



Since 1952

# THE BUILDING TRADESMAN

Official Publication of the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council  
Serving the highly skilled men and women in Michigan's building trades unions

VOL. 70, NO. 12 June 18, 2021



## SHORT CUTS



### Candidates picked for Aug. 3 primary

Absentee ballots will be mailed soon in Michigan for the Aug. 3, Primary Election.



The following candidates have been endorsed by the Greater Detroit Building and Construction Trades Council Political Action Committee for the election. The list reflects candidates who have requested an endorsement and have been screened by the PAC.

Please note that since this is a primary ballot, Michigan election law requires you to vote a straight Democratic or Republican ballot – your ballot will be spoiled if you vote for a Dem for one office and a Republican for another.

**Pontiac Mayor:** Tim Greimel

**Pontiac City Council (District 4):** Randy Carter

**Sterling Heights City Council:** Henry Yanez, Michael Radtke

**Taylor Mayor:** Alex Garza

**City Council:** Jill Brandana

**Dearborn City Council:** Mike Sareini

### Detroit Labor Day Parade canceled

A note from the Metro Detroit AFL-CIO:

“After speaking with the leadership of all the major Labor Day March participants, it has been decided that we will continue to practice COVID-19 protocols for the remainder of the year and not have any large gatherings. Therefore, regretfully, the 2021 Labor Day March has been cancelled.”

This is the second year in a row the Detroit Labor Day march has been canceled.

### Labor Day Mackinac Bridge Walk is a go

From the Mackinac Bridge Authority: “The 2021 Mackinac Bridge Walk is still on. At this time no changes have been announced to the walk for 2021. Due to Covid, there was no walk in 2020 and there will probably be changes required for 2021.”

“The Mackinac Bridge Authority had a Special Meeting on May 18, 2021, to discuss the Mackinac Bridge Walk and the Board Members expressed a strong desire to continue this year’s walk if it can be safely done. They will revisit the subject at their July 9 meeting or earlier if new information becomes available.”

The walk is traditionally held on Labor Day, which is on Monday, Sept. 6, this year.

### Biden makes union-friendly NLRB pick

The National Labor Relations Board currently has a 3-1 majority favoring Republicans, but that is about to change as President Biden has announced his pick for a vacant seat.

In his May 27 announcement, Biden selected Gwynne Wilcox, a New York lawyer who specializes in employee rights.

Biden will then get to select another Democrat in August when Republican members William J. Emanuel’s term ends. This would give Democrats control over the board.

### Quotable

“Make it a rule of life never to regret and never to look back. Regret is an appalling waste of energy; you can’t build on it; it’s only for wallowing in.”

—Katherine Mansfield (1888 - 1923)



THE ONE-OF-A-KIND SCAFFOLDING used to support Seaway Painting painters on the Mackinac Bridge’s North and South towers over the past few years has been removed as the project nears completion. The platform not only allowed painters a safe and efficient base and enclosure to do their work, it was an engineering award-winner.

Photos courtesy of MDOT Photo

## Mackinac Bridge’s innovative scaffold, freshly painted ivory towers get noticed

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

ST. IGNACE—Michigan’s greatest engineering achievement and most notable landmark looks as good as ever, but even more important, the metal skin on its towers is now protected as well as it has been since it opened in 1957.

The Mackinac Bridge is ready to take on all elements – wind, sun, rain, snow, ice, bird droppings – thanks to the work over the past few years by Michigan Painters District Council 1M tradespeople employed by Seaway Painting. And their work was made much, much easier by the use of a one-of-a-kind, innovative, award-winning scaffold system that improved workers’ safety and helped productivity.

The 15-member crew of Seaway painters are expected to wrap up their painting project on the bridge’s South Tower in August, after completing the North Tower two years ago. The project for both towers came with a price tag of more than \$12 million. The painters have completed the ivory colored exterior, and are currently working in the tight internal “cells” of the South Tower, sandblasting and painting their way through the 552-foot-tall structure.

“It’s been a great, safe project, and it’s been great to work with the Mackinac Bridge Authority,” said Steve Vlahakis, owner of Seaway Painting of Livonia. “And our crew of union painters, who have come from all over Michigan and around the country, have done just a great job. We also have people who have been with us a long time, and I’m really proud of the work ev-

eryone had done.”

The multi-year project involved the first inside and out complete sandblasting of the old paint from the two Mackinac Bridge towers, and then the application of three coats of paint to bare metal: a zinc primer, an epoxy intermediate coat and a urethane top coat in the familiar

ivory color. Vlahakis said there are some 5,000 claustrophobic cells in a single tower – “you can get lost in there” – and blasting and painting all the surfaces is a laborious process. Some of the cells “have never been touched” and have original paint on them, Vlahakis said.

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THE SCAFFOLD SYSTEM was designed to closely hug the 552-foot-tall Mackinac Bridge bridge towers, even as the towers taper as they rise. The enclosed 24-foot-tall scaffold helped allow the safe collection of old paint that was blasted off the towers. Cables suspended from new outriggers at the top of the towers allow the movement of the platform.

## Nonresidential construction slides again, but there’s still optimism

Nonresidential construction spending in April declined for the fifth-straight month to a two-year low as demand waned for numerous public and private project categories, the Associated General Contractors reported June 1. Construction project times are lengthening, and other challenges include longer delivery times for materials, as well as fast-rising prices for building goods.

“Both public and private nonresidential spending overall continued to shrink in April, despite a pickup in a few spending categories from March,” said Ken Simonson, the AGC’s chief economist. “Ever-growing delays and uncertainty regarding backlogs and delivery times for key materials, as well as shortages and record prices, are likely to make even more project owners hesi-

tant to commit to new work.”

Actual spending in U.S. construction spending in April totaled \$1.52 trillion at a seasonally adjusted annual rate, up 0.2 percent from March and 9.8 percent higher than the pandemic-depressed rate in April 2020. As has been true for the past several months, the year-over-year gain was limited to residential

(Continued on Page 2)

With all the focus on infrastructure, another much smaller budget proposal has flown under the radar. The Biden administration’s proposed 2022 budget of \$14.2 billion for the Department of Labor (DOL) is a drop in the bucket compared to \$2 trillion, but it has important implications for OSHA and other agencies that fall under DOL’s purview.

The proposed budget is a 14 percent increase from 2021 and is \$1.4 billion more than what former President Trump proposed. How would DOL use that increase? Enforcement. The proposal calls for \$2.1 billion for OSHA and the Wage and Hour Division. This



17 percent budget increase would boost enforcement by allowing OSHA to hire more inspectors. The agency lost about 14 percent of its staff under the Trump administration. To get an idea of how little funding OSHA currently has to work with, the AFL-CIO’s annual Death on the Job report noted that the agency’s 2021 budget gives them less than \$4 per U.S. worker. In addition to safety and health inspections, the

## Pension rescue does an enormous amount of good for union plans

Editor’s note: Within the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act, adopted in March with slim Democrat majorities in Congress and President Biden’s signature, provided was an \$86 billion bailout to the nation’s financially troubled multiemployer defined benefit pension plans, including a number in the building trades. Following is a report that provides some perspective on the newly invigorated – but still fragile – financial position of some multiemployer pensions.

By Josh Shapiro  
Groom Law Group

After many years of discussion and debate, Congress has taken action on the impending multiemployer pension crisis – which, if left unaddressed, would have led to the failure of over 150 plans covering roughly 1.5 million active and retired workers.

Although primarily aimed at the COVID-19 pandemic, the recently passed American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) provides special financial assistance to failing

But... ‘All the instabilities and weaknesses that allowed roughly 150 plans to become hopelessly underfunded remain’

multiemployer plans that will keep these plans afloat for many years to come. ARPA also contains temporary funding relief that is broadly available to multiemployer pension plans. Despite extensive negotiations that sought a bipartisan solution to the pension crisis, ARPA was passed along strictly partisan lines.

While ARPA does not address the fundamental weaknesses of the multiemployer pension system that led to the current crisis, it has averted the imminent collapse of the system, which is good news for participants and contributing employers. The

(Continued on Page 4)

## \$2.2T infrastructure plan holds sway at trades conference

By Mark Gruenberg  
PAI Staff Writer

WASHINGTON (PAI) – President Joe Biden’s proposed infrastructure plan – what’s in it and what workers want to include in it – dominated the discussion at the one-day virtual legislative conference of North America’s Building Trades Unions.

“This year has been unlike any other,” NABTU President Sean McGarvey led off on June 5, referring to the coronavirus pandemic, which sent unemployment soaring, hampered construction work and forced the conference itself, like so much else, virtually onto Zoom.

But it also presented a giant opportunity that the 14 NABTU unions and their members can take advantage of, McGarvey said. He lauded their past work in convincing lawmakers to insert pro-worker provisions into congressional rescue acts, and urged them to keep at it.

Workers’ lobbying and contacts with lawmakers at home pave the way for NABTU and construction union contacts and effectiveness on Capitol Hill, McGarvey said. He also gave out a phone number, 202-951-8059, for workers to call, via NABTU, to contact lawmakers.



REBUILDING ROADS is only part of the construction to-do list if the infrastructure plan passes.

The virus helped bring Biden – and his comprehensive infrastructure plan – to the Oval Office to succeed President Donald Trump, who talked an infrastructure game, personally

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## Biden’s budget would be a boon to construction

By Mark Gruenberg  
PAI Staff Writer

WASHINGTON (PAI) – If a federal budget blueprint is a political roadmap, and it is, then Democratic President Joe Biden’s \$6 trillion spending plan for the fiscal year starting Oct. 1 is a roadmap of progressive priorities.

And it drew praise from union leaders. The GOP and its business backers reacted with criticism and disdain.

Biden unveiled his budget’s details, crammed into more than 1,000 pages of small print, on the afternoon of May 28, but congressional committees, working from a 54-page preview he published more than a month before, are already holding hearings on some key sections.

“President Biden’s proposed federal budget fulfills his promise to Build Back Better with significant

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## OSHA eyes budget hike; resumes ‘naming and shaming’

By Nick Fox  
Laborers Health and Safety Fund of North America

Infrastructure proposals like President Biden’s \$2 trillion plan are getting most of the attention in the construction industry, and with good reason. The proposal represents a once-in-a-generation investment in America’s roads, bridges, water system and energy grid, and has the potential to create millions of good-paying union jobs.

increased funding would allow more investigations into workers being misclassified as independent contractors, which continues to be one of the most common ways that workers are denied safe and healthy working conditions.

Unemployment insurance. The proposed DOL budget would also – for the first time in decades – update how unemployment insurance funding

Unemployment insurance. The proposed DOL budget would also – for the first time in decades – update how unemployment insurance funding

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## Viewpoints



### Why the PRO Act is vital

Something I've just learned about Amazon—one of America's most profitable and fastest-growing corporations, headed by the richest man in the world:

According to the Labor Department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Amazon warehouse workers sustained nearly double the rate of serious injury incidents last year as did workers in non-Amazon warehouses.

In addition, largely because Amazon failed to provide its workers adequate protective equipment during the pandemic, the corporation admits that nearly 20,000 employees were presumed positive for the coronavirus.

Workers who spoke out about these unsafe workplace conditions were fired.

Amazon boasts of paying its workers at least \$15 an hour. But that comes to about \$30,000 a year, hardly enough for a family to get by on.

The explosive growth of Amazon's army of poorly-paid and ill-treated hourly workers is emblematic of the long-term decline of America's middle class and levels of economic inequality America hasn't seen since the late nineteenth century's Gilded Age.

This has strained the social fabric of the nation — fueling anger and frustration, a rising tide of drug overdoses and deaths of despair, even tempting some working-class people to embrace Trumpism and white nationalism.

The success of Amazon's "shock and awe" campaign against workers who dared try to bring a union to their Bessemer, Alabama warehouse exemplifies the immense political power the architects of this growing inequality now wield. It's an alarming omen of the future.

In Amazon warehouses like Bessemer, workers are treated like robots. Algorithms relentlessly impose dangerous production quotas. They get two 30-minute breaks each ten-hour day. Every movement is monitored.

Amazon delivery drivers report being instructed to turn off their safety apps so they can meet their quotas. Others report having to urinate into bottles because of delivery timing pressures.

Even though public support for unions is as high as it's been in 50 years — 60 million American workers would join a union today if they could — Bessemer workers were outgunned by a behemoth whose market capitalization exceeds Australia's GDP.

The National Labor Relations Act makes it illegal for employers to fire workers for trying to organize a union. But the penalties employees for violating the Act are so laughably small (re-hiring the worker and providing back pay) that employers like Amazon routinely do it anyway.

Amazon may be the future of the American economy, but if that future is to have room for the kind of prosperous working families that 50 years ago defined American capitalism, unions are critical.

In March, the House of Representatives passed legislation designed to level the field. It's called the Protect the Right to Organize Act (PRO Act). The Senate version has 47 Democratic co-sponsors. It needs three more to give the PRO Act a fighting chance of getting to Joe Biden's desk.

The PRO Act would end many of the practices Amazon used to defeat the union effort in Bessemer. Real penalties would be imposed on companies and corporate officers who retaliate against union advocates or otherwise violate the National Labor Relations Act.

The PRO Act would make it easier for workers to form a union, with the aim of protecting them from unfair working conditions.

The PRO Act alone won't end economic inequality or return prosperity and opportunity to America's working families. But passage of the PRO Act would help.

It would also send a clear signal that ours is truly a government "of the people" — such as the million people who work for Amazon today, not the one multi-billionaire at the top, and of the vast majority of Americans who are working harder than ever today and getting nowhere, in America's Second Gilded Age.

**Robert Reich**  
Professor of Public Policy  
University of California-Berkeley

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

How to contact us —

By mail: Building Tradesman Editor

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e-mail: buildingtradesman@ameritech.net

## Better wages, better workers

By Jim Hightower

A recent headline blared: "Labor shortages end when wages rise."

