER EXCLUSIONS FROM THE FEDERAL LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS PROGRAM.” Like his previous executive orders this year, which canceled collective bargaining rights for about 1 million workers at an array of other federal agencies, Trump wrote that the union busting is “to enhance the national security of the United States.”

So far, union appeals of the canceling of the collective bargaining contracts have reached the federal appeals court level, where an Aug. 1 Ninth Circuit ruling gave Trump the green light to continue his union-busting spree. When the case reaches the U.S. Supreme Court, it is not expected to overturn his actions, either.

“This is literally the largest act of union-busting in American history,” said Mike Podhorzer, a former political director of the

(Continued on Page 3)

Steady as she goes for U.S. union support, latest Gallup poll says

By Megan Brennan
Gallup Organization

WASHINGTON, D.C. — As Americans celebrated Labor Day, 68 percent of U.S. adults approve of labor unions, essentially unchanged from last year's reading. This is the fifth consecutive year that approval of organized labor has been in the 67-71 percent range, a level last reached in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

When Gallup first measured Americans' ratings of labor unions in 1936, 72 percent approved. Approval reached the record high, 75 percent in 1953 and 1957 and ranged between 63-73 percent from 1958 through 1967. Then, from 1972 through 2016, approval was lower, with few readings over 60 percent, including the 48 percent all-time low recorded in 2009. This was the only time approval fell below the majority level. Since 2017, approval has been above 60 percent, the longest period at this level since the 1960s.

The latest data, from Gallup's Aug. 1-20 poll, show a continued wide divergence in partisans' views of unions, as 90 percent of Democrats, 69 percent of independents and 41 percent of Republicans express approval. All party groups show increased support for unions compared with 2016, though Republican support has declined since peaking at 56 percent in 2022. That was the

only time Republicans' approval has risen above 50 percent in the past 25 years.

Household union membership remains within the 14-21 percent range it has been in for 25 years, with 15 percent of U.S. adults saying they live in a household with at least one resident who is a member of a labor

(Continued on Page 3)

Separate poll reveals unions are trusted more than Dems, GOP

As reduced as they are in the American workplace, unions, as shown by the annual Gallup poll, are about as popular as they have even been. And now a new nationwide survey reveals that the public finds unions significantly more trustworthy than either the Democratic or Republican parties.

Conducted Aug. 7-18, the survey of 2,473 American workers conducted by David Binder Research found that when asked about institutions they trusted “quite a bit or some,” 36 percent of respondents cited the Democratic Party, with 35 percent mentioning the Republican Party. Unions: 51 percent.

“Of the group that trusts neither political party, a majority (51 percent) still trusts labor unions.

(Continued on Page 3)

Rally seeks to move Legislature to fund road work

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

LANSING—Michigan lawmakers couldn't avoid seeing about 4,000 workers on the Capitol Building's lawn on Sept. 3. Wearing hardhats and hi-visibility clothes, with banners and some driving work trucks circling the Capitol Building, their message was: “Save Our Jobs, Fund Our Roads.”

It was a part of a day-long rally staged by building trades workers and their road-building employer-contractors, at a time when state government is barreling toward a shutdown at the end of September due to a state budget impasse between Democrat and Republican lawmakers. A similar rally was held the same day in Negaunee.

Within that unresolved bud-

get is the chronic lack of a permanent funding mechanism to repair and maintain Michigan's roads.

“Michigan cannot afford any more delays in enacting a long-term road funding plan,” said Rob Coppersmith, executive vice president of the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association, which has union-contractor partners. “If lawmakers fail to act now, thousands of construction workers will lose their livelihoods and Michigan families will pay the price every time they drive on our crumbling and deteriorating roads. The time for debate has passed, and Michiganders are demanding a solution now.”

As we have reported, the Republican-controlled House has put out a \$3 billion-plus road

(Continued on Page 10)



THE MICHIGAN CAPITOL Building was the scene of a rally by road workers and their contractors on Sept. 3, seeking to push the state Legislature to approve a permanent funding mechanism to fix the damn roads in the state.

Image credit: Operating Engineers Local 324

Viewpoints



Fighting for workers

Following are excerpts of the annual “State of Our Unions” Labor Day message by AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler, given in a speech on Aug. 27. The AFL-CIO represents 63 unions, including those in the building trades, and nearly 15 million working people.

Everywhere I go people ask me: How are workers feeling out there? Where do we stand? So two years ago, we started a new tradition: To come together, every year, for a real and honest talk about the state of our unions. This is a moment unlike those past two years. Because this is a moment unlike any, in the history of our labor movement and our country.

I have heard from workers again and again these past six months. Where are the lower costs on my groceries, my rent, my medicine? Why are my job, my family, my future, my community, the services I count on suddenly being threatened and ripped away? This year there is only one possible answer. The State of the Unions – the state of working people in this country – is under attack.

We’ve seen greedy CEOs and billionaires before, haven’t we? What we’ve never seen is those same CEOs and billionaires being handed full control of our government; our democracy; our lives. Four billionaires now run agencies of our federal government.

If you ever meet someone who says that the word “oligarchy” is too confusing or too complicated – well, you can explain it: this is a government of, by, and for the CEOs and the billionaires. But we also need to recognize it has been that way for a long time now. These struggles didn’t start with Donald Trump. It started with a system that has left people behind for a long time now. That has put CEOs over construction workers, Billionaires over baristas. That has gutted labor rights over the past 40 years – and not a coincidence, saw income inequality rise to its highest level ever.

We wanted cheaper groceries and we got tanks in our streets. We wanted affordable health care. We got 16 million Americans who are about to be kicked off their coverage. We got more American workers laid off last month than any month since the start of the pandemic. The American people said loud and clear: Unions are the one thing we agree on. Instead this Administration attacked us.

They want to convince working people that we are each other’s enemies. That we need to fight one other to land a good job; to find a home in a safe neighborhood. That only so many of us can live with dignity at the same time. It doesn’t have to be this way. Things can be different if we build real, sustained power that shows up every day – not just once every four years.

Politics alone won’t fix what’s wrong with this country. Not when there are members of Congress on both sides of the aisle are more worried about their re-election than they are helping working families. Working people are going to save ourselves. When this Administration ripped away the collective bargaining rights of one million of our brothers and sisters in the federal workforce – jobs that families and communities count on – we organized. We took them to court. We rallied outside our elected officials’ offices. That ability to take on power, to create and build power of our own – it’s what unions do. It’s how we won the weekend, and paid vacation, and the eight-hour work day, and Social Security.

Every single thing working people have won for ourselves in this country’s history – it’s not because we asked those in power. It’s not because they were handed to us. It’s because we fought for them relentlessly: by organizing, and mobilizing, and using our collective power.

So if you’re ready to stand up to the CEOs and the billionaires, if you’re ready to fight for your sister, your brother beside you, if you’re ready to build the kind of country that workers deserve, come join us.

–Liz Shuler, AFL-CIO President

Sanford Dam hits milestone

(Continued from Page 1)

With the construction team Spence Brothers and Fisher Contracting co-managing the Sanford and Edenville projects, work on the Sanford Dam is the farthest along, with substantial completion of the \$90 million portion of the project slated for December.

Spence Brothers announced early last month that “the first crest gate is now in place,” a milestone representing “a major step toward restoring safe, modern dam systems in the Four Lakes region.” Crest gates are adjustable barriers that help control water levels and flow. Spence Brothers said they’re part of the project’s “run of the river” design, which keeps lake levels steady and improves both safety and environmental impact. Last week, Spence Brothers’ Sanford Dam Project Manager John Piechowiak said three of the system’s six crest gates had been installed.

He said some of the major items left on the to-do list at the re-worked dam are placing new concrete for the spillway, setting the gates’ hydraulic units and hooking up cylinder brackets.

“It’s been a good job for us,” Piechowiak said. “There are challenges every day, I mean, restoring a dam like this is a unique project and no one here



A CREST GATE on the Sanford Dam is installed by building trades workers.

Photo credit: Spence Brothers

has worked on something like this before.”

According to the bid package released prior to the project by Spence Brothers, the project at Sanford Dam has included partial demolition and removal of existing facilities at the site, including a 1920s-era hydro plant; construction or improvement to the existing primary existing spillway with cast-in concrete, earthwork, use of rip-rap and rock, steel pilings, cofferdams, a new low-level outlet structure, the crest gates, power distribution controls and instrumentation, and site grading and restoration. The dam’s hydroelectric system will

not be restored.

The Sanford Dam lasted nearly a century as an earthen dam, but its replacement containment structures will be entirely concrete and stone. The bottom of Sanford Lake to the top of the new piers at the dam will be 40 feet.

A key player in the project is the Four Lakes Task Force, self-described as a nonprofit organization serving as a “delegated authority” for Midland and Gladwin counties to “administer and oversee the maintenance and operations of Sanford, Secord, Smallwood and Wixom/ Edenville lakes and dams so the lake communities can enjoy the water

long into the future.”

A feasibility study sponsored by the group “concluded that there was a feasible path forward, and likely the only path was to restore and repair the dams to protect and preserve property values and the ecosystems of the lakes,” said the group’s president. The task force anticipates that lake levels might not be restored for Secord, Smallwood and Sanford lakes until 2026, while Wixom Lake’s is expected to return by 2028.

Approximately 45 tradespeople have been on the Sanford site in recent weeks. “The trades have been good, we have seen a lot of good teamwork out here, and they take pride in their work,” Piechowiak said. “We’re pleased that we have been able to hire all local contractors. It’s obviously a milestone project for the community.”

Edenville Dam. About a mile upstream from the Sanford Dam, the earthen Edenville Dam was the first to collapse on May 20, 2020. The torrents of water from that dam then knocked out the Sanford Dam. Spence Brothers has just begun work to create a new Edenville Dam, which will be a \$154 million project set for substantial completion in the fall of 2027.

Some of the major portions of the project indicated by the Spence Brothers bid package include demolition of the existing facilities including hydroelectric equipment. Then, construction or improvement to existing primary spillway including cast-in concrete, roller-compacted concrete, earthwork, large rip rap and rock, steel sheet piling, dewatering, and coffer dams.

The Edenville project will also include crest gate installation, and control of water, new low-level outlet structure, two CLSM access pads, sheet pile back-cutting protection and rip-rap armoring.

“True silence is the rest of the mind; it is to the spirit what sleep is to the body, nourishment and refreshment.”

–William Penn (1644 - 1718)

“The art of medicine consists in amusing the patient while nature cures the disease.”

–Voltaire (1694 - 1778)

Stop payoffs before hiking Congressional pay

By Jim Hightower

Nearly all Americans agree that Congress has become a sad joke – a blight of irritating gnats.

How exciting, then, that a consultant to top Republican lawmakers has figured out how to make Congress better. Ready? Raise the members’ pay!

Golly, why didn’t I think of that? After all, who wants to work for only \$174,000 a year (plus full health care, a really nice lifetime pension, and a flock of personal staffers to do the



heavy lifting)? This congressional insider insists that such compensation is way too paltry for the best-and-brightest types Congress needs, so they choose Wall Street or corporate careers, rather than public service.

“Ask any corporate leader,” he asserts, and they’ll say “talent is everything.” And, he explains, it takes serious bucks to “attract and retain talent.” So, the answer to getting a better Congress is easy, he writes: “Let’s start by doubling their salaries.”

Excuse me, but let’s not.

While money is the reason Congress fails to represent the common good of America’s workday majority, their paychecks aren’t to blame.

Rather, it’s the corrupting

power of the unlimited dollars that corporations and billionaires are spewing into our elections and lobbying campaigns, literally buying the special-interest Congress that Americans despise.

The obvious problem with Congress is not that members don’t get enough money, but that they take too much. Don’t even think about raising congressional pay before outlawing congressional payoffs!

Besides, anyone who’ll only commit to public service work if their pay is doubled is not committed to the public, to service, or even to work. They’re narcissists, committed to themselves – and Congress already has an excess of those.

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When we built Shermans

HISTORY IN THE MAKING

By Marty Mulcahy



AS MUCH AS ANY OTHER WORLD WAR II factory photo, this shot of the production of iconic M4A4 Sherman tanks in 1942 on the floor of the Detroit Arsenal Tank Plant in Warren depicts Michigan’s status as the “Arsenal of Democracy.” The Chrysler Corp. contracted with the U.S. Army to build the tanks, and did they ever: the plant built a quarter of the 89,568 tanks produced in the U.S. Even while the plant was hurriedly being erected in 1941, new M3 Lee tanks were rumbling out the doors. Production switched to M4 Sherman tanks in 1942.

Photo credit: U.S. Army

President Franklin Roosevelt first used the term “Arsenal of Democracy” during a Dec. 29, 1940, radio address, using it as a moniker for the nation’s soon-to-be established role in an unprecedented effort to build military hardware and armaments.

It has been well documented how Michigan itself rightfully became the Arsenal of Democracy, with manufacturing might that played an outsized role in building armaments. And the nation’s third largest automaker at the time, Chrysler Corp., was among those that answered the call, building among other wartime products, the legendary M4 Sherman tank, in a plant they built in a hurry in Warren Twp., north of Detroit.

“The Detroit Arsenal Tank Plant was the United States Army’s first manufacturing plant that mass-produced tanks,” said the *World War II Database*. “The facilities were designed by the famous industrial architect Albert Kahn, and the facilities were erected by the automobile manufacturing firm Chrysler in the winter of 1940 to 1941.

“The plant was built on 113 acres of former farmland. The main building, gigantic in size, was protected by three-foot-thick concrete walls against potential hostile bombardment. Even prior to the plant’s completion, Chrysler had already received, in late 1940, a contract to build 1,000 M3 (Lee) tanks.”

Construction of the plant began on Aug. 15, 1940. By April 1941, the plant had produced a test pilot tank. The first (M3) tanks came off the assembly line in July when the workforce was 2,000. One month later, 5,000 were employed there.