Gosh, Captain Obvious, what an amazing discovery! Someone notify the Nobel Prize committee, for surely this revolutionary revelation will win this year's prize in economics. Better yet, someone notify that gaggle of Republican governors whose theory of labor economics begins and ends with the medieval demand that workers be whacked with a stick to make them do what the bosses want.

At issue is the furious complaint by restaurant chains, nursing homes, Big Ag, and other low-wage employers that they have a critical labor shortage. It seems that millions of workers today are hesitant to take jobs because there's no affordable childcare, or the jobs they're offered expose them and their families to COVID-19, or the work itself is abusive and demeaning... or all of the above.

Business chieftains wail that they've been advertising thousands of jobs for waiters, poultry workers, nursing assistants, and such, but they can't get enough takers. So, corporate-serving governors have rushed to their rescue. Shouting "Whack 'em with a stick," these mingy politicians are stripping away jobless benefits, trying force workers to take any crappy job they're offered. It gives new meaning to the term "workforce."

But wait, there's an honest way to get the workers they need: Offer fair wages! As the owner of a small chain of restaurants in Atlanta notes when he stopped lowballing wages he not only got the workers he needed, but "We started to get a better quality of applicants." That translated to better service, happier customers, and more business.

The real economic factor in play here is not wages, but value. If you treat employees as cheap, that's what you'll get. But if you view them as valuable assets, that's what they'll be — and you'll all be better off.

(via www.otherwords.org)

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The Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council

## Mighty Mac's innovative scaffold gets noticed

(Continued from Page 1) said. The Mackinac Bridge Authority said the new coating should last about 35 years.

The original paint is lead-based and Seaway is required to contain 100 percent of the paint as it is removed and shipped to an appropriate landfill.

Photos of the original painting of the towers in the 1950s show paint being applied with brushes and spray guns. One painter we talked who worked on the bridge described being strapped in a bosun's seat, dangling from rope and applying the ivory color to a spot on a tower they had missed earlier. He reported being scared when the wind blew him about 15 feet away from the tower, but he fortunately came back feet first.

Enhanced worker safety and environmental concerns are much more of a priority these days, and the invention of the scaffolding is a reflection of this. Looking for a safer and secure way to allow painters access to the towers, Seaway employee Dan Halberg made a mock-up of a unique scaffolding system in his St. Ignace kitchen. With a design by Ruby+Associates and metal fabrication by Moran Iron Works of Onaway, the plan worked, and was used Seaway painters. The design won awards, earned a patent, and is being studied for use the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, Vlahakis said.

The scaffold design by Ruby+Associates took home the Best Neighboring State Project Award given by the Structural Engineers Association of Illinois 2019 Excellence in Structural Engineering Annual Awards.

And in December, the scaffolding set-up by Ruby+ Associates was named the Outstanding Project Winner in the "Other Structures" category of the National Council of Structural Engineers' (NCSEA) "Excellence in Structural Engineering Awards."

"The judges were impressed by the solutions provided for the unique challenges on this project," said Carrie Johnson, chair of the NCSEA Awards Committee. "The engineers were tasked with creating a painting platform. This was a two-story, movable steel and aluminum structure capable of sustaining 100 mph winds. The solution eliminated the need for almost 400 feet of scaffolding."

In February 2020, Seaway Painting won the E. Crone Knoy Award from the Society for Protective Coatings, an industry group focused on protecting and preserving concrete, steel, and other industrial and marine structures.



CONVENTIONAL SCAFFOLDING was used by Seaway Painting workers to paint lower parts of the 552-foot-tall Mackinac Bridge towers.

Photo courtesy of MDOT Photo

The award "recognizes an outstanding achievement in industrial or commercial coatings work that demonstrates innovation, excellence in craftsmanship, or the use of state-of-the-art techniques or products to creatively solve problems or provide long-term service."

Then in March 2020, Ruby+Associates received one of five Engineering Honorable Conceptor Awards from the American Council of Engineering Companies of Michigan at their annual Engineering and Surveying Excellence Awards Gala.

The Mackinac Bridge Authority said the scaffold platforms were custom designed and built for painting crews to enclose and move up and down the bridge's towers above the roadway deck, first during the 2017-2018 project to strip and repaint the bridge's North Tower, then again doing the same on the South Tower. The platforms encircled the tower legs and allowed workers to adjust it to accommodate the towers tapering near the top. Another platform allowed access to the struts joining the tower legs. The design allowed for the enclosure and capture of paint and sandblasting materials.

Vlahakis said the unique scaffolding, which has no pros-

pect of being used for the next three decades, has been scrapped. It would otherwise continue to be taxed and need to be stored, he said.

The award nomination noted that the design needed to withstand winds regularly exceeding 100 mph and allow for the enclosure and capture of paint and sandblasting materials. The original paint is lead-based and Seaway is required to contain 100 percent of the paint as it is removed and ship it to an appropriate landfill facility. The new paint, which is zinc-based, is expected to last at least 35 years, with periodic maintenance.

"There's been great quality,

union craftsmanship on that bridge since day one, and that has never changed over the years," said Mackinac Bridge Authority Board Chairman Patrick "Shorty" Gleason, a Local 25 iron worker. "We're just finishing a 10-year program on painting the bridge, and it's really no surprise that you're seeing top-notch work today, with both the great painting and with the making of that scaffolding. That scaffolding is a redesign of the one they used to build the bridge in the 1950s, and the way they put this one together, it was a remarkable job, they really deserve to win awards."

## Nonresidential construction slides

(Continued from Page 1)

construction, the AGC said.

Still, the F.W. Dodge Data and Analytics' "Momentum Index" for U.S. construction moved 9.1 percent higher in May, the group reported June 7. The index measures initial reports of nonresidential building projects in the planning stage which have been shown to lead to spending.

Dodge said May's jump was the result of a large increase in commercial planning activity, which posted its strongest month-over-month increase since October 2017. Institutional planning, meanwhile, fell by less than one percentage point.

"The rising trend in planning activity," Dodge said, "is a good sign that the economic recovery is starting to spread into the construction sector. However, these projects are unlikely to have an impact on construction starts this year. Rising material prices and a continued shortage of skilled labor have led to project delays. On the upside, construction starts are shaping up for a healthy increase in 2022."

You and your health . . .

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### How seeing a doctor saved one firefighter from cancer

LIVONIA FIREFIGHTER

Michael Valdez never thought he'd get cancer.

"I don't smoke. I'm young and healthy," Valdez says.

But in April 2020, at age 33, he found himself sitting in his truck in a hospital parking lot, wondering if he'd live to see his two children grow up. "Is this going to kill me?" Valdez thought to himself.

The "this" was a pea-sized tumor that appeared in a scan of his left testicle. He visited the emergency room because the pain that started as "just a little discomfort" developed into a raging pain in his groin. Going to the ER, even in the midst of a pandemic, turned out to be the best decision.

The pain was caused from the tumor pressing on a nerve, so removing it became a priority. Quick removal also meant there was less chance for cancer cells to spread if the tumor was malignant. After discussing it with his wife, the surgery was scheduled for two days after his ER visit.

**Avoid the doctor at your own risk**

While Valdez's pain got him to see a doctor right away, it doesn't always happen that way. Sometimes pains or body changes occur gradually and are casually brushed off — by men especially. There's a host of reasons why men put off getting care, but doing so only increases their peril. The average life span for men is about five years shorter than women in the U.S., and avoiding doctors and dying of preventable diseases are contributing factors.

Men are more likely to skip regular check-ups than women, with 72 percent of respondents to a Cleveland Clinic survey saying they would rather do household chores than go to the doctor. But putting off that check-up is how a small problem often

becomes a big one. Especially when it comes to heart disease — the No. 1 killer of males in the U.S. — treating conditions such as high blood pressure and high cholesterol can make the difference between managing the condition, or dying from it.

*"The signals of illness aren't always going to hit you over the head. That's why I will do every routine check-up. . . I plan on being here for my family. It's the manly thing to do."*

Michael Valdez

To catch early signs of testicular cancer, experts recommend that men do a monthly self-exam to feel for hard lumps or changes in the size, shape and consistency of the testicles. "I wasn't diligent about checking myself," Valdez says, "so it turned out my pain was helpful because it made me seek care without delay."

**Early treatment = successful treatment**

The surgery to remove Valdez's tumor was successful, though it took a weekend of waiting to get the pathology report. When he got the call, the news was cautiously optimistic: The tumor was malignant with cancer cells, but those were removed from his body. Follow up tests confirmed the pathology report, so when Valdez and his oncology doctor consulted next, it was a big relief to hear that neither radiation nor chemotherapy was recommended.

"The health risks associated with radiation and chemo outweighed the benefits in my case. We decided that active monitor-

ing, in the form of getting a scan every three or four months, a chest X-ray, and lab work would provide enough of an early warning system to catch something before it's a real problem," he says.

Four weeks after surgery, Valdez was back to his fire-fighting job. A year later, he's training for a triathlon that includes a half-mile swim; 12.4-mile bike ride; and 5k (3.1 mile) run.

Since the encounter with testicular cancer, Valdez is eager to answer health questions from coworkers or friends. And it's why he's sharing this story during Men's Health Month in June.

Everyone has men in their lives that they care about and want to be healthy. Michael Valdez's story reminds us that men's health isn't a topic just for men or about men.

### Not going to the doctor because . . .

**"I'll tough it out"**  
Don't ignore pain! And don't avoid regular check-ups. The best way to stay tough is to take care of yourself through proper medical care.

**Fear of diagnosis**  
Your worst fears about a serious medical problem are more likely to become reality by avoiding the doctor rather than seeing one.

**Uncomfortable with exams**  
You are not alone. The smart way to handle anxiety is to tell attending medical personnel of your concerns. You're likely to get information or support that puts you more at ease.

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

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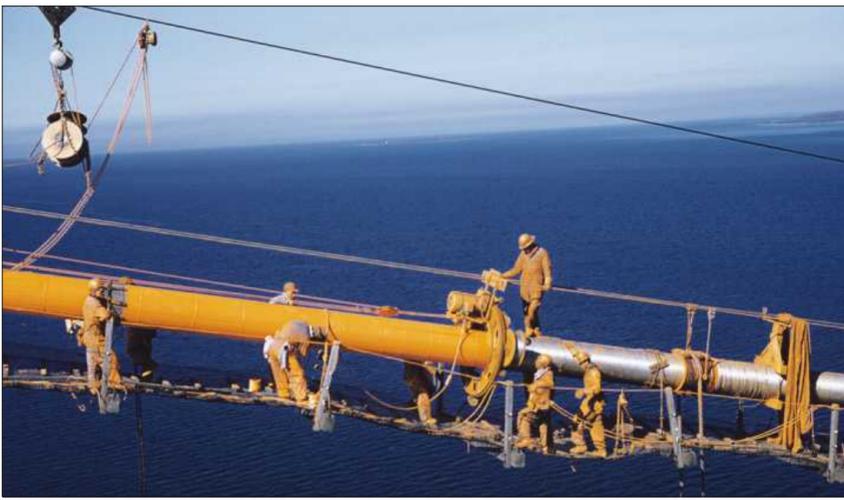
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**MACKINAC BRIDGE PAINTERS** wear some of the orange primer they're applying on a main cable near the top of the South Tower, on Oct. 4, 1957. The bridge opened to traffic on Nov. 1, 1957. Modern inspections have shown the main cables in nearly pristine condition due to the proper application of that paint and subsequent coatings over the years. *Photo credit: MDOT*



**Local 357**  
Glaziers & Glassworkers

Glaziers & Glassworkers 357  
WARREN – Our next regular scheduled union meeting will be on Monday, August 2, 2021 at 6pm.

Our July meeting has been cancelled due to falling on Independence Day Holiday weekend. Have a happy July 4th holiday weekend to all the brothers, and sisters of local 357, and our families. Travel safely, and have a great weekend!

Work remains steady in the area. There is lots of school work coming up this summer. That being said, we will be busy.

Brother Patrick Wasung passed away on Monday, June 14th. Pat was a member of Local 357 for 58 years. Please keep Pat, and his family in your thoughts, and prayers. He will be missed. Pat was 81.

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

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

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

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

If you are in need of safety modules, please contact your  
**(Continued next column)**



**Sign, Pictorial & Display Local 591**

Sign Pictorial & Display 591  
WARREN – The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 6, 2021 at 6:30p.m. Trustees and union stewards meet at 6:20 p.m. The meeting may be postponed due to Covid. Will notify a.s.a.p.

Members must be in good standing (dues up to date) with District Council 1 app or receipt of paid dues to attend meeting. Anyone possessing a union membership and willingly works at a nonunion shop doing union work can have charges preferred against them under Sec. 16.4, and 19.8 of the District Council By-laws.

Any questions on local union issues, please call Jeremy Haviland at 586-899-0183, or Keith Anderson at 586-899-7958, your Business Representatives.

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

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



**Local 357, con't**

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

**–Business Rep- Don Stepp**

**District Council 1M**  
**Business Manager:** Robert Gonzalez  
**Meeting date:** 2nd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m., with the Executive Board meeting at 6 p.m.  
**Place:** 14587 Barber Ave, Warren MI 48088 & 419 S. Washington Ave, Lansing MI 48933

**Local Union 312**  
**Business Rep:** Tim Schwerin  
**Meeting date:** 2nd Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.  
**Place:** 1473 N. 30th St., Galesburg, MI 49053

**Local Union 514**  
**Business Rep:** Scott Mikulen  
**Meeting dates:** 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m.  
**Place:** 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI.  
**Web site:** www.iupat-local514.org.

**Local Union 826**  
**Business Rep:** Rocky Ackerman  
**Meeting date:** 2nd Thursday of every month at 5:30 p.m.  
**Place:** 3115 Joyce St. Burton, MI 48529

**Local Union 845**  
**Business Rep –** Fred Frederickson  
**Meeting date:** 1st Thursday of every month at 7 p.m.  
**Place:** 419 S. Washington Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933

**Local Union 1052**  
**Business Rep –** Jake Fluty  
**Meeting date:** The Fourth Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.  
**Place:** 3115 Joyce St., Burton MI 48529

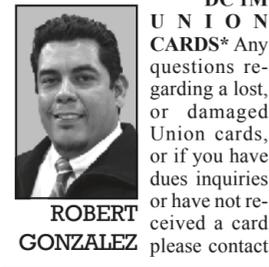
**Local Union 1803**  
**Business Rep:** Josh Ovalle  
**Meeting date:** 4th Tuesday of every month at 5:30 p.m.  
**Place:** 7677 Midland Road, Freeland, MI 48623.

**Local Union 2352**  
**Business Rep:** Jeremy Haviland  
**Meeting Date:** 3rd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.  
**Place:** District Council 1M, 14587 Barber Ave., Warren, MI.

**Local Union 2353**  
**Business Rep:** Keith Anderson  
**Meeting date:** 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m.  
**Place:** District Council 1M, 14587 Barber Ave, Warren, MI.

**Michigan Painters District Council**

Painters DC 1M  
Dear Members,  
**DC1M WEBSITE:** [www.iupatdc1michigan.org](http://www.iupatdc1michigan.org)  
**DC1M FACEBOOK:** [www.facebook.com/iupat1m](http://www.facebook.com/iupat1m)



**ROBERT GONZALEZ**

the DC1M offices at:  
Warren Office: (586)552-4474 extension 100  
Freeland Office: (989) 695-6888  
**PAINTERS DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M SMART PHONE APP.** Painters District Council 1M is pleased to announce its' all new APP. For IPHONE go to IOS store, For ANDROID got to Google Playstore Search for "Painters and Allied Trades" download APP Username: your member id# Password: painters With this APP you can access training classes, Local Union

meeting times and dates, receive alerts, and communications from your Union, etc.

**GET INVOLVED AND PARTICIPATE IN YOUR UNION!**  
**OUT OF WORK/BACK TO WORK:** To keep work placement efficient, please notify the office when you are laid off or going back to work.

Warren office# is 586-552-4474 or Freeland office# is 989-695-6888.

New job starts should be reported to the Union office, please do so  
Get involved. Work smart. Work safe.

*"Behind many acts that are thought ridiculous there lie wise and weighty motives."*  
–Francois de La Rochefoucauld (1613 - 1680)

*"It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge."*  
–Albert Einstein (1879 - 1955)

*"We cannot change anything unless we accept it. Condemnation does not liberate, it oppresses."*  
–Carl Jung (1875 - 1961)

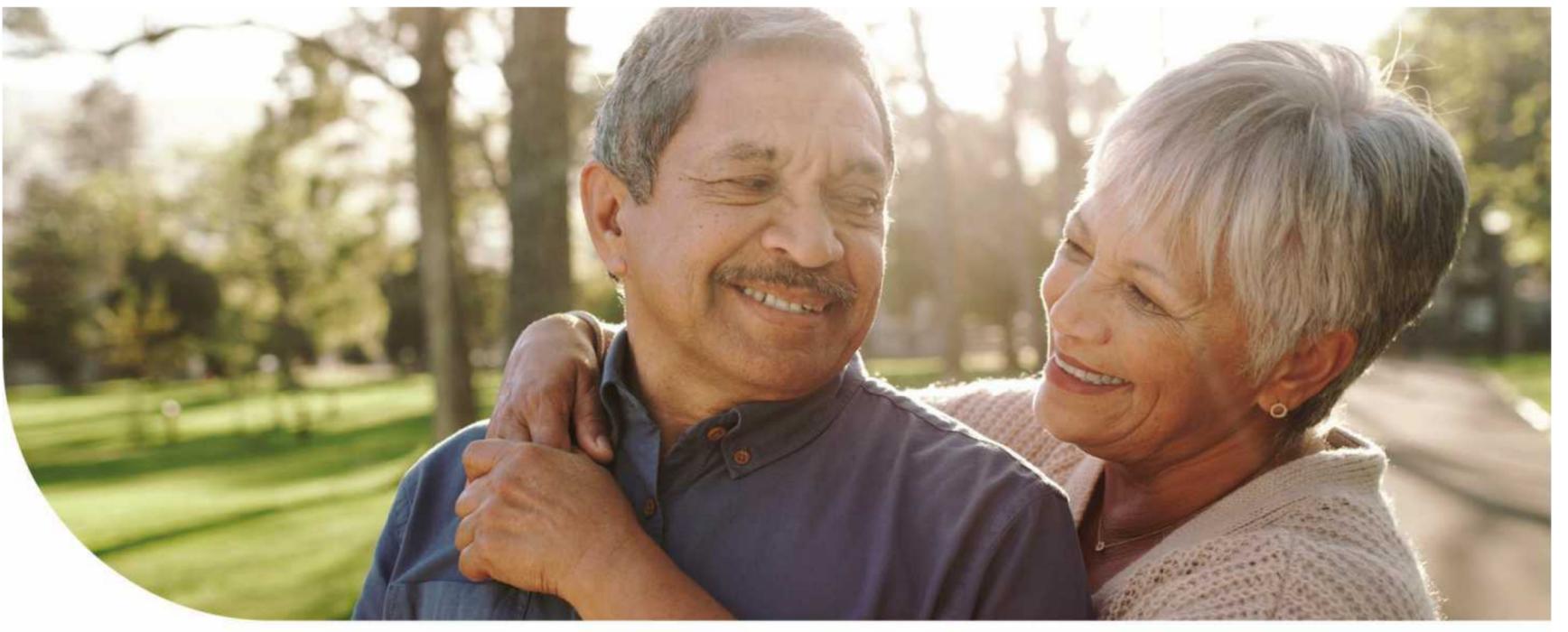
*"The men who create power make an indispensable contribution to the Nation's greatness, but the men who question power make a contribution just as indispensable, especially when that questioning is disinterested, for they determine whether we use power or power uses us."*  
–John F. Kennedy (1917 - 1963)

*"O wise man, wash your hands of that friend who associates with your enemies."*  
–Saadi (1184 - 1291)

*"Beauty is no quality in things themselves: it exists merely in the mind which contemplates them."*  
–David Hume (1711 - 1776)

*"There are many things of which a wise man might wish to be ignorant."*  
–Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 - 1882)

*"Fortune helps the brave."*  
–Terence (185 BC - 159 BC)



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## BUILDING MICHIGAN!

When our streets were paved with wood

HISTORY IN THE MAKING By Marty Mulcahy



“CEDAR BLOCK RESURFACING GANG on 12th Street” is the caption for this photo taken in Detroit in 1901 or 1902. Some applications called for the wood pavement to be shaped into squares or rectangles, this application called for the placement of the cedar logs in their original size. It necessitated careful sorting and placement of pieces of differing diameters to minimize the spaces between them. Various fillers were used to chink between the logs.

Photo credit: Transport Traffic and Mobility

Michigan’s car manufacturers may have been at the forefront of putting the world on wheels at the turn of the last century, but the roads to drive them on were usually nothing to brag about here or anywhere else.

As we have featured in this space, the first concrete street didn’t come to Michigan until the town fathers of Red Jacket (today’s Calumet) authorized the use of “granitoid” pavement – today’s concrete, on several streets in 1906. Some of that pavement is still in use today, and is Michigan’s oldest concrete surface. Other streets in Red Jacket, as part of that same paving project, called for the use of creosoted wood block pavement on other streets, with city fathers not quite sure about fully committing to the new concrete thing.

More famously, the state (and the world’s) first mile-long stretch of concrete “highway” pavement was placed in Detroit, along Woodward Avenue between Six and Seven Mile roads, in 1909. But a century ago, bragging rights over the quality of roads in Michigan and other states were few and far between.

Prior to concrete, road builders had other options, but usually ended up looking at wood, in one form or another – as the answer to getting traveling people and their wheeled vehicles out of the mud and making routes to connect local communities and ports. Rural areas used and appreciated plank roads. But the closer confines of a city allowed the use of different types of solid surfaces to walk and ride along on main thoroughfares and secondary streets.

It’s safe to say that in Michigan’s lumber-driven economy back in the day, city and regional planners grew remarkably creative in using cut-up trees to build roads.

“Since the introduction of wood for paving, upwards of 40 patented systems of construction have been experimented with,” wrote Austin Thomas Byrne of the University of Michigan Department of Engineering in *A Treatise on Highway Construction* (1913). “The difference between these systems consisted in the shape of the blocks and the treatment of the wood with chemicals. The shape given to the block has been very varied; round, square, rectangular, oblique, hexagonal, octagonal, and many complicated forms and interlocking devices have been tried. But experience has demonstrated that with a solid foundation there is no reason for complicated shapes or interlocking contrivances.”

Byrne suggested that modern wood pavements of the day worked best when the fiber of the wood is set vertically, with the joints between the blocks set as narrow as possible and “filled with a waterproof cement.” Byrne added: “As with all other paving materials so with wood, without an unyielding foundation it is impossible to preserve a smooth surface.”

It took a while for the building industry to arrive at installing wooden streets. America has seen streets of dirt, then dirt and gravel. Then some communities began using macadam surfaces, a road type invented in the 1820s made of compressed layers of small broken stones, bound together with tar or asphalt. They were prone to allowing dust, and



CEDAR BLOCK pavement is shown in Grand Rapids, in 2015. “In 1894 cedar blocks were used when the Board of Public Works approved a plan for improving Fountain Street from North Lafayette to North Union Streets,” says *History Grand Rapids*. “Some of those cedar blocks have recently been exposed during street work in the 500 block of Fountain Street and the photographer, taking a summer walk in Heritage Hill, was able to get a close look at how well preserved the cedar blocks were after 121 years of traffic.”

Photo credit: History Grand Rapids

ruts in the surface.

Cobblestones had been around four centuries – but they were inherently uneven and expensive to install. Brick-lined streets didn’t become popular in the U.S. until the 1870s – and while they looked terrific and solved many a city’s pavement problem, they were very expensive to install and maintain. Wood was often seen as the best solution – and maybe we 21st Century types shouldn’t be so quick to dismiss it.

“As rural folk were building plank roads, their urban counterparts were laying wood-block avenues and streets,” wrote David O. Whitten in *A Century Of Parquet Pavements: Wood as a Paving Material in the United States and Abroad, 1840-1940*. “At the end of the 20th Century wood block paving is a curiosity. At the beginning of the century before inexpensive mass-produced automobiles made paving a high priority for governments of industrialized nations, wood paving materials offered a quiet, resilient, inexpensive, and easily repaired and replaced surface for steel-rimmed wagon and carriage wheels and iron horseshoes.”

Trial and error led to a mélange of wood paver installation practices from city to city. Constructing the roadbed itself was labor intensive, often with a layer of broken stone followed by a binder layer of some kind, such as sand, lime or bitumen, then compacted with a roller. Later concrete was actually used as an underlayment. The species of wood used often depended on what was available locally, but white pine was too absorbent, and oak, while long-lasting, was slippery. Cedar, cut in lengths from six to 14 inches, was considered a good choice. Good curbing was vital.

The U.S. Forest Service reported in 1908 that “the success of the modern wood block pavement” had several causes: “The wood is carefully selected, both as to kind and quality; it is cut accurately into rectangular blocks, is put through seasoning processes, and is preserved from decay, with creosote” to reduce water absorption and “consequent expansion and contraction of the pavement.” When the blocks were laid tightly, with the grain vertical, over a solid foundation of cement-concrete, the joints were waterproof and maintenance became relatively easy.”

Sometimes, circular slices of logs were laid with the spaces between them chinked with cement or another filler. Genevieve

Netz in her blog *Wooden Roads and Streets*, said, “this method was not very satisfactory because the wood wore away quickly at the edges, making the remaining rounded surfaces very rough to drive across.”

Eventually, she wrote, “closely-fitted, uniformly-sized blocks of creosoted or otherwise-treated wood made a more durable pavement. Different sorts of blocks were developed and patented by enterprising sawyers – some were hexagonal, others were square and beveled in a special way, etc. Municipalities established standards for the buyers of the wood for paving blocks. Civil engineers experimented with species of wood, shapes of blocks, fillers between the blocks, and the underlying roadbed, trying to create the most durable surface possible.” Sides of the blocks were later grooved to reduce buckling.

Netz said wooden block pavement was “very common. For example, Chicago, in 1904, had 750 miles paved with badly-deteriorated round cedar blocks that were chinked with gravel and coal tar.”

The wooden pavers were hardly a “green” alternative for building. The National Wood Preservers’ Association reported in 1913 that some 93 treatment plants in the U.S. were making wood preservatives for the wooden block roads, including 8.3 million gallons of creosote oil and 3.8 million gallons of miscellaneous “liquid preservatives.”

Just like century-old wooden water mains are occasionally unearthed – sometimes still in service – so too is wooden pavement. Whitten in *A Century Of Parquet Pavements* wrote that noise-absorbing wood blocks were appealing for streets near hospitals, schools, churches, and public buildings like court houses as well as in congested streets, where street noise was especially bothersome.

The use of wood began to decline in the 19-teens as concrete became more pervasive.

“The use of wood-block paving should be considered in light of the demands of turn-of-the-century streets and highways and not in terms of modern construction materials,” said Whitten in *A Century Of Parquet Pavements*. “Wood-block paving was not a failure, it disappeared because needs changed. Moreover, wood-blocks were not intended as an all-purpose paving material but a special substance for selected streets. City engineers did not envision a city paved with wood.”

## Pension rescue does an enormous amount of good for union plans

(Continued from Page 1)

temporary funding relief provisions of ARPA allow plans to freeze their zone statuses for a year, extend their funding improvement and rehabilitation periods, and recognize investment and other losses over an expanded time horizon.