“Chrysler Corp. was awarded the contract for erection and operation of the first manufacturing factory in the United States to mass-produce tanks,” says a history prepared by the U.S. Army. “In just a little more than eight months, the first tank had been produced. The facility was originally called the Detroit Ordnance Plant, but was officially renamed the Detroit Tank Arsenal on May 29, 1941. During the Second World War, the Arsenal produced 22,234 new tanks and refurbished 2,825 armored vehicles.”

“The U.S. needed an armored force alongside its infantry,” wrote Jake Hendricks for *Military History of the Upper Great Lakes* in an article titled, “Detroit Arsenal: Birthplace of American Tank Warfare.” “Simultaneously and working in perfect coordination, other Chrysler men plan the layout of the arsenal building itself. On Aug. 15, it was authorized to construct a \$20 million tank arsenal. This behemoth factory stretched five city blocks long and two blocks wide. Over-



ERECTED QUICKLY in 1940-41, this is the Detroit Arsenal Tank Plant under construction along Van Dyke in Warren. “The Sherman tank’s primary role was infantry support, spearheading attacks as well as bolstering defensive positions. Though frequently outgunned by their German counterparts, Shermans proved easier to maintain – often fixed on the battlefield. In December 1942 alone, 896 M4 tanks were delivered by the Warren plant, which would remain the World War II-era production record,” said the *World War II database*.

Photo credit: Detroit Public Library



WHILE CHRYSLER got all the press with its quick plant construction and then fast delivery of its Sherman tanks in Warren during World War II, largely forgotten has been the contribution of the GM Fisher Body Tank Arsenal, an hour north in Grand Blanc. The 452,000 square-foot factory was built in an even faster manner, with ground broken in November 1941 and the first delivery of a Sherman tank in January 1942. Between April 1942 and May 1945, the plant cranked out 11,385 Shermans. “Built from the ground up to accommodate the growing need for tank production in the United States during World War II, it became one of the most important but understated production facilities in the United States,” said the *Military History of The Great Lakes*.

Photo credit: GM

night, the automobile industries of America transformed its plants, reshaped its tools to become the greatest tank arsenal the world has ever known.”

According to *The Sherman Tank Site*, the Sherman used four different motors during its production. It first employed a Continental radial aircraft engine, due to the lack of suitably powerful pre-war engines among auto manufacturers. During the war the tank also used the GM 12-cylinder 6046 twin-diesel, the Chrysler 30-cylinder A57 Multibank, and the Ford GAA V8 gasoline engine, which “became the motor of choice for the U.S. Army for the rest of the war,” the site said.

Detroit’s other automakers also made Shermans: Ford manufactured approximately 6,748 M4s, while a number of others were made at a GM plant in Grand Blanc. There were a total of 10 sites around the U.S. that made Shermans or their variants, plus one in Montreal.

According to the *Tank Encyclopedia*, “The M4 Sherman (named after the famous American Civil War general William T. Sherman) is one of the few really iconic fighting vehicles of the Allies during World War Two, and one of the most famous tanks in history.

But while this historic status was gained partly thanks to its intrinsic qualities, it’s also due to the sheer numbers in which they were provided, only surpassed by the Soviet Union’s T-34, with a staggering 50,000 total delivered. It remains by far the most widely used tank on the Allied side during the war. It was derived into countless derivatives and had a very long postwar career which lasted well into the Cold War.

“Derived in a haste from the previous and controversial M3 Lee/Grant, it was the first to bear a fully-traversing turret with a 75-mm gun. It was designed from the very beginning for mass-production. Cheap and relatively simple to build, easy to maintain, reliable, roomy, sturdy, fast, well-armored and well-armed, it was the good-all-around armored vehicle the Allies had sought for until 1942, when it first arrived on the North African front. It literally soldiered in every corner of the globe, under many colors, from 1942 to the end of the war.”

According to the *World War II Database*, tank production in Warren was suspended at the conclusion of WW2, but it would resume during the Korean War. During the 1960s, the plant produced 500 M60A2 tanks. In 1979, while still building M60 tanks, it began to also build components for new M1 tanks; shortly after, it would perform final assembly for M1 tanks as well.

In 1982, Chrysler sold the tank plant division to General Dynamics Land Systems, which would continue building M1 and M60 tanks at the plant until 1987. The plant closed in 1996.

Some of the land was sold to the City of Warren, but the U.S. Army continues to use a portion of the property for several of its agencies.

Happy Labor Day! Trump marks holiday with more union attacks

(Continued from Page 1)

AFL-CIO. ‘There’s not another time when that many people lost their union.’

Nicholas Bednar, an administrative law professor at the University of Minnesota, told *Bloomberg News* that Trump’s orders are an “existential” threat to federal unions. “Whether collective bargaining is allowed to continue in the federal sector comes down to these cases,” he said.

Labor historians have consistently pointed to the Aug. 5, 1981, wholesale firing of striking federal air traffic controllers by President Ronald Reagan as a turning point in U.S. labor history. Trump’s orders will

similarly make their place in history. It is widely accepted that Reagan’s firing of the 11,000 union controllers sparked public and private employers to similarly reconsider and rebuke collective bargaining contracts with employees. Union penetration in the U.S. workplace has since dropped to less than half of what it was in 1980, and today shows few signs of recovery.

Trump’s subsequent Labor Day proclamation might have praised the American union movement for its historic uplifting of the nation’s middle class, but that was a bridge too far. The president declared that “America’s greatness has always been the strength of our workforce”

adding he would “defend every citizen who works with integrity, honors the rule of law and strives to secure a brighter future.”

Matt Biggs, national president of the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers, whose union represents a portion of NASA’s workforce, said of Trump’s action: “It’s not surprising, sadly. What is surprising is that on the eve of Labor Day weekend, when workers are to be celebrated, the Trump Administration has doubled down on being the most anti-labor, anti-worker administration in U.S. history. We will continue to fight in the courts, on the Hill and at the grassroots levels against this.”

Study offers energetic, optimistic goal to plug in more EV chargers

(Continued from Page 1)

EV adoption. To address these challenges, a strategic, cost-effective, and timely approach to placing charging stations is essential.”

Any EV driver in Michigan will likely bemoan the state’s dearth of public charging stations, but the level of future needs is tricky to estimate. This being a state-sponsored study, its numbers are based on a lofty target by the Whitmer Administration’s *Michigan Future Mobility Plan* of having 2 million EVs on the state’s roads by 2030, and 100,000 EV chargers in place by then.

Given that, here are some points to ponder about the state of the state’s EVs and EV chargers that the study brings to light:

•Michigan lags behind the rest of the nation in electric vehicle adoption, with 0.76 percent of vehicles being EVs in 2023, half of the 1.52 percent nationwide rate.

•However, Michigan’s 3,133 public EV chargers in 2023 put our state ahead of the nation, according to the study, creating a ratio of 21 electric vehicles per charger. That’s a better ratio than

the U.S. as a whole, which had 159,842 chargers as of that year, equaling 27 EVs per charger. California was home to a whopping share of those EV chargers, 42,769, but it had a lagging ratio of 35 EVs per charger.

•The MSU study bases its statewide EV charger-needs study for Michigan on a target of a 25 percent EV market share by 2030, based on *Mobility Plan* numbers. That seems like another extremely ambitious target – going from less than 1 percent in 2023 to 25 percent in seven years.

But more recent numbers from *Bridge Michigan* say that as of June 25, 2025, EV adoption quadrupled over the past three years, with 85,666 registered electric vehicles in Michigan, up from 20,001 in 2022. Plug-in hybrid registrations have also grown, reaching 18,141, compared to 12,431 in 2023.

•Much of that growth of EVs has come in just the past year, with the state reporting 35,931 new EV registrations since June 2024, which is a 72 percent increase.

•But juicing those sales is the looming Sept. 30 deadline

for snagging a federal tax credit of up to \$7,500 to purchase a qualifying electric vehicle. The Biden Administration made that tax credit possible; the Trump Administration is running away from just about anything connected to clean energy, further calling into question any predictions about future EV usage.

The MSU study, not surprisingly, suggests that most chargers should be placed along highways and in major population centers. The report doesn’t mention a timeframe for charger installation, nor is there yet any state money attached to its recommendations.

“Many consumers remain hesitant to purchase EVs due to perceived limitations,” the MSU study said. “Consequently, it is crucial to examine these constraints from both supplier and user perspectives and develop strategies to overcome them. A comprehensive EV charging infrastructure – encompassing residential setups, urban public stations, and facilities for intercity travels plays a pivotal role in supporting sustainable transportation by ensuring convenient, low-impact options.”

Steady as she goes for U.S. union support

(Continued from Page 1)

union.

This includes 8 percent who say they are a union member, 6 percent who say another member of their household is in a union, and 1 percent who say both they and someone else in their household belong to a union.

The most significant subgroup differences in labor union membership are by region and income. Americans in the East (14 percent), Midwest (12 percent) and West (9 percent) are more likely than those in the South (6 percent) to report labor union membership.

Likewise, U.S. adults with an annual household income of at least \$100,000 (11 percent) and those earning \$50,000 to less than \$100,000 (11 percent) are more likely than those earning under

\$50,000 per year (7 percent) to be labor union members.

Among employed U.S. adults, 13 percent say they personally belong to a union, which matches the average in Gallup polls since 2001.

Bottom line: Public approval of organized labor is holding strong, with nearly seven in 10 Americans expressing approval, thus continuing a streak since 2021 of historically high support not seen since the 1950s and 1960s. Yet, the partisan divide remains sharp, with Democrats and independents overwhelmingly supportive, while less than half of Republicans approve. Although Republicans’ approval is well below their brief majority support in 2022, it remains higher than it was in 2016.

Separate poll reveals unions are trusted more than Dems, GOP

(Continued from Page 1)

The most skeptical workers are still likely to trust unions,” the survey said. It found that 45 percent of respondents do not trust Democrats at all, while 51 percent do not trust Republicans at all.

When asked which is the better way for working people to get what they deserve, workers are more likely to say by joining together in labor unions (29 percent) than by voting for Democrats (17 percent) or for Republicans (also 17 percent). Another 25 percent say the best way is by “working harder and doing better.”

Sponsored by the AFL-CIO, the survey included 900 union workers and respondents were recruited by phone call or text message.

Aliens visit Earth. They came in peace and surprisingly, they speak English.

All of the heads of government and religious leaders want to speak to the aliens, so they set up a meeting.

When it's the Pope's turn, he asks: "Do you know about our lord and savior, Jesus Christ?"

"Jesus Christ? Of

Just joking

course we know him," responds the alien. "He's the greatest, isn't he? A wonderful man, he returns every year with a message of peace, love and salvation."

Surprised, the Pope follows up: "He visits you every year? Here on Earth, it's been more than 2,000 years and we're still waiting for his SECOND coming!"

The alien sees that the Pope is mystified, and can

only speculate as to why. "Maybe he likes our chocolate better than yours?"

The pope retorts, "chocolates? What are you talking about? Chocolates? What does that have to do with anything?"

The alien responds, "Well, when he first visited our planet we gave him a huge box of mixed chocolates! Maybe he likes our chocolates?"

The alien paused and then asked, "so... what did you guys do?"


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Local 190

Plumbers, Pipe Fitters, Service Technicians, Gas Distribution

UA Local 190
ANN ARBOR – UNION MEETING: A monthly meeting will be held on Monday, Oct. 13 at 6:00 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI. All members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

PAY UNION DUES ON-LINE <https://mtp.ua190.org/mtpweb> Username will be your full social security no., temporary password is the last four digits of your social security no.. There is a 3% fee charged. Feel free to call the hall for a QR CODE.

IMPORTANT REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS - LAID OFF OR 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.* All Members can now go to the website under “members only” and fill out a “back to work” form or “laid off” form.

MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION JOURNEYMAN: If you are currently laid off and you would like to work building trades, please contact Kristyn at out Training Center to get information on a UA 21 Weld Certification. 734-426-3700 Ext. #1 for Kristyn

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

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

MICHIGAN LICENSE 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, 2025. Please remember to bring in the 2025 Annual Physical Verification Form and email the completed form to Bernadette Maus bmaus@ua190.org. This form is on our Local 190 website UA190.org and also the Benefits website UA190benefits.org

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

The Training Center is open to members wishing to update any certifications, licenses, or qualifications. Office hours of operation are Monday through Thursday 8am. to 5 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.

Email: kristyn@190jtc.com or mail to 8040 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, MI. 48103

Available Journeyman classes:

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

MUST Safety Online: Members interested in taking MUST Safety training modules online should contact Kristyn to register.

Lead/Asbestos/Blood-borne Pathogens Training (4 hrs): Please register through the website: ua190.org 2025 Schedule - 5 p.m. Monday Sept. 29.

First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs): Please register through the website: ua190.org 2025 Schedule - 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 6.

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 8 hours on Saturdays, Oct. 18, through Nov. 22. There will be a refundable \$150 deposit to hold a spot. Deposit will be returned upon completion of the class. Members must meet all the requirements to sign up.

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

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

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

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

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

EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs): This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Classes are scheduled for the following dates: the course is to be announced later. Please register through the website: ua190.org

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

Travel is necessary throughout the year for participation in the UA instructor training program through the UA ITF department regional training. The ideal candidate should possess the following credentials:

Journeyman status with the United Association of Plumbers & Pipefitters.

10 years or more of field work experience as a HVACR Technician EPA 608 Type I, II, III (Universal) Certification.

UA (United Association) HVACR Star Mastery selected.

(Continued next column)



Local 357

Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service

UA Local 357
KALAMAZOO – UNION MEETING: The next regular Union Meeting will be on Tuesday, Oct. 14 at 6:30 pm. Other meetings that day will be the Finance Committee at 4:30 and the Executive Board at 5:30.

GOLF OUTING: Even though the weather didn’t fully cooperate on Sept. 13 it was still a lot of fun. Thank you to all the volunteers, sponsors and participants. We look forward to next year’s event.

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.ua190.org. 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: 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, MI. Phone no. for the location: (269) 337-9800.

IFYOUHAVE 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)

Local 190, con’t

Excellent knowledge of commercial HVACR systems, including installation, maintenance, and repair.

Candidate’s responsibilities would include:

Obtain/possess: an Associate’s Degree in Applied Science – Industrial Training

UA#1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, 1006 UA/WCC Instructor Certification

Obtain/possess: UA#2012 UA Foreman Instructor Certification

Obtain/possess: NITC proctor qualification

Develop and update HVACR course syllabus, daily lesson plans and instructional material

Develop practical lab activities for hands-on training

Develop test, assignments, and hands-on assessments

Maintain lab equipment with the latest industry trends and technologies

These lists are not exclusive, nor final and future classes will be required as technology and trade advancements continue. This position will be paid at UA 190 Journeyman foreman rate with full benefits package, paid vacation, and earned sick leave. Please submit a copy of your resume, transcripts, and other certification documents to The Greater Michigan UA Local 190 JTC by Oct. 31, 2025, to kristyn@190jtc.com or mail to 8040 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, MI. 48103 All candidates will be contacted for a scheduled interview after the October deadline.

RETIREE MEETINGS – Please join us: Our next Spades meeting will start at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 2 at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and a cup of 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.



Local 636

Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters, Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Service

UA Local 636
DETROIT – Our next regular Union meeting is Oct. 21, 2025 at St. George Romanian Cultural Center 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. (Southfield Service Dr.) Southfield, MI 48075

Office Hours are 8:30 am – 4:30 pm Monday – Friday.

CALLING ALL RETIREES! The next meeting will be held Oct. 16, 2025.

The Retiree Association is looking to recruit more retirees to their meetings. The meetings are a great place to catch up, find out helpful information and enjoy very informative guest speakers. The Retirees will be meeting on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 11am at Local 636 Union Hall.

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

Congratulations to Marcelino & Rae Ann Ramirez on the birth of their son, Marcelino G. Ramirez, Sept. 10, 2025.

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

May 2025; Brian Dyer June 2025; Robert Desandre, Stanley McClure, David Yuhn July 2025; Robert Buchanan, John Dozbush, Tanya Holland, David Jarzab, David Machcinski, Michael Polio, Ted Richardson.

Deceased Members – Lifetime Member Ira Swinney July 31, 2025.

Get Well Wishes to; Matthew Burt, Duane Barton, Dung Phan, John G. Skiver; James Davis, Marty Sosnowski, Ray Sterna, Larry Cirillo, Ed & Noreen Nys, Rashad Dooley, Chris Fye, David Hochstein, Thomas L. Williams Jr, Justin Morgan, Zen Adams, Joshua Allan, Luke Dacy, Gregory Firth, Robert Fraser, Paul Graham, David Hatch, Jason Howe, Jacob Humpert, James Juracek, John Lilly, David Marcy, Ian Martin, Daniel Mosey, Christopher Orocco, Matthew Pukey, Aaron Schley.

DUES – 3rd Quarter Dues are due now. Your dues receipt will now be emailed to you; this will help us save on the cost of mailing receipts. Please call the Local to update your email and phone numbers. Local 636 has set up an auto-pay system for your dues so you will never miss a payment. Please contact Kim Kavanaugh at the union hall, she will be more than happy to help you with payment made by credit or debit card.

The Ulliance Member Assistance Program is available to all members and retirees.

This benefit includes free and confidential mental health counseling, coaching, and 24/7 crisis support. In addition, there are free 30-minute consultations for legal and financial matters. There is a great discount for goods and services as well as free identity theft protection. To find out more, go to lifeadvisor.com or call 800-448-8326.

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

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

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

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

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

After 10am every Wednesday, BeneSys will generate the checks

in the SUB System and have them printed and mailed from Troy production.

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

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

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

Defined Contribution Pension Plan. For those members who use the Voice Response Unit, VRU to obtain balance information and transfers funds in your Defined Contribution Pension, the number has changed. The NEW NO. for the VRU is 877-410-9984. Plan provider number is 7526. You can now login to your Defined Contribution account on the Local’s Website. Just click on the “Defined Contribution login here tab” and it will take you to the BeneSys login page. The Defined Contribution corrected website is www.accountplanaccess.net/benesys.

Your initial login information is as follows: Username – Social Security no., without the dashes. Password – Full birth date, without the slashes, (mmddyyyy). You will be prompted to update your username and password after initial login. Upon login, the site will take you to the “My Dashboard” page. Here you will be able to review a snapshot of your account balance, investments, and recent transactional activity.

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

Are you “Work Ready”? Have any of your safety modules expired? Is your Drug Test current? Check your report card at mustbsafe.org and if it is time for renewal call the Training Center 248-585-0636 and they will register you. Be “ready” when the calls come in. Safety modules and drug tests are paid for by the Contractors Association.

WHEN YOU STAY CURRENT WITH YOUR SAFETY MODULES, DRUG TEST AND FIRST AID, from Jan. 1 – Dec. 31 you will be eligible for your ready to work payment.

Training Center News.

Regular night welding runs through the Fall/winter Monday and Thursday nights from 4pm till 8pm.

Certified Brazing class Monday and Thursday Night 4 till 8.

Starting Mon. Oct 13th from 5-8pm for 5 weeks: Controls with Jason. CSD-1 with Kevin

Starting Thur. Oct. 16th from 5-8 for 5 weeks: CO2 class with Jason Hydronic piping and design with Kevin

A21 class with Dan.

Starting Wed. Oct 15th from 5-8 for 5 weeks: Steam boilers with Todd and Chiller Basics with Dan.

Starting Thur. Oct 16th from 5-8 for 10 weeks: Revit 1 and Trimble 1 classes with Eric and Alex.

HDPE fusion class Sat. Nov 1st 7am for 8 hours.

Mo. And Thur. Night starting Oct 13th from 5- for 5 weeks: Certified Rigging with Doug

MES class is available on Mon. And Thur. Nights.

Call Kim at the Training Center to sign up.

Orbital class, GMAW and downhill classes in Nov, call Mike to sign up.



Local 111

Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service

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

ATTENTION: The next Union Meeting will be in Marquette, Sept. 25 at 7:30pm.

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

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

MRA FUND - This is a reminder that you are required by the IRS to provide proper substantiation for your MRA debit card usage. Many members have received Substantiation Request letters from the Local 111 Benefit Fund office, Zenith American Solutions. If you have any questions, please contact Zenith American Solutions at 1-866-823-4730 ext. 1.

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

Failure to respond to these Substantiation Request letters will result in suspension of your MRA card until all requested documentation has been received. If you have any questions, please contact Zenith American Solutions at 1-866-823-4730 ext. 1. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

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

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

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

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


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

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

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

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

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



The Building Tradesman


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

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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:
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1640 Porter St. Detroit, MI 48216
Phone: (313) 961-3800
Fax: (313) 961-2467
Union members with address changes are asked to contact their local union.



Local 370
Plumbers,
Pipe Fitters
and HVAC Service

UA Local 370
FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday Oct. 14, 2025.**

Retiree Breakfast will be on Monday, Oct. 13 at 9 am.

The Ulliance Member Assistance Program is now 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 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: **A2L** Sept.16,17, 18, 23, & 24. 5pm-8pm.

Sept. Welding Sept. 9 thru Oct. 1. Mondays and Wednesdays. 4:30pm – 7:30pm

Oct. Welding Oct. 6 thru Oct. 28. Mondays & Thursdays. 4-7.

CSD1 Oct. 20-23, 5-8pm.

Rigging Sept. 8 thru Oct. 8, Mondays & Wednesdays 4-7:30pm.

Testing will be Oct. 13-17.

First Aid & CPR Sept. 17, at 4:30pm

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

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

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

Committee and Board meetings are as follows:

Examining Board – Tuesday, Oct. 13 at 4 pm

FMR Committee – Tuesday October 13th,2025 at 4:00pm

PAC committee – Tuesday, October 13th,2025 at 5:00pm

Executive Board –Tuesday, October 13th,2025, at 5:00pm

Building Committee – Tuesday, October 13th,2025 at 6:00pm

Finance Committee -Tuesday, October 13th,2025 at 6:15pm

JATC Committee – TBD

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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



Local 85
Plumbers &
Steam Fitters

UA Local 85
SAGINAW – The next **Union Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, Oct. 22, 2025**, at the Union Hall at 3535 Bay Rd. at 7 PM.

NEW DATE: The next Northern Union Meeting will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 1, 2025, at 7 PM at the Grayling Eagles.

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 aalexander@ualocal85.org
Bobby Anderson, Organizer (989) 799-5261 x 8512 rjanderson@ualocal85.org
Kristin Tuthill, Office Professional (989) 799-5261 x 8511 ktuthill@ualocal85.org

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

The **new website** is up and running. Please check out www.ualocal85.org. Click on Local 85 Members to access members only information. Login information is username: first initial with full last name. Password is 00 with your UA Card No.. If you have difficulties logging in, please call Kristin, (989) 799-5261 ext. 8511.

Social Media: Like us on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, @UAlocal85. Facebook has our Members Only page for updates at UA Local 85 Members Group.

JATC News:

Congratulations to our newest Journeymen, Jamie Yager, Matthew McCuen and Gary Connelly!

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

GOD BLESS ORGANIZED LABOR AND THE LABOR MOVEMENT!

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Website Address: Please visit www.ualocal85.org.

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

RETIREE LUNCHEON: The next retirees' luncheon will be held on Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 12 Noon at UA Local 85 Administration Office located **(Continued next column)**



Plumbers Local 98



UA Local 98
DETROIT – *Membership of Plumbers Local 98.*

New UA Membership Cards: Please ensure you have the correct spelling of your name and current address on file with Local 98 as our new UA membership cards will be printed in November for the period of 2026-2028. Any changes need to be submitted to the UA by mid-October for the printing of the new membership cards.

Prescription coverage: Effective Sept. 1, 2025, Express Scripts ("ESI") will be the new Pharmacy Benefits Manager (PBM) for the Plumbers Local 98 Insurance Fund. You should have received a welcome kit from ESI with important information regarding your pharmacy benefits including prescriptions, mail-order information, and specialty pharmacy information, along with new ID cards that reflect the new PBM information. You must show your new ID Card to the pharmacy on or after Sept. 1, 2025.

Our next regular monthly union meeting will be held on Thursday, Oct. 16, 2025 at 6 pm.

Retiree Luncheon meeting will be held at the hall on Wednesday, Oct. 8 from 12-2 pm.

The Executive Board meetings are *generally* held the first Thursday of the month at 4:30pm and before all Union Meetings. **The next board meeting is Thursday, Oct. 2, 2025 at 4:30pm.**

By-Law Change: At June's membership meeting a motion that was accompanied by the signatures of 20 members in good standing was made to change the times of all membership meetings. "Union meetings shall be called to order promptly at 6:00pm and adjourn no later than 9:00pm." The motion was passed with a vote 74 to 6 on Aug. 21, 2025. Vote carries. New meeting time is 6:00pm.

Labor Day Parade: We had excellent weather and a great turnout for this year's parade. We were honored to have the Mayor of Detroit, Mike Duggan, marching alongside of us wearing a Local 98 shirt. Continually Mayor Duggan has shown his support for Local 98 and all of organized labor.

Adopt-A-Highway: It's that time of year again, fall is here. Our semi-annual Plumbers 98/ Mike Kalso Memorial Clean Up of I-94 in Macomb County is **Saturday, Sept. 20, 2025.** We will meet at Bob Evans in Roseville at 8am. Please RSVP with Jeff Kavalas so we can be sure to have enough supplies.

Halloween Trunk or Treat/ Fall Food Drive: The Local 98 Annual Halloween Trunk or Treat AND Fall Food Drive will be held on Saturday, Oct. 18 at the hall. Trunk or Treat will be from Noon to 2pm. Please come early to decorate your vehicles and set up your treats! Wear your festive and fun costumes! Hot chocolate, hot dogs and hamburgers will be served. Any questions please call Connor Socrates at 313-318-9157 or Jimmy Cools at 248-762-9221.

The Fall Food Drive will take place from *10am to 2pm*. We will be accepting non-perishable food items and bottled water. No donation is too big or too small. Cash or checks will also be accepted and will be used to

Local 85, con't

at 3535 Bay Road Saginaw, MI 48603. We ask if you are able, please bring a dish to pass.

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

purchase additional food for the donation. Food and donations can also be dropped off at the hall during regular business hours as well as our next meeting night. All donations will be delivered to a local food pantry to help those in need. Please contact Jimmy Cools or Dan Nixon for the food drive. *Apprentices who help with both the Trunk or Treat and Food Drive will receive a meeting credit.*

Awards Night Save The Date: Our annual years of service award dinner will be held Oct. 30, 2025 at 5:30pm at Club Venetian. Cost is \$25 per person (refunded if you attend). Invitations have been mailed to members who will be receiving an award.

Local 98 Detroit Plumbers Scholarship Golf Outing was held on Saturday, Aug. 23 at Mystic Creek Golf Course. Thank you to all of our sponsors, members and families that joined us for this event honoring the Detroit Plumbers CARES charity. It was a fun day filled with camaraderie by all who attended.

We especially thank the following sponsors for their generosity and support: Afac, Aiello Law Group PLLC., American Graphics Printing Co., Americare Medical Inc., Asher Kelly Attorneys at Law, Baird Advisors, BeneSys, Boyd Watterson Asset Management, Bultynck & Co. PLLC, C&R Plumbing & Heating Inc., De-Cal, Delta Dental of Michigan, Detroit Diamond Drilling, Detroit Pistons, Ecker Mechanical, First Supply, FMG Concrete Cutting, Goyette Mechanical, Guardian Plumbing, Guideline Mechanical, Hoyt Brumm & Link, Hudson Edge Investment Partners Inc, Humana, International Union of Painters and Allied Trades District Council 1M, Labaton Keller Sucharow LLP, Leona & Vivienne Wisniewski, Limbach, Local 190 Plumbers, Pipefitters, Gas Distribution and HVAC, Local 370 Plumbers, Pipefitters and HVAC, Local 636 Pipefitters, Steamfitters and HVAC, Local 50 Plumbing, Pipefitting and HVAC, Local 671 Plumbers, Pipefitters, HVAC and Welders, Local 704 Sprinkler Fitters, Long Mechanical Marc Dutton Irrigation, Mechanical Contractors Association of Detroit, Medtipster, Michigan Building & Construction Trades Council, Michigan Maritime Trades Port Council, Miller Boldt, Miller Cohen PLC, Milwaukee Tools, National Investment Services, Nickel & Saph Inc., Novara Tesija & Catenacci PLLC, Oak & Stone Real Estate, Plumbers Local 98 Softball Team, Plumber Local 98 Women's Committee, Power Process Piping, Scott & Scott Attorneys at Law LLP, Serling & Abramson PC, Stefansky, Holoway & Nichols Inc, Strategic Capital Management Advisors, The Local Credit Union, The Segal Company Inc., The Union Labor Life Insurance Company, TMR & Associates Inc, Total Control Health Plans, TruHearing, W.J. O'Neil, and Western Mechanical Contractors Inc.