These provisions may allow some plans to take less severe measures to improve their funding levels compared with prior law. However, those measures would need to remain in place over a longer period of time, as ARPA does not make any permanent changes to the funding goals. The temporary funding relief provisions of the American Rescue Plan Act may have a modest impact on near-term contribution and benefit levels but are unlikely to affect many plans dramatically.

Under ARPA, underfunded multiemployer plans that meet certain conditions will receive lump sum payments from the government that do not need to be repaid. The Congressional Budget Office has estimated that these payments will total \$86 billion, though the legislation does not cap the amount that can be paid. Plans that are projected to

be insolvent within 20 years or have implemented benefit suspensions under the Multi-employer Pension Reform Act are eligible for assistance under ARPA. Certain recently insolvent plans are also eligible, as are critical status plans that have a ratio of active to inactive participants of less than 2-to-3 and a funded ratio below a specified level.

The application window for special financial assistance is open for four years, so it is not necessary for plans to act immediately. The amount of financial assistance that eligible plans will receive is determined such that plans will be projected to remain solvent until 2051. There are some significant ambiguities in the assumptions and methodologies used to determine the amount of assistance, and depending on how those ambiguities are resolved, eligible plans might actually be solvent for a longer or shorter period of time.

Regulations clarifying the amount of assistance are likely to be issued in July, and plans are not able to apply for assistance until then. ARPA special financial assistance is, of course, an enormously positive develop-

ment for the participants and employers in the deeply underfunded plans that will receive payments. The positive impacts of ARPA are, however, not limited to the plans that are eligible for assistance. Keeping plans solvent reduces the liabilities of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp., thereby reducing the need for higher PBGC premiums. In the absence of ARPA, it is likely that those premiums would have increased dramatically across all multi-employer plans in the coming years, as opposed to the far more modest deferred increase that was included in ARPA.

Additionally, without ARPA, in roughly five years a very large number of participants would have lost their benefits nearly in their entirety. It is likely that Congress would have stepped in to prevent this calamity at that time, but a last-minute bailout might have been accompanied by punitive measures targeting labor unions.

Many members of Congress blame unions for the pension crisis, as well as other perceived issues, and being forced to save more than a million participants from massive benefit losses would have provided a pretext for significant anti-union measures. The collectively bargained employers contributing to the pension plans might have ended up as collateral damage.

While ARPA has dealt with the immediate problem in the multiemployer pension system, much remains to be done. All the instabilities and weaknesses that allowed roughly 150 plans to become hopelessly underfunded remain, and there is nothing preventing the plans that are currently healthy from meeting the same fate in the future. Moreover, the employers contributing to multiemployer plans are still essentially acting as insurers of future stock market returns. The absurdity of this arrangement becomes clear when you consider that no actual insurance company is willing to take on such a risk.

The multiemployer pension system will not become truly sustainable until it is reformed to manage risk more appropriately. Either benefits must be supported by low-risk investments, or to the extent that investment risk is taken, the benefits provided must be flexible enough to absorb that risk when necessary. To this end, for years Congress has considered authorizing a new type of multiemployer retirement plan known as a composite plan.

Composite plans operate much like current pension plans, except that there is no concept of withdrawal liability, and once an underfunded plan has taken all the traditional measures to raise its funding level, the trustees are authorized to reduce benefit levels to maintain the financial integrity of the plan.

Composite plans have been included in proposals released by both Democrats and Republicans, though they could not be included in ARPA due to procedural constraints. To use a metaphor, ARPA has extinguished the flames but the house remains highly flammable.

Permanent fundamental reforms are needed to ensure that plans do not make promises to participants that they cannot keep, and to ensure that employers are not subjected to unreasonable and unmanageable financial risks. Composite plans represent a large step in the right direction and are one of the few topics on which both parties have agreed in recent years. It is imperative that all stakeholders continue to remind members of Congress that the job is not finished yet.

*(The writer is the senior actuarial advisor for Groom Law Group. This was originally printed in the Spring 2021 The Construction User, a publication of The Association of Union Constructors.)*

## Biden’s budget would be a boon to construction

(Continued from Page 1)

investments to modernize the nation’s infrastructure that will lower emissions, increase reliability and support middle-class, union jobs,” said IBEW General President Lonnie Stephenson. “This budget will aggressively tackle climate change by investing \$36 billion into renewable energy technology and expanding clean energy tax credits. And by pairing clean-energy tax credits with strong labor standards and protections, this budget assures that clean-energy jobs will be good union ones. I’m especially pleased that the president is making sure that the clean-energy revolution does not leave any worker behind by doubling federal investment in coal communities, including support for carbon capture technology and direct assistance to dislocated coal workers.”

Among its sections of interest to workers:

- It would raise taxes on the rich and corporations, while increasing and extending the child care tax credit and the earned income tax credit for the lower- and middle-class.

In its summary, Biden’s Office of Management and Budget says he wants to “reform our tax system by changing the rules of the road for the largest corporations and highest income Americans.”

Biden’s OMB said the plan “revitalizes tax enforcement to ensure high-income Americans pay the tax they owe under the law – ending the unfair system of enforcement that collects almost all taxes due on wages, while regularly collecting a smaller share of business and capital income.”

- The Occupational Safety and Health Administration budget plan would hike funds for federal enforcement, up \$26 million, to \$255 million.

It also envisions 36,984 OSHA inspections, almost 6,000 more than this year and 15,274 more than in fiscal 2020, the last full budget year of the Trump regime. Biden also wants to add 443 more people to OSHA’s staff, raising the total to 2,413.

- A \$304 million proposed increase in spending for all worker protection programs, including the OSHA and mine industry increases. It also includes a \$30 million increase for the Wage and Hour Division, to \$276 million. Wage and Hour pursues overtime pay and other wage theft cases. That includes the Fair Labor Standards Act (minimum wages and overtime pay), workers comp and unemployment benefits theft.

- A new \$100 million program “for training and employment assistance for workers in communities that have experienced job losses due to dislocations in industries related to fossil fuel extraction or energy production.”

- Billions of dollars to “modernize 20,000 miles of highways, roads, and main streets,” an Office of Management and Budget summary says. Biden aims to “fix the ten most economically significant bridges in the nation in need of reconstruction... repair the worst 10,000 smaller bridges” and “replace thousands of buses and rail cars, repair hundreds of stations, renew airports and... expand transit and rail into new communities.”

- The budget proposes to “eliminate all lead pipes and service lines in our drinking water systems, improving the health of the nation’s children and communities of color.” People were poisoned when lead from old pipes leached into drinking water in Flint.

- It will put hundreds of thousands of people to work placing thousands of miles of electrical transmission lines and capping hundreds of thousands of orphan oil and gas wells and abandoned mines.

Biden also wants to rehab and preserve more than two million homes and commercial buildings and retrofit schools and child care facilities and upgrade VA hospitals.

House Republicans responded with a plan that they say would end the nation’s deficit in five years by slashing discretionary programs, reforming Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program into block grants, and more. “The Democrats are introducing socialism and radically expanding the role of government, and in just a short amount of time, we’re already seeing the negative effects of their agenda on our economy,” said Rep. Jim Banks, R-Ind., the Republican Study Committee chairman. “We’re seeing a spike in the cost of living and slower than expected job growth.

Said AFL-CIO President Rich Trumka: “More than any of his recent predecessors, President Biden understands we are at a crossroads. Any just recovery will require structural changes to our economy, a fundamental strengthening of our democracy and unprecedented federal investments in the communities that have lost the most. That means creating good-paying union jobs to rebuild our country’s capacity to provide for its people.”

An elderly couple both noticed that they were getting a lot more forgetful, so they decided to see a doctor.

After she examined them, the doctor suggested the couple start making lists and writing things down.

The couple went home and the wife asked her husband to get her a bowl of ice cream. “Before you go in the kitchen you might want to write it down,” she said. Re-

## Just joking

sponded the husband: “no, I can remember that you want a bowl of ice cream.”

She then told her husband she wanted whipped cream on her ice cream. “Write it down!” she told him, and again he said, “No, no, I can remember: you want a bowl of ice cream, with whipped cream.”

Then the lady said she wanted a bowl of ice cream with whipped cream and a cherry on top. “Write it

down!” she told her husband. Again he said, “No, I got it. You want a bowl of ice cream with whipped cream and a cherry on top.”

So he goes to the kitchen to get the ice cream and spends an unusually long time in the kitchen. He comes out to his wife and hands her a plate of eggs and bacon. “Here you go, sweetie!” he said.

The wife stares at the plate for a moment, then looks at her husband and says, “Mmm, looks good! But where’s the toast?”



**Local 514  
Cement Masons  
& Plasterers**

Operative Plasterers and Cement Masons Local 514

**DETROIT – The next membership meeting is scheduled for July 20, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. for a telephonic meeting. Please feel free to call the Business Manager or any agent with questions on how to sign up.**

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the retirees that you all are safe and well.

Membership gold cards- Congratulations! Gregory Brisbois- 25 Years \* Jackie Gallo-way Sr. - 25 Years \* Angelo Risi- 60 Years

•In order to receive your gold card, you need to be current on your dues.

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.

Lawrence Nemeth is the Apprenticeship Coordinator; he can be reached at (313) 350-0389.

Attention all Apprentices now you will need to go to the website: [www.micementplasterertraining.com](http://www.micementplasterertraining.com) to enter your work hours. When you get to the website click the link "About" and then click on "Apprentice monthly work form instructions." You will be able to put in your hours so Larry can keep track for your raises. Any questions please feel free to contact Larry with any questions you might have.

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

The Local's website is: [www.opcmiami.org](http://www.opcmiami.org).

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

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](http://www.mustonline.org) Call the Local if you need a drug form sent out.

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

**IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PLASTERERS AND DETROIT COMMERCIAL CEMENT MASONS:** You can track your annuity fund status at the Wells Fargo website. You may do so by logging on to: [www.retirement.wellsfargo.com](http://www.retirement.wellsfargo.com) or call (866) 640-5138, you can also call the fund office at (248) 645-6550 with any related questions.

**PLASTERERS AND CEMENT MASONS:** It is your responsibility to fill out reciprocity forms if you plan on working out of the Local 514 area. This will ensure that your hours are sent back to your home fund. If you have any questions, or need any forms, please contact the Local. Please make sure your beneficiary information is up to date. Any changes to your beneficiaries can be made at the Local. If you have questions concerning your pension benefits, **ROAD BUILDERS** can call: Toll Free (Continued next column)

# \$2.2T plan holds sway at building trades conference

(Continued from Page 1)

touting it to NABTU four years before, but never followed through, despite proclaiming several "infrastructure weeks" during his presidency.

Biden has pushed public building projects, in a since-trimmed \$2.2 trillion five-year infrastructure bill. His proposal had traditional projects, rebuilding the nation's elderly railroads, roads and airports, updating creaky subways, switching away from aging to new busses, replacing all its lead-lined water pipes, and strengthening its power grid against both natural disasters and cyberattacks, for example.

His measure also includes new types of infrastructure: Wiring the whole nation for broadband, retrofitting two million homes, plus schools and public buildings to make them "green" and energy-efficient, building new child care centers and paying those workers decent wages so parents, including construction workers, can go off to their jobs without having to worry about taking care of the kids, and more.

Instead of Trump's rhetoric, "You got a seat at the table," with Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris, McGarvey said. Building trades unions leaders have not only met the two face-to-face, but Biden "removed a (Trump) General Counsel" from the National Labor Relations Board "who put project labor agreements in peril," he said. "You heard rhetoric from the last administration. This administration has stood with unions every step of the way."

The Republicans have countered with, now, their own \$978 billion plan, most of it funded by yanking away so-far-unused cash set aside to help restore the economy after the coronavirus pandemic's carnage. And the GOP's line in the sand is against Biden's proposal to partially fund his infrastructure plan by repealing much of the Trump-GOP tax cut for the rich and corporations. Republicans also want to restrict the legislation to traditional infrastructure, dumping green projects, retrofitting, child care center construction and similar aims.

And the Republican bill has only \$348 billion in new spending, NABTU legislative representative Jim Brewer said later. That's not enough when the U.S. needs \$2 trillion just to get current infrastructure up to snuff, according to the American Society of Civil Engineers.

"We're not going to agree on everything" with Biden, McGarvey admitted, citing the president's decision, in his first days in office, to yank the construction permits for the environmentally controversial Keystone XL pipeline, a key NABTU cause.

On the other hand, Biden "just gave the green light to a 320-mile (oil) pipeline in Alaska, which includes an airstrip, a gravel mine and 570 miles of roads," he pointed out. "If you compare the record of the prior 60 years" of inaction "to that of the last four months, it's astounding."

There's still a lot of work to do, and much of it revolves around the infrastructure bill, speakers said. That includes lobbying not just for Biden's bill, but also ensuring all federally funded infrastructure – traditional, green or otherwise – includes strong worker protections.

"The American Jobs Plan," Biden's bill, "will continue to put workers first," House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., vowed in the first of a series of videos. "It includes \$620 billion for roads, railroads, public transit, ports and subways."

It will also mandate use of Davis-Bacon Act prevailing wage rules and Project Labor Agreements for federally funded construction, she said. Those are two labor protections the building trades are lobbying for, said NABTU's legislative leaders, Brewer and Ross Maradian.

"Extensions of tax incentives for green energy must be accompanied by high labor standards," another speaker, Rep. Richard Neal, D-Mass., agreed. He chairs one of Congress' two tax-writing panels, the House Ways and Means Committee. Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., who chairs the other, the Finance Committee, said his panel just approved "the Clean Energy Tax Incentives Act, including a requirement to pay prevailing wages" on projects getting that break.

Other requirements NABTU is pushing in a final infrastructure bill include required company neutrality in union organizing campaigns at sites of federally funded infrastructure construction, "local hire" requirements, which would benefit the increasing numbers of working construction women and people of color, and a Buy America mandate.