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

Expelled Members: Currently we have no expelled members.

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 loca-

tion on the Out of Work List. *We have a dedicated email to send your unemployment certifications and/or backup documents to receive SUB pay. Please email correspondence to: sub@ualocal98.org by Thursdays at 3:00pm to ensure ample time to process the payments.* Make sure your contact information is up to date, as well as MUST and other certifications. If you have any problems with state agencies involving unemployment, or questions on MUST models and staying current, please contact Rufus Hamilton.

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

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

Worker Assistance Program. Work Life Strategies, LLC. Are available to members and their families to provide counseling services and when needed, a referral to other professionals. Call to talk to a counselor for issues relating to grief, alcohol, drug addiction, bankruptcy depression, marital issues and family counseling. All this is confidential and lead by our health professional C.J. Harrison, you can reach her on her cell @ 313-580-6887. If you cannot go to her office she can do phone conferences, don't wait ask for help when you feel issues are affecting your life.

In Memoriam. Our deepest condolences and sympathy to the family and friends of deceased Brother Robert J. Fill, initiated 2-14-1963. He was a member for 62 years; Brother Ronald W. Muellenhagen, initiated 7-27-2000. He was a 25 year member; and Brother Neil "Skip" Sullivan, initiated 2-2-1955. He was a member for 70 years.

Additional information can be found at ualocal98.org

CONTACT INFORMATION: Hall Operating Hours 8am to 4pm

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

Dan Nixon, FST (248) 752-3702 dnixon98@ualocal98.org

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

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

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

Jeff Kavalas, Business Agent (313)938-1554 jkavalas@ualocal98.org

Rob Moses, Organizer (248)763-2187 rmoses98@ualocal98.org

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

"An honest man can feel no pleasure in the exercise of power over his fellow citizens."

–Thomas Jefferson (1743 - 1826)

"Ask about your neighbors, then buy the house."

–Jewish Proverb



Sprinkler Fitters Local 704

SOUTHFIELD – The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday, Sept. 10, at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

As a reminder, your dues payment is due the last day of the month.

Please sign up for **MDLive**. There is no cost for you or your family to use this App. You will be able to download it from the Apple Store or Google Play.

A special election will be held to replace the outgoing Business Manager/Financial Secretary-Treasurer. A nomination meeting will be held on September 22, 2025 at 5:00 P.M. at the Local Union Hall located at 23475 Northwestern Highway, Southfield MI, 48075. The election will take place on Friday October 17, 2025 at the Union Hall. Polls will be open from 12:00 P.M. until 5:00 P.M. In case of a tie, a runoff will be held that evening with voting members in attendance until a winner is determined.

Any current officer desiring to run for a vacant office of Business Manager/ Financial Secretary -Treasurer must have a resignation letter on file with Local 704 no later than the close of business on September 9, 2025. Such a resignation letter should state that the officer is resigning his current position effective on the date that new officers are installed to fill vacancies.

Per the Constitution of the United Association, Section 124 (a) "No member shall nominate candidates for or vote in any election of any description unless he has been a member in good standing in the Local Union where the vote is being taken for a period of one year immediately prior to the date of election. Any member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of one year immediately prior to the date of election shall not be eligible to nominate candidates for or vote in any Local Union election..."

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 (2) members. Any member violating this By-Law shall be brought before the Executive Board for a trial and be subject to a fine.

It is the **members'** responsibility to notify the Union Hall when they return to work.

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

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

Jason May (Merrill Lynch): 248-540-2091 for D.C. Fund Investment questions.

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

A speedy recovery for all our sick and injured members.

"Things won are done; joy's soul lies in the doing."

– William Shakespeare (1564 - 1616), Troilus and Cressida



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Local 174
Plumbers, Pipe Fitters
& Service Trades

UA Local 174
COOPERSVILLE – ATTENTION: MEMBERSHIP MEETING DATE CHANGE: Due to a conflict of dates with the UA MCA Conference, the October membership meeting will be changed to Tuesday, Sept. 30, 2025 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 still be held **Thursday, Oct. 9, 9am** at New Beginnings Restaurant in Coopersville.

United Way/Day of Caring: Thank you to the volunteers that came out to the United Way’s Day of Caring at Camp Newaygo. Kent Hoagland, Amelia Lewis, Jack Loviska, Michael Pena, Deegan Klaus, Ryan Bennett, Nathan Phillips, and Jason Finch

Condolences: It is with sadness that brother Donald Morsaw passed away 9/6/25. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

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

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

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

1st year \$4.20/ 2nd year \$3.30/ 3rd year \$3.30/\$10.80 over 3 years.
Language changes: Section 13.2 - reduces the number from issuing orders from 4 to 2 to receive foreman pay.

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

*The contractors will now be administering the ESTA benefit.

Organizing Update: *As I travel the roads in our jurisdiction talking to workers, it’s refreshing to see so many vehicles from contractors that are signatory to 174, however it seems new companies that are not signatory are sprouting up! Organizing never stops and as I’ve said many times, our members are our biggest asset when it comes to talking to these workers. If you’re out and about and see a worker, or working next to them, talk with them. The biggest thing is just starting a relationship with them. We have more in common with them than what separates us. They are educated as to what their boss tells them, that’s it. Together we can shed light about what we’re about, the truth! 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.

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

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

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

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

Training News: ANNOUNCEMENT: Congratulations to the following apprentices on fulfilling their apprenticeship obligations and becoming Local 174’s most recent Journeyman! **Maxwell Campbell, Aaryn Mitchell, Mason Wid**

The Training Department will host a **Maxitrol Night Course** on Oct. 8 at 5 PM for HVAC/R technicians only. Journeymen and Apprentices welcome. Sign up by October 3rd to attend this 4-hour troubleshooting class.

****ANNOUNCEMENT: CLASS WAITING LIST** - Effective immediately, the Training Center will no longer maintain a waiting list for upcoming classes. When a class is scheduled, the dates and times will be announced in the following locations: •Building Trades article • Local 174 Members Facebook page • Announcement screens at the Training Center. Going forward, it is **your responsibility** to call and sign up for a class once it is posted. Please monitor these sources regularly to stay informed about new class opportunities.

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, Oct. 9, 2025.**

Medical Gas Installer: Class is scheduled to begin on Monday, Oct. 6th @ 5-9pm. The class will run weekly for four weeks on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays @ 5-9. In order to be eligible to take this class, a minimum of 4 years piping experience is required.

CSD-1: Class will be offered beginning on Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2025 @ 5pm. Class will run on Tuesday 10/21, Wednesday 10/22 & Thursday 10/23 @ 5-9 pm.

OPEN WELD: Weekly on Wednesday evenings beginning at 5:00pm. Watch the Facebook ‘Local Union 174 Members’ group page for any updates.

WELD TEST: Test Events will be the second week of every month. Capabilities will be Tuesday nights with weld tests on Thursday nights. In the event of a union meeting being that Tuesday, we will move capabilities to a Wednesday. Next capabilities will be Tuesday, October 9th, and the test to follow Thursday, September 11th at 5pm.

WELDER CONTINUITY: If you have weld certifications and have submitted your continuity, your **welder certification status cards are now being emailed** instead of sent via USPS mail.

If you have turned in your continuity but have **NOT** received an updated status card, please contact the Training Office to verify that we have your current email on file.

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



Plumbers & Pipe Fitters
Local 333

UA Local 333
LANSING—October’s union meeting will be held Wednesday, October 15, 2025, at the Lansing Training Center, 16180 National Parkway, Lansing, MI. 48906. Dinner will be served at 6:00pm November’s union meeting will be cancelled due to opening day of firearms deer season. Happy Hunting to all Local 333 members.

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

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

Weld classes, 10 weeks starting September 8, 2025, for all three Regions.

Lansing: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday: 4:00-8:00pm. 16180 National Parkway, Lansing, MI 48906

Jackson: Monday through Thursday: 4:00pm-8:00. 3101 Allied Industrial Dr., Jackson, MI. 49201

Battle Creek: Mondays and Thursdays: 4:30-8:30pm (KCC) RMTc, 405 Hill Brady Rd. Battle Creek, MI. 49037.

Orbital Welding: Signup online, and you will be contacted.

Rigging Certification, Backflow re-certification, and Med-Gas recertification will be scheduled once we have enough members signed up.

Journeyman Prep class-Monday, September 29, 2025, 5:00-8:00pm

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

PLEASE NOTE FOR ALL CERTIFICATIONS: Per the UA as of January 1, 2019, all Braze and Weld certifications must be updated within 120 days of their expiration date, or you will lose your certification.

Check the dates on your certifications and if they have expired call Diana at the Lansing Training Center 517-323-0333. Even though the Training Center sends everyone’s continuities to be renewed, between changes of addresses and the Post Office, there is plenty of room for error.

Ultimately it is the member’s responsibility to make sure their certifications are current.

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

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

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

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

If you have a change in address or phone number, birth of a child, marriage or divorce, or to update your beneficiary paperwork. Please contact the Lansing office to make the necessary changes.

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

If you or if you know of a member who has been in a branch of military service. Please have them contact the Lansing office. We are updating our “Honoring Our Military” wall.

Sincere condolences to Jim
(Continued next column)



Local 671

UA Local 671
MONROE – The next meeting will be held on **October 16th, 2025, at 7pm.** The Executive Board will also have a meeting on **October 16th, 2025, at 5pm.** If anyone would like to come to the E-Board, please contact the Union Hall.

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

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

Steward Class: We will be putting on a Steward class on September 27th and 12pm. You must sign up in advance by calling the Hall at (734-242-5711) or texting Mike or Kirk. Lunch will be provided. The class will cover the basic knowledge to help with being a steward and last approximately 2-3 hours.

Retiree Luncheons: We want to remind everyone that the Retiree Luncheons are always held at the Hall on the last Thursday of the month at 12pm. The only exceptions are **August, November, and December** due to the Picnic in August, and proximity to the Holidays in November and December. We always look forward to seeing everyone there!

The next retiree luncheon is September 25th, I hope to see you there.

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

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

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

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

In Closing: The benefits of a Union Steward: A union steward plays a vital role in protecting the rights and interests of members in the workplace. They serve as the direct link between Local Members and union leadership, ensuring that grievances are addressed fairly, contracts are enforced, and management is held accountable. Stewards provide guidance and support to members by answering questions, explaining rights under the contract, and standing alongside them in meetings with supervisors.

Beyond representation, they also help build solidarity by fostering communication, keeping members informed, and encouraging active participation in union activities.

In many ways, a union steward is both a protector and a leader, helping to create a stronger, more united workplace for everyone. Please consider attending the Steward class on September 27th.

Mike Jewell: email: mike@ualocal671.com

Kirk Lavoy: email: kirk@ualocal671.com

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

Local 333 cont’d

Borders, Local 333 retiree from the Jackson area, on the loss of his beloved wife Lucille on Wednesday August 27, 2025. Our thoughts and prayers are with him during the time of sorrow and grief.

Our heartfelt sympathy to our Jackson member Kevin Clifton on the loss of his mother Wendy, who passed away September 5, 2025, at the age of 74. We are so very sorry for your loss, our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

We would like to welcome Amanda Baylis to the Local 333 family, she is our new administrative assistant, who will be working at the Lansing office.



Heat and Frost Insulators
Local 47

Heat and Frost Insulators Local 47

LANSING – *The next Regular Meeting will be held on **Friday, October 10, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., and will be held at the Local 47 Union Hall located at 16475 Ingersoll Rd., Lansing, MI 48906.**

To ensure all Active Members and Retirees are receiving their Robo calls please make sure you have not blocked the following number: (804) 441-8365. There are several members who have the number blocked and therefore are not receiving the Robo Calls.

These calls are only used for Important Notifications from the Local Union Business Manager and Funeral Notifications. If you are not receiving these calls, please contact the Local Union Office and we will double check to make sure we have the correct number in the system or if you may have blocked the number.

Please notify the Local Union Office with any phone and home address changes. We need the most current membership information throughout our system, TIC’s, and the with the International.

If you are Non-Active retiree or Surviving Spouse and would like to continue receiving the Building Tradesman please contact the Union Office to let us know.

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

The Funds Trustees have waived the 79 hour rule for all Retirees effective July 1, 2025.

Per the Rules and Procedures:

Members must notify the office within 24 hours of being laid off or charges may be placed, you can do so by calling or texting the office at (517) 708-0665 with your layoff date and the name of the Contractor you were laid off from.

Members must notify the office before ANY overtime is worked.

Pension and Health Welfare: Joshua Kroell (989) 385-2671

Allied Workers’ Local 47 Fringe Benefit Funds

6525 Centurion Drive

Lansing, MI 48917-9275

Toll Free Number: (800) 323-8079

Telephone Number: (517) 321-7502

Email: joshkroell@insulators47.com

Joshua Kroell will be available via phone to answer any questions regarding Pension, Welfare and Vacation Funds. Joshua is the Secretary for the Pension, Welfare, Vacation and Special Benefits and can be reached by phone at (989) 385-2671, or by mail at: 16475 Ingersoll Rd., Lansing, MI 48906.

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

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

Members having questions regarding Pension and Welfare Fund please contact TIC International at the numbers below or log onto their Website: www.heatfrostoplocal47benefits.org

Please complete and return the working spousal forms to TIC.

JATC Coordinator Phil Wilson (616-466-8736)

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

Under Duties of Apprenticeship, Section 5.3 part L, page 4 of the Apprenticeship Standards states, “According to the Apprenticeship Standards you are
(Continued next column)



Heat and Frost Insulators
Local 25

Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25

SOUTHFIELD – **MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, October 9, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge Street, Southfield, MI 48033. We will be having a \$5.00 per ticket 50/50 raffle with the proceeds going to the Breath of Life Foundation to help with the research of Mesothelioma, lung cancer and other asbestos related diseases.

WEEKLY HUMOR: Question: How do people react to a lousy electrician? **Answer:** They are usually “shocked” by his work!

CONTACT UPDATE: We are now using **admin@heatfrostinulators25.org** as our primary contact email for all communication with the Union Hall. Please update your contact information accordingly.

Union Hall Contact Emails: bob@heatfrostinulators25.org eloany@heatfrostinulators25.org connie@heatfrostinulators25.org marty@heatfrostinulators25.org finsec@heatfrostinulators25.org

PANCAKES WITH SANTA: The Union will be hosting Pancakes with Santa at the Union Hall on Saturday, December 6, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Santa will be joining us from 9:00 a.m. until noon.

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

JOB STARTS: As stated in Local 25’s Constitution & Bylaw’s Article III Section 5. Failure to report a job start will automatically result in a fine of \$50. Future failures to report job starts will result in the amount of the fine being levied left to the discretion of the President. **PLEASE** call in all job starts so we can avoid fining members.

PER CAPITA: Please be reminded, any member working 32 hours or less during a month must pay their own Per Capita of \$14.00 per month. Per Capita payments should be made on a **monthly** basis. If a member works as a traveler in another Local’s jurisdiction, the member must remit double Per Capita of \$28.00. Please forward your payments **monthly** to Local 25, 21353 Bridge Street, Southfield, MI 48033.

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

EMPLOYMENT CHANGES: All employment changes; hire, lay off, fire, shop change, disability, etc. must be called into the Union Hall within forty-eight hours. This is the only way to guarantee you are on the out of work list and your employment records remain current and correct. Failure to report will result in an automatic fifty dollar fine.

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

Local 47 cont’d

required to accurately fill out the online work report for NO later than ten (10) days from the end of the current work week.”

“This is our purpose: to make as meaningful as possible this life that has been bestowed upon us; to live in such a way that we may be proud of ourselves; to act in such a way that some part of us lives on.”

–Oswald Spengler (1880 - 1936)

“Accept the pain, cherish the joys, resolve the regrets; then can come the best of benedictions - ‘If I had my life to live over, I’d do it all the same.’”

–Joan McIntosh

“Politics is applesauce.”

–Will Rogers (1879 - 1935)



Local 169 Boilermakers

Boilermakers Local 169

ALLEN PARK – Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will take place on **Sept. 19, 2025**. This meeting is at the Operators Union Hall, 802 Clark St., Gladstone, Mi. 49837.

I would like to thank all the members and their families who attended the Labor Day parades in your area. We celebrated 130 years and led the parade in Detroit! The turnout was great followed by a picnic at our Union Hall. If you didn't make this one, try to make it next year.

Scholarship Contest: We have no eligible applicants for this year's Scholarship Essay



**BOB
HUTSELL**

contest by the August 15th deadline. We are extending the deadline to Sept. 30. If you have a child enrolled in their first year of college, please have them submit an essay. The rules are posted on our website. If you have any questions, please contact Lynn at the Union Hall.

I encourage every member to make safety your number one priority. The busy workload looks like it will continue throughout the year so please make every effort to safeguard yourself and your Brothers and Sisters on the job.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Area 3 Retirees luncheon is the 3rd Wednesday of the month. The next lunch will be September 17, 2025 at 11AM. This month the location is Wood Shop Social, located at 2336 S. Mission Street, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan 48858. Everyone from all areas is welcome to attend.

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

Hoodies have arrived in all sizes at the Union Hall. The cost is \$45. Payments can be made with cash or a check. If you live outside of the area and would like to order one, please call the hall. Additional shipping charges will be added. Baseball caps are also available. Varsity jackets are available by special order. Please contact the Union Hall for details. The upcoming MSHA training schedule is available at www.boilermakerslocal169.com or our Facebook page.

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

Any current apprentice that
(Continued next column)



Local 36 Elevator Constructors

@ 410-312-1474.

Elevator Constructors Local 36

DETROIT – ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED: Our next regular membership meeting will be **Sept. 22, 2025, 5:30pm** at 1640 Porter Street Detroit, MI 48216. Our next Executive Board meeting will be held on **October 20, 2025**, at 5pm at the same location. 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. This is how we get information out to all our members, as repetitive as it might be there is new information in each article, please read it carefully and call the hall or attend a union meeting if you have any questions.

Attention All Members, Due to the number of calls we have received about some of the company's new time reporting systems we wanted to let everyone know we work 8 hours for 8 hours pay. Nothing in our CBA states you have to turn your phone on as soon as you wake up to see where you are going that day. When you are leaving your house (within reasonable time) turn your phone on to see where your assignment is for that day.

Our CBA also states you take a half-hour unpaid lunch during your 8-hour shift. Document everything you do in a day, job name and address, what you did at the job and for how long, mileage, zone, and travel time between jobs. Follow their new systems and safety policies, if you have any issues with your time or pay, contact the hall.

Upcoming events for 2025 are as follows,

September Union Meeting, nominations for delegates to the convention, Monday September 22, 2025, located at 1640 Porter St. Detroit, MI 48216 at 5:30pm.

October Union Meeting, vote for delegates to the convention, Monday Oct. 27, 2025, location 1640 Porter Street at 5:30pm.

There was a motion presented by a member in good standings and signed by five members in good standings at the regular membership meeting on June 23, 2025. The motion was to change the local Constitution and Bylaw **Article V** Duties of Officers, **Section 7:** Business Manager/Financial Secretary, **6.** The Business Manager/Financial Secretary shall be paid 45 hours at Mechanic in Charge rate, and the Business Agent will be paid at 40 hours at Mechanic in Charge rate. The motion for the change reads: The Business Manager/Financial Secretary shall be paid 50 hours at Mechanic in Charge rate, and the Business Agent will be paid at 45 hours at Mechanic in Charge rate. The first reading was at the June membership meeting, the second reading will be at the July meeting and the third and final reading will be at the September meeting followed by a discussion and vote.

If you haven't enrolled in the IUEC's new National Voluntary Income Protection (VIP) benefits, enrollment ended 8/28 for coverage effective 9/1/2025; there won't be another opportunity to join the IUEC VIP Plan until the fall of 2026. These tax-free benefits can help you continue to get paid when you're unable to work due to illness, injury, surgery, mental health conditions, substance abuse treatment, or death. The benefits are paid in addition to other benefits you may receive, providing a financial safety net when you need it most. If you need more information, contact the hall

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, EIWPf National Co-Chair

Local 169 cont'd

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.

Retiree, Ronald Minnick passed away on Aug. 29, 2025. Please keep his family in your thoughts during this difficult time.

Retiree, Otis Autman passed away on September 10, 2025. There will be a celebration of life Saturday, September 20, 2025, at 12PM at the Zion Baptist Church, 375 School Street, Muskegon, MI. 49442.



Local 514 Cement Masons & Plasterers

Operative Plasterers and Cement Masons Local 514

DETROIT –The next membership meeting is Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2025, at 7 p.m. We will be having food and refreshments. There will also be an executive board meeting the same day at 5:30 p.m. Please make every effort to come fellowship with your brothers and sisters.

Membership gold cards- Congratulations!

September 2025

Kenneth Gibbs-25 Years

Frank Sinelli-25 Years

John Daniel-30 Years

Salvador Gutierrez-30 Years

Douglas Nowak-40 Years

As vacation time approaches, please complete the PAYEE DEPOSIT AGREEMENT by October 27th. If you don't have the form, you can call the hall or the fund.

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

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

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

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

Beneficiary Reminder: Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice especially after a divorce on all your OPCMIA Local 514, American Income Life Accidental Benefit, Pension and Healthcare funds. The law requires that in the event of an untimely death your benefits go to your estate and may be taxable. Each individual benefit needs to have a designated beneficiary.

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

Death Certificates: Please always notify the Union Hall with a phone call when a member of the Local has passed away and submit a copy of a Death Certificate for deceased active or retired member.

Attention all Apprentices, now you will need to go to the website: www.micementplasterertraining.com 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.

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

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

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

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

September 19, 2025

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN 7



Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

BAC LOCAL 2

WARREN – UPCOMING MEETINGS.

SAGINAW CHAPTER: Tuesday, Sept. 23, 2025 at 6 PM, 1300 W Thomas St., Bay City, MI 48706

METRO DETROIT CHAPTER: Tuesday, Oct. 7, 2025 at 5:30pm, 21031 Ryan Road, Warren, MI 48091

ANN ARBOR CHAPTER: Tuesday, Oct. 7, 2025 at 6 pm, 8225 Dexter-Chelsea Rd., Dexter.

FLINT CHAPTER: October meeting is CANCELLED

LANSING CHAPTER: October meeting is CANCELLED

KALAMAZOO CHAPTER: Thursday, Oct. 9, 2025 at 6 PM, 11847 Shaver Rd., Schoolcraft

MARQUETTE CHAPTER: Monday, Oct. 20, 2025 at 7 PM, 119 S Front Street, Marquette.

HOUGHTON MEETING: Thursday, Oct. 16, 2025 at 7 pm, 37737 Hwy. 26, Toivola, MI 49965

SAGINAW CHAPTER: Tuesday, Oct. 28, 2025 at 6 PM, 1300 W Thomas St., Bay City, MI

Our sincere condolences go to the family and

BRETT friends of **Brother Raymond Maleyko** (Bricklayer) who passed away on 9/2/2025. Brother Maleyko had been a member for over 29 years.

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

BAC LOCAL 2 APPRENTICE COMPETING AT INTERNATIONAL CONTEST: The **2025 BAC/IMI International Apprentice Contest** will be held Sept. 26–27 at the Huntington Place Convention Center in Detroit. This event showcases the skills of highly trained up-and-coming craftworkers from the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers (BAC).

The competition draws BAC's top apprentices from across the U.S. and Canada to compete for the title of International Champion in their trade. Apprentices must first participate and place in regional contests before advancing to the international stage. Contestants will demonstrate their mastery through building challenges and written tests, with first, second, and third place winners awarded in each of the eight craft categories: Brick, Cement, Tile, Marble, Terrazzo, Plaster, Pointing-Cleaning-Caulking/Restoration, and Stone.

BAC Local 2 Michigan will be proudly represented at this year's competition. **Alex Draper** will compete in Pointing-Cleaning-Caulking/Restoration, while **Isaac Rodgers** and **Brett Payne** will compete in Cement. Local 2 extends its best wishes to all of our apprentices as they showcase their skills and represent our union in this prestigious international event.

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 online 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.**

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.

PENSION AND HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION.

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

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

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

Metro Detroit Bricklayers Pension – (248) 641-4954

Michigan BAC Pension Fund (Outstate) – (248) 641-4954

Michigan BAC Vacation Fund – (248) 828-6000

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

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

Attorneys J.B. Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 55 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear themselves at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced attorneys to your case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and only fly the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.

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

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

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

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

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

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

www.ssdfighter.com





Local 292
Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers Local 292

TROY – MEETING NOTICE: The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, **Oct. 8, 2025, at 6 pm.** at **Troy Community Center 3179 Livernois, Troy 48083** 1 block north of Big Beaver on the west side of Livernois. Use the Banquet Entrance. Member meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. **Please note, there will not be a membership meeting in November. The **E-Board/Stewards meeting** will be held on **Sept. 23, 2025, at 6 p.m.** at the Union Hall.

RETIRES NOTICE: The next Retiree Luncheon will be held on 10/2/25 at 12:30 pm at Madhouse Bar and Grill, 32787 Stephenson Hwy, Madison Heights, 48071. It's always nice catching up and staying connected. Please contact the union hall via our website 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.

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

ANNUITY FUND ACCOUNT: You can now access your Annuity account online, by phone, or by mobile app. The phone no. to reach John Hancock is 833-38-6466. 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: Please remember, Local 292 partners with Ulliance, an Employee Assistance Program designed to assist members and their eligible family members who may be struggling with emotional, domestic, or substance abuse issues, as well as legal and financial referrals. If you and/or a family member feel this may benefit you, contact Ulliance at **1-800-448-8326** or www.LifeAdvisorEAP.com for completely confidential assistance. Ulliance is **available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.** Services are of no cost to members and their dependents.

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

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

OUT OF WORK: If you become laid off, you Must complete an Out of Work List Registration /SUB form. SUB forms are available at the Union Hall and through all shop stewards. This is the only way your name will be added to the Out of Work List.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

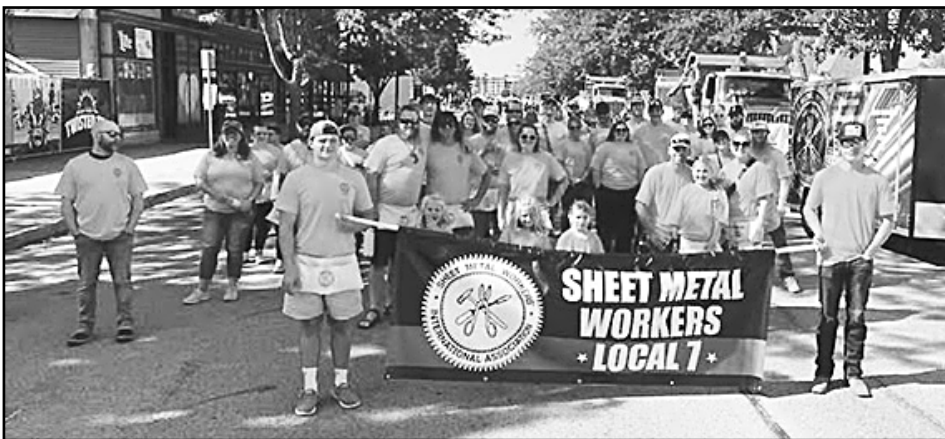
UNION HALL HOURS: Hall office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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 Sept. 27, Oct. 11, Oct. 18, & Oct. 25. These classes would be for members ready to obtain an AWS welding certification, learn how to weld, or need to practice welding.