NABTU is also pushing a legislative ban on anti-union apprenticeship training. Trump's Labor Department approved such schemes, called IRAPs. Biden dumped them on entering the Oval Office. And NATBU wants to extend project labor agreements to construction worth under \$25 million.

"For all intents and purposes, there will be no IRAPs in construction," said Maradian. "And we don't want to repeat the mistakes of the past" by having lower Davis-Bacon prevailing wage requirements for energy-efficient construction projects, they said.

That's also important because Biden has vowed the new construction would be "green" construction by union workers – and the "green" sector of the economy has, so far, been notoriously hostile to union construction labor. It's only 5 percent unionized.

Not so nuclear power – Biden Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm noted the nation's nuclear-powered electric plants, are 98 percent unionized. Biden's "green" energy construction includes both retrofitting and extending the licenses of those plants while engaging in R&D for new, cheaper and even safer nuclear development. Tax credits can encourage such construction, said Granholm. NABTU unions strongly back continued use of nuclear power as part of "green" energy infrastructure. But other Biden "green" group backers in the environmental movement, don't.

Pensions were the one non-infrastructure topic that got a lot of time and attention. There, McGarvey and other speakers lauded the American Recovery Act, the \$1.9 trillion initial Biden coronavirus rescue plan lawmakers approved on party-line votes. It included the Butch Lewis Act, named for a worker in a failing multi-employer pension plan.

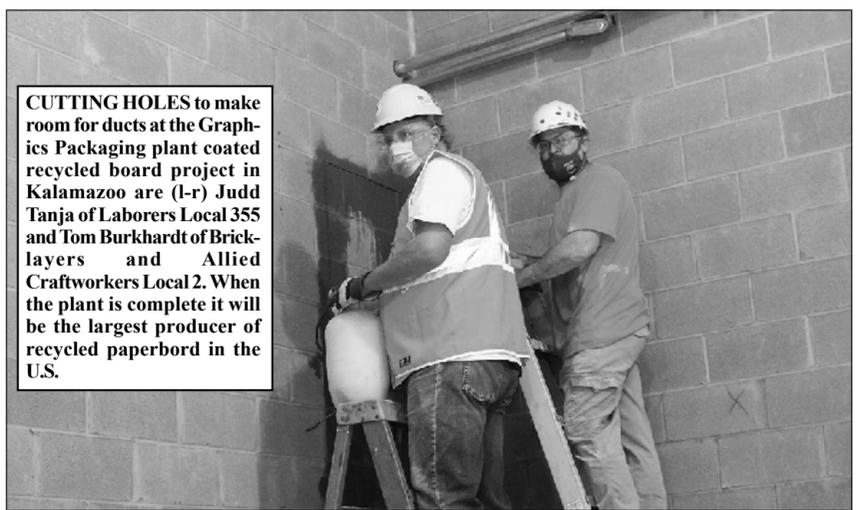
After his death, the plan trustees, acting under current law, cut his dependents' benefits by more than 40 percent. The Lewis Act, pushed by Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, sets up new ways to restore financial solvency to such multi-employer plans, which cover millions of workers nationwide, many of them in the building trades. Actuaries spent an hour explaining its details.

The new methods feature long-term federal loan guarantees to the multiemployer plans, conditioned on strong oversight and a requirement that current benefits stay unchanged. Like the rest of the recovery act, it passed on party-line votes – all Democrats and independents for, all Republicans against – in both the House and the Senate.

Despite that split, NABTU's Brewer emphasized the building trades have bipartisan support. "We have over 40 strong Republican supporters for the prevailing wage," he said. "The opportunities are always there to have Republicans come along."

## Cement Masons Local 514, continued

Free at 1-877-876-9357 or (517) 321-7502. **PLASTERERS' AND COMMERCIAL CEMENT MASONS** can call: (248) 645-6550 for pension and annuity, and Toll Free 1-877-876-9357. All **Plasterers and Cement Masons** can contact (517) 321-7502 for health & welfare information now through Outstate Michigan Trowel Trades Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan. **For the INTERNATIONAL PENSION CALL** 1-888-880-8222 Toll Free or (202) 638-1996.



**CUTTING HOLES** to make room for ducts at the Graphics Packaging plant coated recycled board project in Kalamazoo are (l-r) Judd Tanja of Laborers Local 355 and Tom Burkhardt of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2. When the plant is complete it will be the largest producer of recycled paperboard in the U.S.



## Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

BAC Local 2

**DETROIT/LANSING-JUNE 2021 CHAPTER MEETINGS MARQUETTE CHAPTER:** Monday, June 21 at 7 PM, 119 S Front St., Marquette, MI 49855

**SAGINAW CHAPTER:** Tuesday, June 22, 2021 at 7:00 PM, 1300 W. Thomas St., Bay City, MI 48706

**JULY 2021 MEETINGS: METRO DETROIT CHAPTER:** Tuesday, July 6, at 7 PM, 21031 Ryan Rd. Warren, MI 48091

**ANN ARBOR CHAPTER:** Tuesday, July 6 at 7:30 PM, 8225 Dexter-Chelsea Rd., Dexter, MI 48130

**FLINT CHAPTER:** Wednesday, July 7, 2021 at 7:30 PM, 1701 W. Genesee St., Lapeer, MI 48446

**KALAMAZOO CHAPTER:** Thursday, July 8 at 6 PM, 11847 Shaver Rd., Schoolcraft, MI 49087

**LANSING CHAPTER:** Monday, July 12, 2021 at 6:00 PM, 3321 Remy Dr., Lansing, MI 48906

**MARQUETTE CHAPTER:** Monday, July 19 at 7 PM, 119 S Front St., Marquette, MI 49855

**SAGINAW CHAPTER:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 at 7:00 PM, 1300 W. Thomas St., Bay City, MI 48706

**TRAVERSE CITY CHAPTER:** Wednesday, July 21, 2021 at 7:00 PM, 1231 Hastings Street, Traverse City, MI 49686

**DEATHS REPORTED:** Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Brother Giovanni Monaco** (Bricklayer) who passed away on April 15, 2021. Brother Monaco had been a member for 54 years.

**WINTER COATS:** We have received great feedback from our membership regarding the 2020 Carhartt winter coat that they received. Those who have not ordered their coat, need to do so by Friday, June 25, 2021 as we will be submitting our final order.

**CRAFTWORKERS NEEDED:** We need Skilled Bricklayers and 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.

**SIGNING BONUS FOR SKILLED CRAFTWORKERS:** Local 2 will pay up to \$2,000 as a

**Signing Bonus** for skilled Journey Level craftworkers who come to work for one of our Union Contractors for a month. Also, Local 2 members working with the tools and non-supervisory members can get the same amount as a **Finders Referral Bonus** for each new skilled craftworker who they refer, if they work for at least a month for our Union Contractors. For more details and information, call your Field Representative or either the Warren office (586) 754-0888 or the Lansing office (517) 886-9781. You can view the full Signing Bonus policy on our website.

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

**\*IMPORTANT CHANGE Regarding Union Dues\*** All Local 2 Members are now eligible for a Union Dues discount, regardless of what month you are paid through currently. This offer is a great way to catch up on your monthly window dues by taking advantage of this annual dues discount.

We are making available to ALL Local 2 members the opportunity to pay for 6 months of union dues and receive credit for 12 months. An entire year for half the price!

**UPDATE-BAC LOCAL 2'S TRAINING CENTERS:** Both Local 2 Training Centers are open to our members but **visits to our offices should be scheduled by appointment.** Please contact our Training Centers at the numbers listed below for an appointment for annual RESPIRATOR FIT TESTS and other services.

**DETROIT IMI TRAINING CENTER:** To schedule appointments at the Metro Detroit Training Center, please contact Tom Ward directly at (734) 552-7066.

**METRO DETROIT APPRENTICE WORKSHEETS AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD:** Turning in monthly worksheets is a requirement of your apprenticeship. Metro Detroit Apprentice Worksheets are available for download at <http://bit.ly/ApprenticeWorksheets>. If you do not have a printer, you can pick them up during our monthly meeting or contact Tom Ward at (586) 757-6668 to request them by mail. For more information on the Detroit Training Center visit: [detroittrades.org](http://detroittrades.org)

**LANSING TRAINING CENTER:** To make your appointment for your annual RESPIRATOR FIT TEST or for other scheduled appointments at the Lansing Training Center, please

contact Howard Hipes directly at (517) 749-1102.

Go to <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org> to view the Lansing Apprenticeship and Training website and register future 2020 online training classes.

**MEMBERSHIP ASSISTANCE:** During this COVID-19 pandemic, the IUBAC Member Assistance Program has a number of services available for free or at a discounted rate to BAC members and their families. These confidential services can be seen at <http://bit.ly/MAP-BAC> and are also available via telephone at (888) 880-8222 and ask for membership assistance Monday-Friday 8 am – 8 pm.

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

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:** Local #2 wants to use every means possible to communicate with you. Sometimes we have time sensitive information (such as job openings, picket lines, funeral arrangements and other such communications) that would be most efficiently done via e-mail. Please submit your address by sending an e-mail to [info@bricklayers.org](mailto:info@bricklayers.org) and in the subject line place "Local #2 e-mail address" then type your name, phone number and e-mail address in the body of the communication.

**BAC 2 MI Texting Program:** We have been communicating by text message more frequently with our membership lately. We encourage our members to sign up to receive our text messages by

- texting **2MI** to **877877**
- You'll receive a confirmation text asking for your member number (IU#)

- Respond with your six-digit IU number and you will receive Local 2 Text Messages going forward!

**PENSION AND HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION:** Bricklayers Metro Detroit Local Pension Fund (248) 641-4954

Detroit & Vicinity Health Insurance (Brick, Cement and TMT) (800) 435-4080 or (248) 828-6000 (dvtt.org)

MI BAC Health & Welfare and MI BAC Pension (800) 531-2244 (outstate funds, michiganbac.org)

Cement Pension Fund (248) 645-6550 (detroitcementmasons.org)

CALL-A-DOC (800) 835-2362 (D&V Health Fund)

International Pension/Annuity Fund (Brick, Cement and TMT) (888) 880-8222 or (202) 638-1996 (dvtt.org)

# BRICKLAYERS WANTED

\$35.54 HR

\$2,000 SIGN ON BONUS

PLUS HEALTH & PENSION

BRICKLAYERS.ORG

## Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2 members: \$2,000 Signing Bonus for Skilled Journeyman Bricklayers!

BAC Local 2- Michigan is offering up to a \$2,000 Signing Bonus for Skilled Journeyman Bricklayers and Masonry Restoration Workers who join now and who stay working for our contractors!

*Our Members who refer these new members will get the same bonus as well!*

**Journeymen Bricklayers in the Metro Detroit Area get \$35.54 an hour, plus fully paid Health Insurance, and 2 Pensions. Our Contractors have immediate opening for Skilled Bricklayers, and Masonry Restoration Workers.**

For more information go to: [bricklayers.org](http://bricklayers.org)



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

**Local 190**

**Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 190**

**ANN ARBOR – UNION MEETING FOR THE MONTH APRIL WILL BE A NORMAL IN-PERSON MEETING:** The next meeting will be held on Monday, July 12th and will start 6:00 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings. If you have not been fully vaccinated masks and maintaining social distance will be required.

**MICHIGAN GAS JOURNEYMAN:** Requalification testing for Consumer Energy and Semco Energy will start Tuesday, June 1st and run the whole month of June. Testing will be held at our training center. Please contact Roy Musgrove 734-369-1432 for more information and to schedule your testing date.

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

**UNION HALL CLOSING FOR AN UPCOMING HOLIDAY:** Our office will be closed Monday, July 5th to observe Independence Day. Wishing you and your family a happy and safe holiday.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE – UNION HALL HOURS:** Effective Monday, April 5th the office will resume normal business hours. The office will be open on Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 (the office will be closed for lunch from Noon to 1:00 p.m.) There will be no foot traffic to the back offices.

Currently Local 190 is not accepting any apprenticeship applications. A note will be put in the paper when this current status changes. **IF YOU HAVE NOT BEEN FULLY VACCINATED MASKS MUST BE WORN WHEN ENTERING THE UNION HALL BUILDING AND TRAINING CENTER.**

**SCHOLARSHIPS:** Local 190 Scholarship is now available at the union hall for distribution to members and their families. Local 190 scholarship, due back no later than July 9th. You can contact the union office at (734) 424-0962 for further information.

**ROBO CALLS:** We are sending out Robo calls to keep you updated and informed, if you are NOT receiving these messages it means we do not have a current phone number on file for you, please contact the hall to update.

**TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE - 47th ANNUAL GOLF OUTING:** Our annual golf outing will be held on Saturday, July 31st. Our event will be held at Whitmore Lake Golf Links, Whitmore Lake. Mark your calendar for this special event. The prices are as follows: \$80.00 union member, \$60.00 retiree union member and \$100.00 for non-union. **Please purchase your tickets no later than Wednesday, July 29th.** If you have any questions please contact Karen at (734) 424-0962 Ext. 210

**MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION JOURNEYMAN WELDERS:** Remember it is very important to keep your continuity forms up to date.

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

**MICHIGAN LICENSE RENEWAL:** Plumbing license renewals are done online **ONLY!!!** For detailed instructions and requirements, please visit: [www.michigan.gov/bcc](http://www.michigan.gov/bcc). Feel free to stop into the Union hall and pick up a copy of the instructions.

**UA LOCAL 190 WEBSITE:** [www.ua190.org](http://www.ua190.org) Current members will be able to log into the "Members Only" section using your last name and UA card number. **\*\*\* NEW ON THE WEBSITE:** Members can now view and sign up for job calls. The same procedure will be used as the call-in line. If you are laid off or go back to work, there are forms available to fill out on the website that will inform the hall.

**CREDIT CARD MACHINE:** You now have the ability to pay your union dues or purchase merchandise by credit card or debit card. We accept Visa, MasterCard and Discover. A surcharge of 3.99% is added to your card on the transaction amount. We will then mail you your dues receipt and credit charge slip.