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

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



SHEET METAL WORKERS Local 7 members and supporters, above, participate in the Muskegon Labor Day Parade.



SHEET METAL WORKERS Local 80 members and supporters, below, participate in the Muskegon Labor Day Parade.



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 October 9, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

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

*Zone 2 December 9th at 6:00 p.m.

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

*Zone 3 October 15th at 6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)

*Zone 4 December 2th at 6:00 p.m.

*Zone 5 October 2nd at 6:00 p.m.

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

Please register on our website at www.sheetmetal7.org for the most up to date information on meeting schedules for 2025. Once you are registered it must be approved in order to be able to log on. Please contact your representative if you have issues registering.

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

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

ZONE 2 Info: Work in Zone 2 remains the same, if your employment status changes please let me know and apprentices also let Tanner know. Dues are always due prior to the first of the month, please keep me informed of any address or phone number changes so we can keep them updated with the Lansing Hall and TIC. Thank you to all that came out to the union meeting last Tuesday and congratulations to the new journeymen that were sworn in. **As always, Work Safe and Thank You, Mike Adams**

ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw) The next Zone 3 meeting is are Christmas meeting which will be held at the Back Orchard Barn on December 3rd at 5:30 pm. If you are laid off please contact me so I can add you to the out of work list. Please make sure your dues are up to date, they are before the first off the month. If your contact information has changed please call the Lansing office (517-882-4064) * Next Retiree meeting is Sept 23rd at the Ponderosa in Bay City on Wilder Rd. **In Solidarity, Joe Dotson**

ZONE 3 Info: (Traverse City) Our next meeting will be October 15th at 6:00 pm. Work is slowing down in the area, if you need help with employment or unemployment or SASMI contact me. Don't forget to set up your yearly physicals and go to www.ourbenefitoffice.com/smw7-3/benefits to view your H&W and local pension status. We still have many that have not signed up for the SASMI Active HRA account. This is an active yearly benefit to help cover RX co-pays, vision deductibles and many basic everyday medically necessary items. Please work safely and good luck to all in the upcoming hunting season! **In Solidarity, John Amalfitano**

ZONE 4 Info: Work is still strong on the Zone 4 area should be a good fall for our guys. Our fall classes are full so stand by for winter classes. Please don't forget to call in when you are going out of your zone!! **Your brother Scott Brotherton**

ZONE 5 Info Work in the UP has hit a little bit of a lull. Now is a good time to get your Mine Safety Training up to date. If you need a refresher please sign up for that at www.upconstruction.org. The next Retiree Breakfast will be at Summer Place in Republic on October 8th at 10 am. **In Solidarity, Brandon Langenfeld**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Local 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 September 23, 2025 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, 48076.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: Next executive board meeting is scheduled for Oct. 21, 2025 at 5:00 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2nd Floor, Southfield, MI.

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

RETIREE NEWS & MEETING SCHEDULE: Monday, Oct. 20 (Holiday Party) and Monday, Dec. 15. All membership meetings start at 12:30 pm, held at the Local 80 hall. Please enter the hall through the ramp entrance. Any questions regarding joining the Retirees Association please contact Steve Murzen at 248-652-0593. Retiree lapel pins with the SMWIA logo are available to all members of the Local 80 retirees' association.

They will be available to all retiree association members at our general membership meetings. Please see the general membership-meeting schedule above.

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

THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE: Anthony Hoskey, Tyler Foster, Edward May, Robert Bates, Lance Bally, Stuart Ingalls, Chris Harding, Tyler Warner, Sam Hemmerling, Ronald Ingalls and Benjamin Kline.

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.

SEPTEMBER RE-REGISTRATION: If you were laid off prior to Sept. 1 and do not have a work assignment you will need to re-register to keep your spot on the out of work list. You may do so at the hall, by email registerlocal80@gmail.com or fax 248-557-0297. If you send an email or fax please include your name, current address, current phone number and your membership number. You CANNOT re-register over the phone. Please call the hall with any questions.

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 Sept. 1-20. If you fail to re-register, you will be removed from the list. Your name will be removed from the list 14 days after receiving an assignment.

SUB Application Deadlines and Requirements:

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

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

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

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

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

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

To apply: Complete the SUB application at the hall.

Provide a pay stub for the week.

The hall will submit your information to the fund office.

Make sure to follow these steps to ensure your eligibility.

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

BUILDERS LICENSE TRAINING MIDDLETON 244-6
Real Estate Training Inc.
901 Tower Drive, Suite 120
Troy, MI 48068
www.middletontraining.com
248-885-8311

Local 665

IBEW 665

LANSING – HALL RENOVATIONS: Local 665 has finished most of the renovations to our union hall. The modifications are coming along nicely.

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

WORK OUTLOOK: Local 665 has OPEN CALLS and will need help from our travelling brothers and sisters. Call the hall for the most up to date information. 665 will be experiencing unfilled calls for all of 2025.

Financial Strategies Group open house: FSG will be hosting an open house on Oct 23 at Lansing Brewing Co. If you're looking for financial planning this will be an excellent opportunity to meet and discuss options with a company that understands our benefit structure. You will receive an invitation via the mail if you have any questions please contact the hall.

CODE UPDATE: Code update classes have passed. If you still require code update class to renew your state license. Feel free to contact flint JATC (810) 720-0583 or fsejtc.com. Flint has an online version of the code update class.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION: Local 665 has reached a milestone. We have just surpassed 800 members in the Local. Of which 180 are apprentices. With all the new faces around please remember it is a Journeymen's job to teach first and empower the next generation to learn and grow.

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

Applications are accepted on the **THIRD** Monday of each month.

FIRST AID/CPR: First Aid/CPR will be held on Sept. 23, 2025, at IBEW Local 665 Hall from 5pm – 7pm. Please contact LEJATC to sign up First Aid/CPR Class.

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

OUR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: is on the third Monday of each month and starts at 6:30 pm at the Hall.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS: are 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 #358. 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.

Randolph Debate 07/01/25, (Continued next column)

IBEW Local 445

IBEW 445

BATTLE CREEK – The Local 445 Family Picnic was a great day! We still have zoo tickets available if you would like them.

There will be a Benefits Workshop on Nov. 18 at 5pm. Please RSVP if you plan on attending. There will be pizzas and cookies to keep you happy.

If you pay your Monthly/Quarterly Union Dues late, you will be assessed 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.

2025 dues structure. The Delegates of the 40th IBEW International Convention approved several amendments to Article IX of the IBEW Constitution.

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

JIWs: 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 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.

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

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

Local 131, con't

Glendon “Bill” Toaz 06/10/25, David McLellan 05/28/25, Raul Torres 10/19/24, Ronald Oberlin 12/16/24, Dale Battley 11/14/24, Stephen Bair 09/16/24, Jackie “Jack” Heart 04/21/24, Stanley McLellan 04/17/24, Arthur “Dave” Benzing 03/28/24, James McDonald 2/22/24, Roger Carroll 12/13/23, Harry Baker 11/26/23, Mark McCrackin 10/02/23.

“Truth is tough. It will not break, like a bubble, at a touch; nay, you may kick it about all day like a football, and it will be round and full at evening.”
—Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809 - 1894)

“Where all think alike, no one thinks very much.”
—Walter Lippmann (1889 - 1974)

IBEW Local 692

IBEW 692

BAY CITY – Union Meeting. The next monthly membership meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, October 6th, 2025.**

The next Executive Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, Oct. 20, 2025.**

Message from the Business Manager. Please be your Brothers' and Sisters' keeper on our jobsites. This is a saying that is often tossed around but we really need to be vigilant in performing that task. In my opinion, there is not a more dangerous job on the planet than what we do every day as Union Electricians. We take that for granted at times in our industry. The most important responsibility we have each and every day is not only making sure we go home safe to our families but our Brothers and Sisters do as well. Please be Safe!

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

Thiel Electric and **KLA Laboratories** are finishing up the K wing remodel at Delta College. **Motor City Electric** continues to work on the new line at Bay City's GM Powertrain site. They will continue to hire for this project. **Nelson Electric** and **Superior Electric** also have ongoing projects at Powertrain. **AZCO** has begun work on a larger Solar Project at Consumers Energy's Karn site in Essexville. Calls have begun to come in and will continue through the fall.

Van Ert Electric has begun work at their solar project in Gladwin. **Van Herweg Electric** is completing the buildout of Parlor Doughnuts in Bay City and installing charging stations at SpringHill Suites in Midland.

J. Ranck Electric is completed work at SK Siltron semi-conductor chip manufacturing facility and is also nearing completion on their 250MW Mission Road Solar project in Rosebush. **Master Electric** has work on phase 2 at Bangor Schools.

Countyline Power has ongoing work at the Bay City and Mt. Pleasant Water Treatment facilities and Harrisville Pumpstations. Countyline Power has also a high voltage termination project at Michigan Sugar in Bay City. **Clements Electric's** Work on the Midland Center for the Arts, and Dow Gardens Welcome Center continues. Summer work includes a small raceway project in Michigan Sugar and a fire alarm project at Bangor Schools, as well as work at Bay County Health Facility about to kick off.

Conti Electric has projects that are ramping up inside the I-Park (Dow) and ongoing work at the Karn Generation Facility. **Escon Group** is ramping up work within the I-Park. **Ted's Electric** has work in Mt. Pleasant and Clare Schools. **Bay Valley Electric** has work at Bay Valley Resort. **Zone 2 ACC's** dorm project is likely to go fair as union shops submitted the two lowest bids. **John's Electric** has secured a considerable amount of work in Alpena Schools and a nice project at Bay View Park. John's work at CMU Tower was stalled following the storms but will pick back up soon along with new hangers at Alpena Airport later this summer. Clements Electric has some work at the Oscoda airbase.

J. Raymond Electric has secured some shift work at West Branch Walmart. **Hardie's Electric** has ongoing work in Cheboygan. **S & G Electric** has hired another Journeyman for multiple projects across the northern jurisdiction. **Northern Valley** continues work at the Holcim Cement Plant and Oscoda's Air Base, as well as many smaller projects and service calls.

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

–In Solidarity, Ryan Charney, Business Manager / Financial Secretary Organizers' Report. Brother Klapish has been speaking with non-union electricians on jobsites throughout the jurisdiction, with a focus on Midland, Bay, Gladwin, and Arenac counties. As our Local has seen job calls for multiple contractors go open, it is important to reach out to all qualified workers who may be interested in joining the Brotherhood.

Brother Baranek has also been speaking with non-union workers and assisting them in finding a pathway to the IBEW. Often, experienced electricians need help studying for and passing their State of Michigan Electrical Journey exam. Therefore, organizers have partnered with our JATC to offer such services. Organizers plan on visiting Zone 2 over the next couple weeks.

MBOSS (Michigan Organization of Strategic Salts) is a group of IBEW Membership Development agents representing Locals with jurisdictional boundaries within our state. The group meets monthly to give status updates of ongoing organizing campaigns, share tactics and best practices, offer job reports, and show solidarity. September's MBOSS meeting is in Local 665, and October's MBOSS will be held at the Henry Miller Museum in St. Louis.

Organizers are looking to schedule multiple training sessions this fall. These sessions include COMET (Construction Organizing Membership Education Training), PALs (Politics, Activism, Livelihood), and New Member Orientation. Please be on the lookout for announcements regarding these training sessions. New members will receive direct invitations, and attendance will be required. All members are highly encouraged to attend these training sessions at some point, either for the first time or as a refresher course.

Please work safely and let us know if you have any questions regarding organizing or work reports around the state.

Brendon Baranek 989.327.4131 Kevin Klapish 252.9225

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

If you have automatic bill pay from your bank or credit union, please make sure to notify them of the increase.

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

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

Death Benefits. Brother Stanley “Stas” Yascolt, Card No. D320156 passed away on July 4th, 2025. Brother Yascolt was born on June 3, 1941. He was initiated on Jan. 21, 1974. A small service was held last month.

Brother Kenneth Cislo, Card No. D680364 passed away on July 29, 2025. Brother Cislo was born on May 3, 1949. He was initiated on Dec. 5, 1988. Ken's Funeral Mass and Celebration of Life is planned for Nov. 7, 2025 at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church in Farmington, MI.

Retiree Luncheons take place the third Thursday of each month. If you are interested in the time and location of the next luncheon, please contact the hall or reference the next edition of the Building Tradesman.

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 ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE
www.michiganelectrical.org
NEBF/ NEAP: 301.556.4300
IO Pension: 202.833.7000

“Courage is the power to let go of the familiar.”
— Raymond Lindquist

“Delay always breeds danger; and to protract a great design is often to ruin it.”
— Miguel de Cervantes (1547 - 1616)

Local 275

IBEW 275

MUSKEGON – Work Outlook: Work in the jurisdiction remains steady for journeymen with calls on the job recorder regularly. Please continue to call the job line if you are seeking work in Local 275.

September Union Meeting Date Change: Due to scheduling conflicts around the 6th District Progress Meeting, the general membership meeting for September is being moved back one week to Tuesday, Sept. 23 @ 6pm. Please make adjustments to your calendars if you plan to attend.

Annual EWMC Euchre Tournament: Mark your calendars for Oct. 18 for the annual euchre tournament. More details to come!

Volunteer Info: For any apprentices looking to get community service credits, keep your eyes and ears open for Labor Rings the Bell, as that is just around the corner.