**LAI D OFF OR BACK TO WORK – IMPORTANT REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS:** All members who get laid off or report back to work **please immediately contact Karen (734) 424-0962 Ext. 210**, to report the last day in which you worked or to report the day you went back to work. **PLEASE NOTE:** Members can now go to the website under "members only" and fill out a "back to work" form or "laid off" form.

**INFORMATION - FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE:**

**NEW VISION PROGRAM – DAVIS VISION:** Please be advised of the Jan. 1, 2021 change to your vision benefits. Effective Jan. 1, 2021, your vision benefits are now being offered through Davis Vision. Welcome letters and cards, detailing your new benefits, were mailed during the month of December 2020. If you have not received this information, please contact the Fund office at 888-390-7473. You can also go to the Local 190 website [www.ua190.org](http://www.ua190.org) and go to the benefit section for more information.

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

**EFFECTIVE JUNE 16: A REPRESENTATIVE FROM FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE WILL BE AT THE UNION HALL: This will continue each month on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Wednesday of each month until further notice.** Members will be able to meet with Bernadette from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. You can reach the benefits office Monday through Friday by calling 888-390-7473. **MEDICARE:** When you become eligible for Medicare, please contact Bernadette Maus at our Fringe Benefit office 1-888-390-7473.

**CLASS INFORMATION – TRAINING CENTER – OFFICE PHONE: 734-426-3700** The Training Center is open to members wishing to update any certifications, licenses, or qualifications. We are following CDC, OSHA, MiOSHA, MDHHS, and Washtenaw County Health Department guidelines. You must wear a face mask while inside the building. **Check your Certifications to make sure that you are current!**

**Lead/Asbestos/Blood-borne Pathogens Training (4 hrs):** 2021 Schedule - All on Mondays - **July 19, 2021 @ 5 pm, and Oct 4, 2021 @ 5 pm.** Call Retha to be put on the list for the day you choose.

**First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs):** 2021 Schedule - All on Mondays - **July 26, 2021 @ 5:00pm, and Oct 18, 2021 @ 5:00pm.** Call Retha to be put on the list for the day you choose.

**EPA Universal Certification (16hrs):** This is a 16-hour class. Class will be **Wednesday June 16, Thursday June 17, Wednesday June 23 and Thursday June 24 from 5pm - 9pm.** Please call Retha to be put on the list for this class.

**Welding Lab:** Welding lab is closed for the summer. Open welding lab will resume the week of September 6, 2021.

**ASSE Backflow Certification (40hrs):** This is a 40-hour class, to become an ASSE Certified Backflow Tester (5110). Class will begin Tuesday, Sept. 14 and run Tuesdays and Wednesdays for 5 weeks.

**ASSE Backflow Re-Certification (8hrs):** Re-certification for the ASSE Backflow Tester (5110) will be Tuesday, Oct 19 and Wednesday, Oct 20.

**Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs):** The next class will be in the fall.

**Med Gas Installer Up-Date (8hrs):** These classes are complete. We will have classes in the fall.

**EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Certification (40hrs):** The UA and EPRI have developed a test to cover both the Rigging Certification and a Signal Person Certification. The standalone Rigging Certification will no longer be offered. Please call Retha to be put on the list for the next class. Once we have enough, we will put this class on. Looking to put this class on in the late summer, early fall, as we are upgrading our rigging course.

**EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (16hrs):** This (Continued next column)



**GETTING A LIFT** outside the new Graphics Packaging boiler house in Kalamazoo are (l-r) Hunter Chaddler (UA Local 551, southern Illinois) and Hunter Chaddler (Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 333). They're employed by Andy J. Egan. They're helping to build a \$600 million coated recycled board mill for Graphics Packaging.



**Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service**

**Local 111**

**Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 111**  
UPPER PENINSULA – Both the Escanaba and Marquette halls have been closed to walk-in members until further notice. **Please call either hall for any assistance you may need.**

The next Union Meeting will be in Escanaba on June 24th, @ 7:30 p.m. EST.

**Condolences:** To the family of Local 111 member John Jorgenson who passed away on 6/12/2021.

**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 Ann 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 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 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 [ua111.com](http://ua111.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:** The 2021 MSHA schedule is on our web site & our Facebook page. Call Ann at (906) 226-6511 ext. 4 to register. MSHA expires in one year.

**Local 190, con't**

class will be four days long. The Training Center is looking to put on a recertification/upgrade class. This upgrade is a 120-question test. All rigging certification and re-certification classes will include the signal person certification going forward. Please call Retha to be put on the list. We will run this class as soon as we have enough for a class.

**ICRA Certification (16 hrs):** Looking to put on another ICRA certification class. Next class possibly in-person at the Training Center. In-person class is limited to 8 participants. Call Training Center to get put on the list for the next class. If it is on-line, it will be ran through Zoom. For online class, you must have a computer with good reliable internet access and a webcam. You must also have a valid email account. Test day will be at the Training Center.

**RETIREE MEETINGS – SPADES & BREAKFAST MEETINGS HAVE BEEN CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**



**Plumbers & Pipe Fitters**

**Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 370**  
LANSING – July's union meeting will be held July 21, 2021, 7:30pm, at the JATC, Lansing Training Center, 16180 National Parkway, Lansing, MI. 48906.

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS:** Scholarship applications for the 2021-2022 school year are still available at the three local offices or by calling Joni at 517-784-1106. All completed applications must be postmarked by June 26, 2021 if mailing them and must be in Joni's office in Jackson by July 1, 2021.

**Plumbers & Pipefitters Annual Golf Outing** will be held Saturday, August 7, 2021 at the Eldorado Golf Course, 3750 W. Howell Rd. Mason, MI. 48845. 9am Shotgun start. \$300 per team, this includes 18 holes of golf, cart, chicken/steak dinner and prizes for everyone. Come and join the fun. **Registration forms are at all three halls and needs to be turned in by July 19, 2021.**

If you are interested in signing up for classes please go to our website at [www.ua333.org](http://www.ua333.org) or call the Training Center (517) 323-0333.

**PLEASE NOTE FOR ALL CERTIFICATIONS:** Per the UA, as of January 2019, all Braze and Weld Certifications shall be updated within 120 days of their expiration date, or you will lose your certifications. Check the date(s) of your Certifications, if they have expired please contact Diana at 517.323.0333. Though we send out everyone's continuities to be renewed; between changes in addresses and the Post Office, there is plenty of room for error. **Ultimately it's the member's responsibility to make sure their certification(s) are current and updated.**

If your Med-Gas Installer is going to expire within the next few months please sign up on our website to take the renewal class.

**GET WELL WISHES:** Get well wishes to all of those who have been sick or recovering from an injury. Please keep our members and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** Please contact your region's office to update your address or phone number if you have moved or changed your phone number.

**BENEFICIARIES:** If you have recently gotten married, divorced, had children, etc., please make sure you update your beneficiary paperwork. Forms are available at all three halls.

Sincere condolences to Anita Ragsdale on the loss of her husband Battle Creek member Gill Ragsdale who passed away May 30, 2021 at the age of 69. Gill was initiated into Local 333 in December 1992 and retired September 2008. Our thoughts and prayers go to Anita, her family and friends.

"Nature made him, and then broke the mold."  
—Ludovico Ariosto (1474 - 1533)

"May the gods grant you all things which your heart desires, and may they give you a husband and a home and gracious concord, for there is nothing greater and better than this -when a husband and wife keep a household in oneness of mind, a great foe to their enemies and joy to their friends, and win high renown."  
—Homer (800 BC - 700 BC), The Odyssey



**Sprinkler Fitters**

**MOTOR CITY**

**704**

**Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 370**  
DETROIT – The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday, July 14 at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

A vote for allocations on money will be held Wednesday, July 14th. Polls will be open from 12:00 P.M. until 5:30 P.m.

Mark your calendars for Sprinkler Fitters Local 704's 100th Anniversary celebration. The date for the event will be Saturday, October 30th at Motor City Casino. R.S.V.P.s will be sent out later this summer with event and hotel information.

Reminder: Article V, Section 13 of Local 704's Constitution, By-Laws and Rules of Order. Any project that falls into the jurisdiction of Local 704 shall be manned by not less than two members. Any member violating this By-Law shall be brought before the Executive Board for a trial and be subject to a fine.

Article IX, Section 4 of Local 704's Constitution, By-Laws and Rules of Order states: Members shall report all job starts to its local union office.

NFPA All Access is available for all 704 members. Please contact the Local 704 Training Center for username and password. **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): 248-655-4048 for D.C. Fund Investment questions.

Continuing education classes are being formed. Please reach out to the training center for further information or future classes you would like to see added.

Congratulations to retired Brother James Spodeck for achieving his Fifty Year status with Local 704 and the United Association. Thank you for your years of service.

Condolences go out to the family and friends of Retired Brother Robert Slomka who recently passed. Brother Slomka was a 47-year member of Local 704. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Please keep your information updated with the union hall.

A speedy recovery to all of our sick and injured members.

"One doesn't discover new lands without consenting to lose sight of the shore for a very long time."  
—Andre Gide (1869 - 1951)

"These, then are my last words to you: be not afraid of life. Believe that life is worth living, and your belief will help create the fact."  
—William James (1842 - 1910)

"When beholding the tranquil beauty and brilliancy of the ocean's skin, one forgets the tiger heart that pants beneath it; and would not willingly remember that this velvet paw but conceals a remorseless fang."  
— Herman Melville (1819 - 1891), "Moby Dick"

"We learn from experience. A man never wakes up his second baby just to see it smile."  
— Grace Williams



**Local 671**

**Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 671**

**MONROE –** As voted on by the body at the June Meeting, the next Regular Union meeting is scheduled for **July 15, 2021 at 7 p.m.** The Executive Board will meet in person on **July 15th at 5:00 p.m.** If any Member wishes to see them, please contact the Hall prior to the meeting.

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

**Allocation:** Results from our special order of business held on June 3rd for the allocation of our raise of \$1.70 is as follows:

- \$1.20 on the check
- \$0.30 Health & Welfare
- \$0.10 Dues check off for Target fund
- \$0.10 Apprentice fund

**Health and Welfare:** If you have any insurance problems or questions you can contact Carly using the health line on the back of your insurance card. **734-241-6180.** Any MRA or Dental/Vision receipts can be mailed, emailed or faxed to the benefit office. Contact information is at bottom of article. **Covid tests and vaccinations are covered 100% by our insurance. Do not pay for these tests up front or through the billing process. Contact Carly if you are asked to pay!**

If you are working out of another local it may take up to 90 days for your pension and insurance money to reciprocate back to Local 671. Please keep track of all hours and keep your check stubs so there is no disruption in your health coverage.

**Golf Outing:** Local 671 is having its 1st Annual Scholarship Golf Outing on July 10th at Green Meadows golf course at 1555 Strasburg Rd, Monroe Mi. 48161. This will be a four-man scramble format with an 8 a.m. shot gun start. Tickets are available at the hall for \$70 or \$250 for your foursome if pre-paid. All proceeds will go to Local 671 scholarship fund. **You must reserve your foursome before July 5th.**

**Work Opportunities:** We continue to fill calls for our upcoming work. If you are currently traveling and are interested in any of the school work or other projects, please contact Vinnie or Mike and listen to the job line for any upcoming auctions.

**Mailings:** Recently you may have received a mailing from the Hall for American Income Life Insurance. AIL provides us with free accidental life insurance and in return we give them the opportunity to sell our members any additional life insurance. If you fill out the beneficiary card and return it you will be contacted by a sales associate of AIL. If you do not desire any additional life insurance, please let them know you are not interested. If there are any high-pressure sales tactics after letting them know that you are not interested, please contact me right away and we will take care of it.

**Mobile App:** Our Mobile App titled "UA Local 671" is available in the App Store for iPhone or Android. The Username for Local 671 Members is your last name and your book number (UA Card Number). The Password is just your book number.

We recently have sent Push Notifications out with important information such as Covid-19 updates and Informational Meeting notices. This mobile app is a great tool to stay current with all the latest information from the Union Hall. **PLEASE DOWNLOAD THIS APP SO YOU CAN KEEP UP ON CURRENT INFORMATION THAT THE HALL NEEDS TO GET OUT.** The App is available in the Google Play Store or on iTunes.

**In Closing:** "To be free, the workers must have choice. To have choice they must retain in their own hands the right to determine under what conditions they will work."  
—Samuel Gompers. Take the time to police your work area and make it safe on and off the job. God Bless Local 671 and organized labor

Mike Jewell: Cell (419) 262-8503 email: [mike@ualocal671.com](mailto:mike@ualocal671.com)  
Vinnie Fenech: Cell (734) 693-4082 email: [vinnie@ualocal671.com](mailto:vinnie@ualocal671.com)

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



## Local 370 Plumbers & Pipe Fitters

Plumbers & Pipe Fitters Local 370

FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday July 13, 2021, at 7 pm.**

Please note that your monthly work hour statements from TIC now show your Health Care banked hours and Benny card dollar bank.

**Local 370 2021 Golf outing** will be held **Saturday, June 26** at Flushing Valley Golf course in Flushing. 9:00 am Shotgun Start. The price is \$70 a man. \$280 per team. Price includes 18 holes with cart, lunch at the turn, Refreshments, Door prizes and Dinner. Stop by the hall and get the sign up sheet with all the information. We are limited to 38 teams so sign up early if you want to play.

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

Examining Board – Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 4:00pm

FMR Committee – Tuesday July 13, 2021 at 4:00pm

PAC committee – Tuesday July 13, 2021 at 5:00pm

Executive Board – Tuesday July 13, 2021 at 5:00pm

Building Committee – Tuesday July 13, 2021 at 6:00pm

Finance Committee – Tuesday July 13, 2021 at 6:15pm

JATC Committee – Wednesday June 23 at 8:00am

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

Local 370 office hours 7:30am–4:30pm.

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

**Sub Pay.** Remember to qualify for sub pay when you are laid off, you must sign the out of work list. You can also collect when you are on Jury Duty and miss work. If you are traveling, call Karla to see if you need to make sub-fund self-payments. All members were sent a Sub-Pay manual in 2018. If you did not receive one, please call TIC at (517) 321-7502 and ask for the 370 Sub Pay Fund Summary Plan Description (SPD)

**Attendance award** drawing for membership meeting information. Members present must have dues paid to date to claim award. Monthly award is \$150.

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

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

**Our web site is up and running.** Check it out at [uacomment.com](http://uacomment.com)

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

Plumbing, Mechanical and Residential Code Books are now available at the hall. The books are \$75.00 each.

Remember to keep your dues current. Any member failing to pay for 3 months shall stand suspended, unable to vote for a member (Continued next column)



**IN THE BUILDING** that will house the new coated recycled board paper mill for Graphics Packaging, we asked a group of pipe trades workers coming off their coffee break to pause for a photo. They include (l-r) David Bayer (UA Local 198, Baton Rouge); Dylan Rupert (UA Local 601, Milwaukee); Brett Antholt (UA Local 400, Kaukauna, Wis.); Todd Seamon UA Local 370, Flint), and Chase Bronkema (UA Local 357, Kalamazoo. They're employed by Tweet/Garot. The project will encompass new construction of about 350,000 square feet over four buildings.



## Plumbers Local 98



Plumbers 98

DETROIT – **Membership of Plumbers Local 98**

Brothers and Sisters, On behalf of your officers and staff I'd like to wish a Happy Father's Day to all of the dads out there. We hope you're all enjoying the first days of summer.

**MEETINGS & Union Hall.** Starting July 1 the Covid restrictions will be lifted and the Union hall will then be allowed for the use of members again. You no longer need an appointment and business as usual.

The next **Union Meeting** will be held on **Thursday, July 8<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 pm, in-person. The meeting will take place indoors at our Union Hall and any Covid restrictions will be in place using masks if you are not vaccinated. We hope you will join us before each Union Meeting for a BBQ during the summer months.

**E-Board meetings.** E-Board meetings are the first and second Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. If you need to contact or see the board, please call V.P. Jim Cools at 734-307-9841.

**Retiree Meetings:** The meetings have restarted! Any existing Covid-19 protocols will be adhered to. They are exercising extreme caution so everyone can remain healthy and safe. The next Retiree meeting will be **Wednesday, July 7 from 12pm – 2pm** at the hall.

**EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.** For continuing education opportunities or classes, you can contact Training Center Coordinator Ryan Lyle at 248-585-1435.

**DUES.** You can pay your dues online, over the phone, or by mailing in a check. You can also set up auto-payments. If you have any questions or need to pay dues, please contact Kristina Lodovisi at (248) 307-9800 ext. 4 or on her cell at (248) 331-7232.

**COVID-19 Information & Vaccine.** For up-to-date information on COVID-19 you can go to the website [michigan.gov/protectmicommission](http://michigan.gov/protectmicommission). Or, if you would like to be a part of the conversation and join a workgroup, you can reach out to [protectmicommission@michigan.gov](mailto:protectmicommission@michigan.gov) or [michigan.gov/covidvaccine](mailto:michigan.gov/covidvaccine) for locations or information regarding COVID-19 updates. **WEAR YOUR MASKS!** Any concerns with COVID-19 safety protocols or lack of PPE contact the **Business Agent in the area or the Union Hall.**

## Local 370, con't

riod of 1 year or run for office for a period of 2 years and subject to a \$50.00 reinstatement fee. Dues must be paid in 3-month increments according to our bylaws. Dues will be accepted up to 6:45 on union meeting nights.

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

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

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

T.I.C. fringe administrators' toll free number is 1-888-797-5862.

Additional information on vaccination sites is available on our website, please visit [uacomment.com/covid](http://uacomment.com/covid).

**SUB APPS/OOW CHANGES/BENEFITS.** Due to influx of travelers, SUB pay is closed to all except for medical or COVID related injuries. It is your responsibility to fill out a SUB App when you are laid off. Call the agent on the books or come down to the hall to fill out a SUB App. If you're still having unemployment issues call BAs Gary Glaser or Tom McWilliams. BAs Gary Glaser and Tom McWilliams are admins on the Must/Most program, contact them if you need help.

For any issues that are unresolved at BeneSys, please get the name of the person you are dealing with and contact Carlo, Jon, or the Union Hall immediately.

**SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES.** There is still time to submit scholarship applications. All of the information regarding the scholarships available through Local 98 and the UA can be found on our website, [uacomment.com/scholarship](http://uacomment.com/scholarship). These scholarships are open to the dependents of our members who are seeking a higher education. The **deadline** for the Local 98 Scholarship is **June 30, 2021** so don't delay.

**RETIREES.** Congratulations to Brother Jeffrey Morin on his retirement. We hope you have nothing but happiness in your retirement years.

**IN MEMORIAM.** Our deepest condolences go out to the friends and family of Brother Nicholas Wagner who passed away on June 2, 2021.

**GOOD/WEFELARE.** Plumbers Local 98 would like to again thank Paul Baker for his years of service to our Training Center and for staying on as Ryan Lyle transitioned into his new job. Also, congratulations to Brother Paul on his nomination from the Detroit Branch of the NAACP for the African American Leadership Award.

**Plumbers Local 98 Training Center is NOW accepting applications for our Apprenticeship Program, through July 16, 2021.** If you know anyone who is interested, please direct them to the Training Center's website [plumbers98tc.org](http://plumbers98tc.org).

We are currently looking for Residential and Service Plumbers. This is a great opportunity to expand and grow, as many members are looking to retire. If you know anyone working Non-Union or is a past member that may be interested, have them call Organizer Rob Moses at 248-763-2187.

**–In solidarity I remain, Carlo Castiglione Business Manager Plumbers Local 98 TRAINING CENTER NEWS.** Phone # 248-585-1435 Check out The Training Center's website [www.Plumbers98tc.org](http://www.Plumbers98tc.org)

The Apprenticeship Application process is now open through **July 16, 2021.**

The Training Center is open and adhering to COVID-19 restrictions. Please call Ryan Lyle at 248-585-1435 ext. 122 if you have any questions.

**Michigan State Plumbing License Renewal** – There is not an update required to renew the Michigan State Plumbing License this year. In order to renew your license, go to [Michigan.gov/lara](http://Michigan.gov/lara) and click on License Renewal. \*\*Deadline was April 30<sup>th</sup>, you may be required to pay a late fee.

**ASSE Backflow Tester Recertification exams are scheduled quarterly.** Please be sure to check your expiration date, it is now required that you complete your update class prior to your expiration. For those who are eligible, please call the Training Center to register and pre-pay by check only before the **deadline September 24, 2021.** The next scheduled recertification class is October 26 & 27, 2021.

**\*OPEN WELDING\*** – Come down and check out the upgrades to the welding shop. Summer can be a busy time, but try to set aside some time to plan for the future, and get some practice toward a welding cert. Call Chris Opalka 248-585-1435 ext. 146 to reserve a booth. Looking to try something new? Ideas for a class? We're here to help.

If your brazing or welding certs are ready to expire, call to schedule an appointment. The next **WELDING Tests** will be Saturday, July 10, 2021. You must call to schedule your welding tests at least 3 days prior to the class. The next **BRAZING Cert** Session will be Friday, July 9, 2021. Please note: All members must be dressed appropriately to be in the shop area. **\*\*No sessions in August\*\***

**2021 Course Hour reimbursement forms** are now available at the Training Center. You **must have** 8 hours (approved hours credited may vary from actual hours attended) of verifiable approved classes/training from January 1 - December 31, 2021 to be eligible for the \$80.00 reimbursement.

**OSHA Training - OSHA 10,** available as on an online class for \$25 at [www.careersafeonline.com](http://www.careersafeonline.com) This OSHA 10 class is not affiliated with the UA or our Training Center. OSHA 10 and 30 Hour Training is also offered online through the MUST website. Go to [www.mustonline.org](http://www.mustonline.org). **\*\*Be sure to take the Construction Safety courses; not the General Industry courses.**

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

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

*"Reality is that which refuses to go away when I stop believing in it."*

–Phillip K. Dick

*"We do not inherit this land from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children."*

–Haida Indian saying

*"Freedom is not worth having if it does not include the freedom to make mistakes."*

– Mahatma Gandhi (1869 - 1948)

*"In everyone's life, at some time, our inner fire goes out. It is then burst into flame by an encounter with another human being. We should all be thankful for those people who rekindle the inner spirit."*

–Albert Schweitzer (1875 - 1965)

*"Courage is grace under pressure."*

–Ernest Hemingway (1899 - 1961)

*"I call a fig a fig, a spade a spade."*

– Menander (342 BC - 292

Pipe Fitters 636

DETROIT – The Next Union Meeting is scheduled for **July 20, 2021, held at St. Georges Romanian Culture Center, 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. Southfield MI 48075. It will start at 7pm. MASKS or FACE COVERINGS are optional, but temps will still be taken at the door.**

The **Local 636 Annual Picnic HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED TO SATURDAY SEPT. 11...** ALL OTHER DETAILS STILL APPLY. Picnic will be from 11am–4pm at The Lower Huron Metroparks, Washago Pond Picnic Shelter. Food, Drinks, and Prizes will be available! Bring the whole family to enjoy a day of fun with the Pipefitters.

**The Pipefitters 636 Retirees play golf every Thursday** throughout the Spring, Summer, and Fall. We move around to different East and Northeast Courses usually playing around 11:30am. Regular attendance not mandatory. Play when you can. If interested in joining us, call **Jim Dunn, 248-709-7036 or Joe Bourgeois, 313-590-0448.**

Pipefitters 636 would like to wish a speedy recovery to Retiree Don Wheeler while he is home recovering from surgery.

**Financial Advisor Jason May with Merrill Lynch Wealth Management has a new contact number, 248-655-4048.**

Pipefitters 636 would like to inform the Local 636 members of the current Office Administrative Changes they are as follows (please notice the changes in the SUB FUND correspondence):

**Receptionist/Dues/Address Changes/General Inquiries:** Craig Harmon email: [charmon@pipefitters636.org](mailto:charmon@pipefitters636.org)

**Sub Fund Office:** Kristina Springer: Please send all SUB Fund Requests to email: [kspringer@pipefitters636.org](mailto:kspringer@pipefitters636.org) 248-538-7065

**Account Management/Death Notice:** Margaret April email: [mapril@pipefitters636.org](mailto:mapril@pipefitters636.org) 248-538-6636 extension 102

The Hall is now open to all foot traffic. Masks are OPTIONAL. Dues payments or SUB transactions can still be done via email or by phone. SUB email is [kspringer@pipefitters636.org](mailto:kspringer@pipefitters636.org)

CJ Harrison would like all our members to know that she is still available by phone during these uncertain times, she is working from home doing phone conferences which is still beneficial to all our members and their families. You can contact her @ 313-580-6887

**The Retiree Association Meetings have been cancelled until further notice.** The election has also been postponed until further notice. – President David Evans

UA password good thru June 30: CERTIFIED APPRENTICESHIPS

**Any member that is Retiring contact Benesys @ 248-813-9800 for your Retirement paperwork or if you want to meet with the Financial Secretary Treasurer, please give him a 7-to-10-day notice so that he can get all of your paperwork in order.**

**Dues: If you do not pay your Dues by the end of each quarter. After 2 quarters go unpaid you will then be Expelled and have to be Re-Initiated and pay a \$200 Re-Initiation fee.**

**Defined Contribution Pension Plan:** The new number for the Voice Response Unit 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 website is [www.yourplanaccess.com/benesys](http://www.yourplanaccess.com/benesys).

**Are you "Work Ready"?** Have any of your safety modules expired? Is your Drug Test current? Check your report card at [mustsafe.org](http://mustsafe.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, YOU WILL QUALIFY FOR FUTURE BONUS PAYMENTS.**

**Recovery Support Group:** Pipe Dreamers, a Peer Support Recovery group for ongoing recovery from substance abuse and addiction meets the **second and fourth Tuesday** of each month at **4:30pm** at the office of "Work Life Strategies" 26789 Woodward Avenue, Suite 3105, Huntington Woods 48070. Call 248-545-8301 for details or any questions you may have. Also, a Relations/Divorce Support Group meet on the **second and fourth Thursday of the month at 6pm.**

**Worker Assistance Program:** Work Life Strategies, LLC are available to our members and their families to provide personal counseling services and when needed, referral to other professionals. Call 248-545-8301 to talk to a counselor for issues relating to grief, alcohol and or drug addiction, bankruptcy, financial management, marital, depression, legal and family counseling.

## SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY

REPRESENTING BUILDING TRADES BROTHERS & SISTERS OVER 35 YEARS

## BIESKE & ASSOCIATES

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

**Attorneys J.B. Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi** have 55 years combined experience

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

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

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

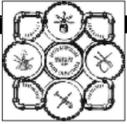
In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

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

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

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

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



## Local 357 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service

### Plumbers, Pipefitters & HVAC Service Local 357

**KALAMAZOO – UNION MEETING:** All Union Meetings face-to-face are cancelled until further notice. The Finance Committee and Executive Board will conduct their regularly scheduled monthly meetings. We will conduct a **Zoom Meeting** in place of a face-to-face membership meeting starting at 6:30 pm on July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021. There will be an email with instructions on how to participate in advance of July's union meeting. You can only receive this email if you have given us permission to send you emails. Please call Lori at the Hall, (269) 679-2570, to confirm your email address and/or consent to us sending you emails.

**HOLIDAY CLOSING:** The Union Hall will be closed Monday, July 5<sup>th</sup> in observance of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday. Normal business hours (8:00 – 4:30) will resume on Tuesday – July 6<sup>th</sup>.