West Michigan RENEW/ 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Delinquent Members: At the time of this writing the following members are three months or more behind on dues: Michael Donahue, Shaun Frantz and Christopher VanMaanen. Please make every effort to become current with your dues as soon as you can.

“Sometimes the facts in my head get bored and decide to take a walk in my mouth. Frequently this is a bad thing.”
—Scott Westerfeld

“Whenever you are asked if you can do a job, tell ‘em, ‘Certainly I can!’ Then get busy and find out how to do it.”
—Theodore Roosevelt (1858 - 1919)

IBEW Local 498

IBEW 498

TRAVERSE CITY – Meetings.

Regular E Board- The next regularly scheduled E-Board meeting is set for Monday, Oct 13, 2025, @ 5:30pm.

Regular Meeting—The next regularly scheduled membership meeting is scheduled for 7pm Monday, Oct 13, 2025.

Chili Cookoff – The 3rd Annual cookoff will be on Monday Oct 13, 2025 from 6-7pm. Call or text Dylan if you want to compete. 231-649-9157. IBEW Swag awarded to winners.

TCJATC- There are still a few Code Update Change Books available at the hall for \$10 each made payable to the TCJATC.

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

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

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

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

Email Addresses - Any member that would like to have Local 498 forward communication to them from the International, Local 498, AFL-CIO or the Building Trades, to help stay informed to current events, politics, contracts, work, etc. Please call or email your current email address to Local 498 at ibew@local498.net Thank you!

Important numbers for you to write in your address book:

MEEHP (Health) 1-855-633-4584 Fax# 1-952-854-1632 Website: www.michiganelectrical.org

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

(New address Michigan Pension and Health Plan)
3001 Metro Drive Suite 500, Bloomington, MN 55425
NEBF 1-301-556-4300
NEAP 1-301-556-4300
IO Pension 1-202-833-7000

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

Remember to check the hall recorder at night after 4:00pm for any jobs that might be available. 231-943-4980 ext. 2#

Road work rally

(Continued from Page 1)

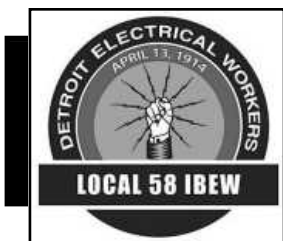
funding plan that doesn't raise taxes, and that's an annual funding level at or above what several studies have shown is necessary to sustain and improve the state's roads and bridges.

The catch: it puts a massive hole in the rest of the state's budget, and would likely do things like force the closure of rural hospitals and cut into local education budgets. The state Senate, controlled by Dems, has not put forth a road funding plan, but is instead insisting that the entire state budget, including road work, be put into the same budget package.

The lack of a permanent road funding plan has dogged

the state Legislature for decades, and the refusal to permanently spend more has consistently led to Michigan consistently being ranked among the worst states for road and bridge condition.

“When we invest in infrastructure, we're not just building roads and bridges, we're building careers,” said Arlander Washington, business manager with LiUNA Local 355 (Battle Creek). “Every time we fund a road project, we're putting real people to work. ... Jobs you can raise a family on. The best part is, these are jobs that can't be outsourced. You can't ship a broken road to another country. These jobs belong right here in Michigan.”



IBEW LOCAL 58

IBEW Local 58

DETROIT – The next General Membership meeting: will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2025. Dinner with the brotherhood begins at 5:30 pm and the meeting starts at 6:30 pm. Parking will continue to be tight with the construction project well under way. Your patience is appreciated!

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

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

IBEW Local 58 Brick Pavers- are available for purchase, if you would like to purchase a brick, please contact the Union Hall for an Order Form. 7x9 brick pavers can have up to 6 lines of lettering and 17 spaces per line, \$100 Donation per Brick. NOTE: No symbols or clipart can be added to brick pavers. To purchase or for questions about the brick pavers please contact Stacy at the Union Hall 313-963-2130, ext. 3015.

Local 58 Dues Department – Please check your dues receipt. If your dues receipt has a paid-through date of 03-31-2025 you owe the \$30.00 reinstatement fee, and dues. You will lapse your membership at the end of the 3rd quarter, (Sept. 30, 2025), if your dues are not paid. Dues Statements have been mailed. You can pay on the APP/Website, send a check, or call and pay over the phone. 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 September Luncheon is taking place on Wednesday, Sept. 24 at The Gazebo, 31104 Mound Rd., Warren 48092. Doors open at 11 and lunch is served at 12:30. Tickets are \$25 per person, send your checks (payable to the Retirees Association) to IBEW #58, Attn. Retirees, P.O. Box 32756, Detroit MI 48232-0756. For reservations or questions please call Elaine Crawford, at 313 408-5885. These luncheons are always a great time to see old friends and make new ones. See you there.

Our next board meeting will be at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 8. Meetings take place at the local union hall in the main conference room. All are welcome.

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

Oct. 2 – Dunham Hills Golf Club – Hartland - Begins at 9 a.m. Jeff Gregory will be running these golf outings from now on. They are open to all Local 58 members and guests. Anyone who would like to participate, please text or call Jeff at 248-240-7449 for reservations. It is important to get a head count for the golf course.

Detroit Electrical Workers Benevolent Fund (DEWBF): The next Benevolent Fund meeting will be Tuesday, Oct. 7. Next event will be Brad Ballard Memorial Golf Outing on Friday, Sept. 26 at Pine Valley Golf Course. Cost of a foursome is \$600. Sponsorships are also available. Funds raised will support the Detroit Electrical Workers Benevolent Fund for member assistance and Local 58 Women's Committee for the ARC Scholarship. Registration Link is Active on Eventbrite. Any questions, contact Michael Bellhorn 586-612-5964.

Members of the Community Service Committee: The next meeting will be Tuesday, Oct. 14 at 5:30p.m. The Wobbly Kitchen (Sundays in the Park) will be the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, starting at the union hall and then traveling to Cass Park. We are asking volunteers to show up at the hall at 8 a.m. to help with food prep, organization, and loading. Questions can be directed to Ray Kujawski at (248) 496-1916 (call, text, leave a voicemail). Local 58 is very active with community service in the Metro Detroit area and has a variety of upcoming projects that require the help of volunteers and helping hands. Contact the Union

Hall (313) 963-2130 or Ray Kujawski (number above) for further information about volunteering or participating.

Members of the Entertainment Committee: The next meeting will be Tuesday, Oct. 14, following the Community Service Committee meeting that starts at 5:30 p.m.

Trunk-or-Treat and Brew & View will take place on Saturday Oct. 18. Trunk-or-Treat will take place from 12-3 pm, with family, friends, and the community invited. The Brew & View: Scaraoke (adults) starts at 6 pm.

EWMC of Southeastern MI – The next chapter meeting is scheduled for Monday, Oct. 20 at 6 pm. 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.

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

If you missed out, we will be looking into placing another order for the EWMC “What Up Doe?” jackets. We have to have a commitment of at least 10.

It's time to select the delegates for the 2026 Annual EWMC Leadership Conference. Our chapter always makes a positive impact on the conference and we will continue the tradition. Please let Brother Crook know if you are interested.

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

The Veterans Committee - will be meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm.

Local 58's Women's Committee - will meet Thursday, Sept. 25 at 5:30 p.m.at the Hall and on Zoom. If you have questions, please contact Committee Chair Angela Panicucci (586-291-8014) or Co-chair Liz Gorski (586-921-3087), Email at 58womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org

The Political Action Committee: 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, reach out to our registrars at registrar1@ibew58.org.

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

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

Electrical Workers Credit Union: Our website is <http://WWW.EWCUNET> (313) 963-6060.

Exciting things are on the way... NEW SYSTEM UPGRADE!!! Our office will be closed 11/3/25. No Shared Branch Services 11/1/25-11/3/25. No ATM/Debit Card services the evening of 10/31/25-11/3/25. You will notice several changes including: Account Numbers-Your existing base account number(s) will remain unaffected by our system upgrade. Checks-Your MICR line will change to a 14-digit format (currently 8) You can continue to use your current checks. New checks will have the updated MICR. ATM/Debit Card and pins-Your existing cards and pins will continue to work after our system upgrade. Please note: System will be down for conversion beginning the evening of 10/31/25-11/3/25.

YOUR CARDS WILL NOT WORK UNTIL 11/4/25. Please plan for your cash needs. Direct Deposit-Will continue to post to your account without delay. Bill Pay- Your existing payees, ebills, and recurring payments with other merchants will not transfer to our new system. No new bill payments can be made or scheduled during the time that Bill Pay is unavailable. We recommend you take note of all payees as the system will not transfer. Online Banking- Starting 11/4/25 members will be

(Continued next column)



IBEW LOCAL 252

IBEW Local 252

ANN ARBOR – HALL REMODEL: Beginning July 7, the Local 252 suite at the Union Hall will be under remodel. If you have in-person business at the Union Hall, staff will be working out of a suite on the South side of the building.

EARNED SICK TIME ACT (ESTA): NECA was not successful in their lawsuit against the State of Michigan over ESTA but appears to be appealing the court's decision.

Local 252 urges all members that are trying to use available ESTA hours to put in writing to your employer: date you are requesting to use earned sick time, how much time you are requesting, general reason for time requested. If your request is denied, we recommend filing a complaint with the State of Michigan at: www.michigan.gov/leo/bureaus-agencies/ber/wage-and-hour/complaint.

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

TRAINING CLASSES 2025: ALL CLASSES START AT 5:00 PM

CPR/First Aid: Tuesdays, Sept. 2, 9 and Dec. 2, 9

Instrumentation EPRI Part A: Mondays, Sept. 8 through Dec. 15

OSHA 30: Tuesdays and Thursdays, Sept.2 through Sept. 25

BICSI Installer 2 Copper: Mondays, Sept.8 through Dec.1. BICSI ITSIMM book is required. \$240. Digital ITSIMM = \$290. Exam certification fee is \$400. Exam is optional. You must have 2 years of verifiable field ICT experience to sit for the exam. Worth 35 CECs for those who have a current BICSI credential.

Conduit Bending: Every Other Tuesday starting Sept. 23 for 6 classes

Journeyman License Prep: Mondays Sept. 8 – Oct. 13

All classes require a \$50 deposit. Call the school 734-475-1180 to add your name to the desired class ahead of time. All evening classes are held from 5-9 PM. If there's interest in a class not listed, please call the school and request it. Once there's enough interest in the class, it will be scheduled.

TRUCK FOR SALE: The Business Office is opening its 2022 Chevrolet Colorado to bids starting at \$20,500. The truck is black, automatic, 4WD, and has 95K miles. If interested, turn in your sealed bids to the Union Hall by October 1st. If you would like to look at the truck, please contact or stop by the Union Hall.

2025 UNION 4 LIFE GUN CALENDAR: Purchase your

IBEW 58, con't

required to re-enroll in our new online banking. Visit our website at ewcu.net and click on the Online Banking button. You will need to enroll by selecting the “First time user” link, and then follow the onscreen instructions to have a unique code emailed or texted to you.

New Mobile App- Our current mobile app has been deactivated as of 6/30/25. Our new Mobile Banking App should be available from your app store shortly after our system upgrade. Please be on the lookout for communications at ewcu.net.

IBEW Pension: Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: Joseph Fetterman and Joseph Old.

Members that 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.

Patricia Harrison, Widow of the late Pension member Donald Harrison; **George Kotfica,** Pension member, 71 year IBEW membership; Brother-in-law to the late Pension member John W. Forbes; Uncle to Jack Forbes, Pension member, 48 year IBEW membership; Great Uncle to John R. Forbes, JIW; **Donna Leon,** Widow to the late Pension member Philip Leon; and **Theresa Slimp,** Widow of the late Pension member James Slimp.

2025 USA Union Sportsmen Calendar and enter the USA's 2025 2-Guns-A-Week Sweepstakes for 104 chances to win a firearm in 2025! Prize winners will be drawn each week for 52 weeks.

Sweepstakes entrants are eligible to win multiple prizes! These calendars make great Christmas gifts for the hunters/gun enthusiasts in your life or just treat yourself for a chance to win! Only mail-in registrations will be accepted.. Calendars are \$35.00 and can be purchased from an apprentice, the training center, or online at www.union4lifecharity.com.

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

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION: There will be a meeting at the Union Hall on Oct. 22 at 5:30 p.m. with our financial advisor, benefits office, business office, and training center to discuss the structure of our system. Although this will be geared toward new members, all members are welcome to attend. Significant others are also encouraged to attend. Please RSVP to info@ibew252.org or (734) 424-0978 so we can estimate the amount of food to provide.

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

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

ERTS: Please make sure that you are signed up for the Electronic Reciprocity Transfer System. You must be signed up for ERTS before working outside of Local 252's jurisdiction or your benefits will not be transferred back.

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

RETIREMENT: NEBF and IBEW PBF applications take 3 months to process but can be filled out as early as 6 months before your planned retirement effective date. If you are nearing retirement, please contact Alana at the Union Hall to start your paperwork at least 3-6 months before your planned retirement date.

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.

NOTICE TO RETIREES: If your 50-year commemorative watch stops working for any reason please contact the hall.

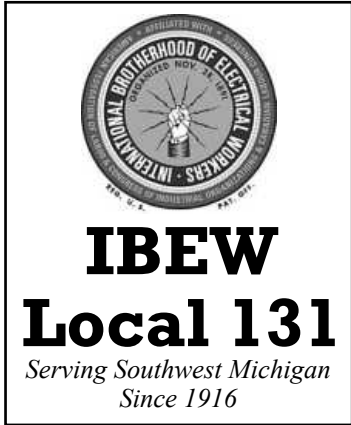
DUES PAYMENTS – Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 06/2025, your dues are not current. The Union Hall accepts payment by cash, check or credit card. There is a 3% discount for paying by cash or check. Dues for “A” members are \$143.25 by cash or check, or \$147.55 by credit card for third quarter 2025.

Dues for “BA” members are \$73.80 by cash or check, or \$76.01 by credit card for third quarter for 2025. 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 Tuesday, September 30, 2025.**

UPCOMING EVENTS (more information to follow): OCT. 29: TRUNK OR TREAT DEC. 13: HOLIDAY PARTY

September 19, 2025

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN 11



IBEW Local 131

KALAMAZOO - The next **General Membership Meeting** will be held on October 6th, at 6 p.m.

The next **Renew & EWMC** meeting will be held on Wednesday Oct. 8th, at **CJ's at 5 p.m.**

The Executive Board meeting will be held on Monday, October 20th, at 5 p.m.

Brotherhood Night is on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month and is moving back to **CJ's from 3:30 to 5:30p.m.** 1027 Schuster Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49001. Keep an eye out for location changes on the Local's FB page.

Hall Hours: Beginning September 1st, the Hall has moved its lunch hour from **11:30-12:30 to 12:30-1:30** so the hall will be available during our members' typical lunch period.

Upcoming Events: **WMU Season Tickets –** Local 131 has sponsored WMU Athletics and purchased 50 season football tickets for our members. You can sign up for game at ibew131.com. Login to the site to find the link at the bottom of the menu or keep an eye out for the link in our emails. You can sign up for as many games as you wish to attend. Tickets that are not spoken for prior to the game will be handed out on a first come first serve basis at our anticipated tailgating location in the parking lot of Lawson Ice Arena. Keep an eye out for final tailgating location on our Facebook Group Page.

Upcoming Dates: Saturday, September 20th vs. Toledo Saturday, September 27th vs. Rhode Island Saturday, October 11th vs. Ball State Saturday, November 1st vs. Central Michigan Tuesday, November 11th vs. Ohio

September 24th, The Kalamazoo Tools and Trades Expo: This is a networking event, organized by Local 131 and the Building Trades, for the entire construction industry. There will be hands-on demos of the latest and greatest tools, equipment, and technology in the world of construction. Please join us!

Oct. 18 Member Orientation Breakfast 8-10:00AM: Breakfast will be provided to any members who wish to join. This is a great opportunity for anyone who wishes to learn more about the Local's benefits, referral system, contract, and history. It is also a great way to meet our new members!

September 8th @ 6PM General Membership Meeting: Moved due to the holiday, we will be grilling before the meeting. We hope to see you all there.

Work Outlook: Many members are working in neighboring locals, particularly Blue Oval Battery Plant in Marshall. Palisades Nuclear Facility is expected to go until at least December, paying \$57.78 with another \$5 an hour retention incentive. Keep an eye out for calls, if you are interested. Work outlook for the fall appears slow, however. Blue Oval is expected to begin scaling back for some contractors, while Pfizer remains slow and the work outlook at Zoetis is uncertain for the fall and winter. GPI and USG do not expect large projects for the fall.

While winter appears slow in 131, Local 153 will continue to have very heavy demand for their data center, battery plant, and Cook Nuclear's fall shutdown. If you have any information about work outlook, please let me know. You can email, text, or call me.

Earned Sick Time: NECA's (Continued next column)



IBEW Local 948

FLINT - Meetings **Membership Meeting -** Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will be October 13th, 2025 at 6:00 PM.

Retiree Meetings - Retirees next meeting will be October 7th, 2025 at 9:00am.

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

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

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

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

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

New Membership - Welcome to our latest members, Jared Arsenault, Steven Martin Jr, David Murany and All Our New 1st Year Apprentices. We look forward to working with you and hope to see you in the field.

Retirees - Congratulations to Delbert Stinson 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 James Kosal. We are tremendously sorry for your losses and will continue to keep our Brother in our hearts.

IBEW 131, con't

lawsuit against the State of MI, which sought to deny our members the legal right to paid sick time, has been **dismissed with prejudice in its entirety**. Local 131 members are entitled to earn 1 hour of sick time for every 30 worked for up to 72 hours a year. This is enforceable by the State of Michigan but is not under the terms of the 131 Inside Wireman Agreement. Please contact me if you are denied this benefit, jcurrent@ibew131.com You can find a link to the Michigan Earned Sick Time Complaint form at ibew131.com as well.

Update: Several Contractors in the jurisdiction are honoring sick time, including KEI, Champion, and (now) Hi-Tech Electric. To our knowledge Moore Electric and Martell are not honoring ESTA.

Retiree's Lunches @ 11AM at the following Locations:

October 15: Heroes Food & Spirits, 121 S. Grove Street, Delton, MI. 49046

November 19: Wymans Café 8675 Portage Road, Portage Mi. 49002

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

Members Three Months in Aears or More: Kyler Munro, Sebastian York.

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IBEW Local 948, Flint.



BRICKLAYERS and Allied Craftworkers Local 2, Detroit.



IBEW Local 906, Negaunee.



SHEETMETAL WORKERS Local 292, Detroit.



ELEVATOR CONSTRUCTORS Local 36, Detroit.



PLUMBERS & PIPE FITTERS Local 111, Negaunee.



PLUMBERS AND PIPE FITTERS Local 174, Muskegon.



CEMENT MASONS and Plasterers Local 514, Detroit.



OPERATING ENGINEERS Local 324, Muskegon.



PLUMBERS & PIPE FITTERS Local 671, Monroe.

LABOR DAY SNAPSHOTS

Building trades union members, family and associates attended various Labor Day parades, rallies and get-togethers around the state this year, celebrating organized labor's place in improving the lives and livelihoods of working men and women in Michigan. Thank you to the thousands of you who stepped up on or about Sept. 1, and stepped off on the various parades and marches around the state. You continue to show the public that Labor Day is our day.



IBEW Local 58, Detroit.



BOILERMAKERS Local 169, Detroit.



PLUMBERS AND PIPE FITTERS Local 370, Flint.



LABORERS Local 1191, Detroit.



HEAT AND FROST Insulators Local 25, Detroit.

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OPERATING ENGINEERS Local 324, Detroit.



ROOFERS AND WATERPROOFERS Local 149, Detroit.



MICHIGAN REGIONAL Carpenters Council, Detroit.

ALL BUILDING TRADESMEN

Notice of Asbestos Health Hazards in Michigan

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BOILERMAKERS

ELECTRICIANS

INSULATORS

PIPE FITTERS

PLUMBERS

SHEET METAL WORKERS

- ◆ Mesothelioma
- ◆ Lung Cancer
- ◆ Asbestosis
- ◆ Pulmonary Fibrosis
- ◆ Throat Cancer
- ◆ Colon Cancer

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

Exposure to asbestos can cause deadly diseases such as MESOTHELIOMA, LUNG CANCER, ABESTOSIS, PULMONARY FIBROSIS, THROAT CANCER, and COLON CANCER.

Many building tradesmen worked with or near asbestos. Some are not aware they were even exposed. Family members may be at risk of bystander exposure.

\$1.8 MILLION VERDICT

GPW obtained a **\$1.8 million** verdict in a Lung Cancer claim, the **largest Asbestos Verdict** in the history of **Michigan Asbestos Litigation**.

For more than 30 years, GPW has helped thousands of Michigan workers. We have represented mesothelioma, lung cancer, and asbestos disease victims, obtaining over \$1 billion in compensation for our clients.

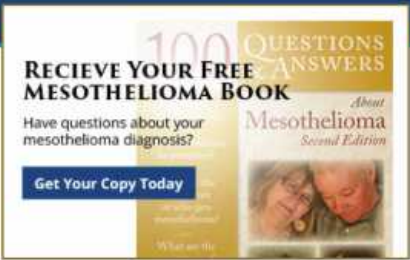
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Outdoors



First-time bowhunter’s big moment

By Lyndsay Dean
Tuscola County hunter
(and Olive’s mom)

The cool November evening was nearly still. A few deer bleats had echoed from outside the blind.

Eight-year-old Olive Dean adjusted her grip on her crossbow, lined up her shot, and asked, “How far is he?”

“Thirty yards,” I replied quietly, my eyes locked on the 10-point buck that had stepped into view.

Without hesitation, Olive calculated which line to use on her scope. Then she took a deep breath, clicked the safety off, and – like she’d practiced a hundred times – let the arrow fly.

The shot was perfect.

A love of the outdoors from the start.

Olive didn’t ease into the outdoors – she was immersed in it from the beginning. Her childhood was filled with summer camping trips, fishing outings, lake kayaking and more hikes than she could count. She’d been climbing into tree stands with her dad since before she could tie her own boots.

By 6, she was already asking when she could start hunting. Two years later – after seasons of scouting as a family, testing soil for food plots and perfecting her aim through backyard bow sessions – her big day arrived: Nov. 2, 2024.

That evening, we were tucked into a ground blind on private land in Tuscola County, reviewing range estimation and working through obstacles. With a few doe bleats and buck grunts, we settled in and waited.

Then, through the brush, the buck stepped out.

The shot, the smile, the story.

The adrenaline hit Olive like a wave. Her first instinct? “We need to call dad.”

After her arrow connected, she was shaking, crying with excitement and smiling so big it made my eyes well up just watching her. We caught it all on video.

Photos and video of Olive’s hunt were captured and will be treasured



THE TRUE AIM of an arrow from a crossbow at 30 yards allowed Olive Dean to take this 10-point buck. Olive is shown here in Tuscola County with and her mother, Lyndsay Dean, during the November 2024 firearm deer season.

for years to come. Her 10-point buck may not break any records, but to our family, it’s the most important deer we’ve ever tracked.

But the real magic came afterward. Her dad, uncle, grandma and younger brother dropped everything – even leaving their own prime-time hunts – to come help track. No one wanted to miss this moment.

Olive and her 6-year-old brother, Briar, took the lead. Both love tracking, and this time they were the ones calling the shots – guiding a crew of adults through the woods like seasoned pros.

It was her grandma’s first time ever tracking a deer. She had never seen anything like it and was fascinated by everything that went into it – how to read the blood, the texture and the trail. She had never seen this side of hunting before, and you could tell it left a lasting impression.

More than a hunt.

This wasn’t just a big moment for Olive – it was a milestone for our entire family.

Hunting has always run deep on her dad’s side, where opening day of firearm season means tradi-

tion, deer camp and time together. But this hunt marked something new. A mother-daughter bow kill.

A next-generation hunter stepping forward.

For Olive, it proved what she already knew: Girls can hunt just as well as the boys. Her younger brother said it best: “The girls in this house can hunt!”

For me, being beside her when she made that shot was one of the most meaningful moments of my life. Hunting had always been her thing with her dad. Getting to be the one beside her for her first buck was something I’ll never forget.

The bigger picture: Youth and the outdoors

Olive’s story is one of thousands across Michigan, where young people are forging new bonds with the natural world through hunting, conservation and stewardship.

These moments matter. They teach patience, discipline and respect for the land and wildlife. They offer real responsibility. And they give families time together – without screens, without distractions, with just fresh air and purpose.

For parents looking to introduce their children to hunting, the key isn’t perfection. It’s presence. Bring them along early. Let them scout with you. Let them ask questions. Practice together. Show them how to care for the land and the animals we harvest. And most of all, let them lead when it’s their time.

Because when they do, it’s unforgettable.

Michigan’s youth deer hunt was held this year Sept. 13-14.

(Article and photo via MDNR)

...

“Each fall, in mid-September, Michigan holds an incredible two-day deer hunt that is strictly for junior hunters 16 and younger, as well as for other individuals with qualifying disabilities. Called the Liberty Hunt, it is much more than merely another day noted on the calendar for many participating enthusiasts; it is often their very first real opportunity to hunt from a blind or trees tand with an accompanying responsible adult or guide.”

–Michigan Whitetail Properties



Local 149
Roofers & Waterproofer

Roofers 149

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

The next **General Membership Meeting** is scheduled for Tues., Oct. 7, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216

The next **Executive Board Meeting** is scheduled for Tues., Oct. 7, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216

The **Mid-Michigan informational meeting** is scheduled for Oct. 14, 2025, at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420.

Detroit Vacation Checks (quarterly). The Detroit Union Hall will open at 5:30am – 5:30pm, Friday, Oct. 17, 2025, to distribute quarterly vacation checks. The Hall will also be open from 8 until Noon, Saturday, Oct. 18, 2025, for anyone who cannot make it down Friday.

Direct deposits will be in members’ accounts Oct. 10, 2025. Detroit Members will need to contact the Union Hall if you what the check mailed.

Vacation and Holiday Check Direct Deposit. Members have the option to have their Vacation and Holiday check direct-deposited in their bank account. This includes all contracted areas. To get your Vacation check direct-deposited, members will need to complete a direct-deposit agreement. The form will be available at the Detroit and Mid-Michigan Union Hall. Member will need to know the following Financial Institution information, Routing No., Account No., and name of Financial Institution.

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 classes, contact the Training Center, 248-543-3847.

Mid-Michigan Training Center Information. The next term for all Mid-Michigan Apprentices will be as follows: Every Thursday from 6-8 pm until further notice. Journeyworkers upgrade classes to improve your skills, your worth, and our Brotherhood/Sisterhood is available at no cost to all Mid-Michigan LU 149 members. Dues must be current in order to enter the Training Center.

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

Out-Of-Work. When contractors call the Union Hall for help, we need to know who is available, and have an up-to-date phone number. All Detroit Area members who are out of work need to call the Hall at (313) 961-6093 ext. 0 to be put on the out of work list. All Mid-Michigan Area members who are out of work need to call the Hall at (810) 687-1368 to be put on the out of work list.

Clearance Cards. Clearance cards are needed when you are sent out of town to work. Get a clearance card from the Hall and call the Local in that area to avoid fines against you.

Are you moving? If you have a new address please make sure to let the Union Hall know. We will take care of your account with the Union Hall that includes the Building Tradesman Paper, International Union, and Trust Fund.

DAD’s Day Strikeout Juvenile Diabetes. We’re excited to announce the launch of our First Annual Strikeout Juvenile Diabetes event, a fun and meaningful way to come together as a union while giving back to our community. This event will be open to all members and their families. All proceeds will go directly to Dollars Against Diabetes (D.A.D.’s Day) which helps us make a real impact where it matters most. We are working on date and location. We will have additional information later.

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

The publication above is as 9/15/2025, 1 pm

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

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