**ORGANIZING:** Organizer Phil Curtis's cell number is 269-330-3267 and his email is pcurtis@ualocal357.com. If you are working around someone or know someone working in our industry who is interested in membership, please contact Phil.

**MEDICAL CLAIMS ISSUES:** As a member, TIC International provides a dedicated team of member advocates to assist with the resolution of any and all medical claims issues. If at any time you experience an issue with your claims being processed and paid correctly, please contact TIC international at 1-888-281-3461. If you are not satisfied with the service you have received, please call me, Ken Willcutt, at (269) 569-3492.

**WEBSITE INFORMATION – FRINGES – TIC:** Check out the website at [www.ualocal357.com](http://www.ualocal357.com) and the **FACEBOOK** Page @ [www.facebook.com/UALocal357/](https://www.facebook.com/UALocal357/). You should sign up for access to your fringe reporting done by TIC via the Union website. To gain access, click on the Members Access Your Information Here, then click on TIC International Corporation and then Register. This is where you will type in your Name, Email Address, UA Card # and Create your own password. Once you have completed all the information – click on the **LARGE REGISTER** button that is surrounded by a Blue Box. Your User Access will be granted the next business day. To access your account, once it is set up, all you need to do is access the Membership Button again – type in your email address and password – and all your information will be presented. As a member via the website, you will be able to keep track of all your hours and receive an e-mail when hours are posted to your account. **This is very important as it is up to you to keep up to date on the hours being paid on your behalf by ANY CONTRACTORS.**

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

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

**GOLF OUTING:** Mark your calendars for Local 357's Annual Golf Outing on Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup> at Pineview Golf Course.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** Congratulations to George Cooper on his retirement.

Congratulations to the family of Peter Lurges on the birth of his son, Reid.

Congratulations to Aaron Belanger on his recent marriage.

*"The law must be stable, but it must not stand still."*  
– Roscoe Pound (1870 - 1964)

*"The darkest places in hell are reserved for those who maintain their neutrality in times of moral crisis."*  
– Dante Alighieri (1265 - 1321)



**AT WORK** building the new boiler house at the Graphic Packaging plant in Kalamazoo are (l-r) foreman Tony Kuehner (Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 357) and Supt. Andy Dieleman (Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 174). They're employed by Andy J. Egan, on a team creating a new \$600 million coated paper mill for Graphics Packaging.



## Local 174 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & Service Trades

### West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters & Service Trades Local Union No. 174

**COOPERSVILLE – Meeting Notice:** Our next meeting will be Tuesday, July 6<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Assembly Hall. All pertinent CDC and MDHHS guidelines will be followed. The front office will remain open until 7pm.

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

**Retiree Breakfast:** Retiree breakfasts will return Thursday, July 8 at 9am at New Beginnings in Coopersville. We will follow restaurant and CDC rules.

**COVID Vaccine Incentive:** Local #174 Health Fund will provide a \$50 Visa gift card for any member who gets their COVID vaccine or provides a doctor's letter saying they cannot get the COVID vaccine. This is for working participants only, not family members. Please provide that information to Cami in person or via email to [cburris@ual174.org](mailto:cburris@ual174.org). Cami will submit a list weekly to TIC and TIC will mail out the gift cards.

**Student Council:** Local 174's Apprenticeship Student Council will be hosting a river clean-up day in Fallasburg park from 9am to 1pm on July 31st. We will be walking the shallow water of the river and the riverbanks picking up trash and removing fallen trees from the river. Plan on being in the river so bring appropriate clothing, water shoes and a towel. After the clean-up is done we will grill up some burgers and brats. Sign up with Cami, Jason or Nate

**Local Union Office:** The office will remain open. To reduce foot traffic in the building we're asking members to conduct business by phone are use the website when possible.

**UA Convention Delegate Election:** Congratulations to our elected delegates listed in order of votes received below. Thank you to all who stopped by and voted. Thank you to our election committee and Office Manager/CPA Lisa Johnson for your help. Our final delegate count will be based off end of March membership numbers, but we'll likely have 9 delegates plus the business manager.

1. Jason Finch
2. Nathan Phillips
3. Clint Fowler
4. Terry Brown
5. Mark Mangione
6. Frankie Pagan
7. Jeffery Rumsey
8. Jeremy Raap
9. Jason McDiarmid
10. Chris Pelton (1<sup>st</sup> alternate)
11. Robert Barnett (2<sup>nd</sup> alternate)
12. Lenny Dehoff (2<sup>nd</sup> alternate)
13. Micah Perkins (4<sup>th</sup> alternate)
14. Jeffery Rumsey II (5<sup>th</sup> alternate)

**UA Convention:** The UA Convention will convene on the week of August 23, 2021. The convention will take place in San Diego CA in person for vaccinated U.S. delegates, while our Canadian brothers and sisters attend virtually.

**Local Union Picnic:** The Local #174 Family Picnic will take place at Heritage Landing in Muskegon on Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup> from 11am to 4pm. This year we would like to purchase prizes from local vendors. If you know of a local small business we could support please forward their info to Ryan at [rbennett@ual174.org](mailto:rbennett@ual174.org).

**Dave Reynolds Memorial Golf Outing:** The Local #174 Golf Outing will take place on Saturday, August 7<sup>th</sup> at the Falls at Barber Creek. The format will be a four person scramble. Each team

must have two Local #174 members. Registration at 8am and shotgun start at 8:30am. The cost is \$65 per person. Contact Cami to sign up. Money must be paid by July 31<sup>st</sup>.

**DHE Plumbing and Mechanical:** We would like to talk to DHE's workers. If you know of a jobsite where they're working please contact Chris Pelton.

**Contact Information:** If you have a change in contact information PLEASE CONTACT CAMI so we can keep our system up to date.

**TIC, Aetna, Labor First:** If you have issues with any of our fund service providers please contact Ryan Bennett at [rbennett@ual174.org](mailto:rbennett@ual174.org). Please try to remember who you spoke with, this will help the company fix the problem.

**COVID-19:** The virus is showing up on many jobsites throughout our jurisdiction. Please continue to practice social distancing, wear a mask and wash your hands frequently.

**PAC Cards:** Since the elimination of prevailing wage, the race to the bottom on wages and benefits for publicly funded projects has begun. Our political focus over the years to come will be electing people who support prevailing wage and wage standards in general. To do that we need to raise our PAC card participation. We currently have less than half of the local contributing to our PAC. Your PAC contribution DOES NOT COME OFF YOUR CHECK. When you sign the PAC card it allows us to move money from your working dues over to our PAC. Please call Cami today and find out if you have current PAC card on file.

**Medicare Retirees:** Effective January 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 your insurance premiums will be reduced by approximately 12.5%. New rates are as follows:  
Single Medicare \$262.55  
Retiree and Spouse Medicare \$525.09  
Retiree and Non-Medicare Spouse \$677.55

**Short Term Disability:** The Local #174 Board of Trustees recently voted to increase the short-term disability amount from \$300 per week to \$400 per week. This increase will be effective September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

**Dispatch:** We will be splitting 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: [dispatch@ual174.org](mailto:dispatch@ual174.org) which both offices have access to. There is a dispatch phone extension that will switch between the two offices depending on who is on dispatch.

**New insurance carriers:** Active and NON Medicare Retirees  
Aetna: (888) 290-7241  
Save-Rx: (800) 228-3108  
Medicare Retirees/Labor First: (616) 345-0788

**Organizing Update:** Please contact Chris Pelton if you know of any jobsites with a non-union plumbing or mechanical contractor or if you are interested in actively assisting with our organizing efforts. There are plenty of opportunities available, ranging from a one-day ride-along with a Business Agent or Organizer all the way up to full blown salting.

**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 that

you are no longer eligible to attend Local Union events, such as meetings, picnics, awards banquets, and Christmas parties.

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

**Contact Info:** Please make sure we have your updated contact information. Check your info on the website or by calling Cami at the Union office.

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

**Labor Councils:** - Kent Ionia - 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month / Labor Temple 918 Benjamin / 5:30pm

Lakeshore – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month / CIO Hall 490 Western / 6pm

All members are encouraged to become active in our area Labor Councils. Please contact a Union Officer for details.

**FRINGE PLAN THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR (TIC),** West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters and Service Trades Local No.174 Fringe Benefit Funds, 6525 Centurion Drive, Lansing, MI 48917-9275  
(517) 321-7502 Phone  
(855) 40-PLUMB Toll Free  
(517) 321-7508 Fax

**BENEFITS WEBSITE:** [westmichiganplumbers.org](http://westmichiganplumbers.org) is the TIC website where you can check your contributions and benefit information. Click on benefit inquiry. Your username is your social security number. The password for first time users is K4GHB39 (case sensitive). You will then be prompted to create a permanent password.

**Forms:** The forms for Dollar Bank Reimbursement and Sub Pay are on the [www.ual174.org](http://www.ual174.org) website under the Members Only section and Forms and Links tab.

**Contract Requirements:** Please remember Section 5.7 of our collective bargaining agreement states, "Persons called from the unemployed list will report to work with a UA/WMMCA issued drug card." Section 18.5 states, "...employees...shall be required to maintain the following Safety Training Certifications: First Aid/CPR, Bloodborne Pathogens and OSHA 10." Please make sure you follow our agreement.

**Out of work list:** Please remember to call extension 17 when you are laid off. You must call line 17 to be put on the available to work list. When you leave a message, please speak clearly. Any member who goes to work without a referral is in violation of our Collective Bargaining Agreement and Article XXXI of our Constitution and By-Laws. Please contact the Union Hall to find out your position on the out of work list.

**Union Hall extension numbers:** Ryan Bennett Business Manager ext.12, Nathan Phillips Assistant Business Manager ext. 13, Jason Finch Business Agent ext.14, Chris Pelton Organizer ext.15, Lisa Johnson Accounting Manager 11, Cami Burris Admin- (Continued next column)



## Local 85 Plumbers & Steam Fitters

Plumbers and Steamfitters 85

**SAGINAW –** The next union meeting will be Wednesday, June 30, 2021. Meetings will be held at the Union Hall located at 3535 Bay Road and start at 7:00 PM.

The next **Northern Meeting** is scheduled for Wednesday, August 4, 2021 at 7:00 pm at BJ's in Gaylord.

Seeking licensed plumbers to work in Alpena, if interested please call Clint Steele at (231) 499-7330.

Please note: Our **new mailing address** for all correspondences has changed to 3535 Bay Rd. Saginaw, MI 48603.

**ALL NON-CRITICAL INTERACTIONS** are cancelled until further notice. Please utilize email and phone calls whenever possible.

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

Jamie Badour, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 8515  
[jbador@ualocal85.org](mailto:jbador@ualocal85.org)

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

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

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

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

Monica Zanotti, Office Professional (989) 799-5261 x 8510  
[mzanotti@ualocal85.org](mailto:mzanotti@ualocal85.org)

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

The **new website** is up and running. Please check out [www.ualocal85.org](http://www.ualocal85.org). Click on Local 85 Members to access members only information. Login information is username: first ini-

### Local 174 cont'd

Administrative Assistant ext. 10, Training Dept: Jeff Rumsey ext. 16, Nicole Shumaker ext. 30.

**Training News.** Announcement: Congratulations to Jake Anderson, Nick Bantien, Nick Buell, Hunter Dixon, Trent Eck, Brian Kelly, Elijah Villanueva and Casey Wick on fulfilling their apprenticeship obligations and becoming Local 174's most recent Journeyman!

Local 174 Training Department is proud to announce and welcome Josh Herrick as the new HVACR Service Instructor!

**FIRST AID:** First Aid/CPR/BBP class will be the second Thursday of the month, from 5:00p-9:00p. The next classes will be held July 8 and August 12, 2021.

**OPEN WELDING:** Open Welding on Wednesday evenings has been cancelled until further notice due to lack of participation.

**ASSE BACKFLOW REPAIRER:** Class is scheduled to begin on Monday, June 21, 2021 @ 5p-9p. The class dates are as follows: June 21, 23, 26, 28 & 30 (Exam). Saturday class is scheduled for 8a-4p. The cost for the exam is \$120; if taking this class within 12 months of successful completion of the ASSE Tester, the exam cost is \$75. Exam fees are due prior to testing.

Night classes will be added to the schedule based on student demand and instructor availability.

If you have a certification that has expired in the last few months and have questions regarding recertification, please contact the Training Office. Many certifications have extended grace periods on expiration dates.

Please contact Jeff or Nicole if you have questions. Call the Training Office @ (616) 837-0222 x16 (Jeff) / Nicole @ (616) 837-0222 x30. Or via text Jeff (231) 923-8140 / Nicole (231) 206-4213.

*"Ignorance gives one a large range of probabilities."*  
– George Eliot (1819 - 1880)

tial with full last name. Password is 00 with your UA Card Number. If you should have any difficulties logging in, please call Kristin at (989) 799-5261 ext. 8511.

The **new Facebook** page is live. If you are currently on the Local Eighty-Five Facebook account, invites were sent to have you join the new site. UA Local 85 page is our public Facebook account. UA Local 85 Members Group is our new members only Facebook. On this page, we will have important messages and reminders specific to our membership. Please like both and let us know what you think.

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

**SUB Fund:**

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

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

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

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

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

**NOTE TO ALL MEMBERS:**

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

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

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

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

**RETIREE LUNCHEON:** All retiree luncheons are postponed until further notice. Please check the [ualocal85.org](http://ualocal85.org) or Facebook for all up to date information.

Remember you all are essential to me.

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

*"The constitution does not provide for first and second class citizens."*

– Wendell Willkie (1892 - 1944)

*"The real division in the world today is not between socialism and capitalism, it's between freedom and totalitarianism."*

– Frank H. Underhill

*"No man who know ought can be so stupid to deny that all men naturally were born free."*  
– John Milton (1608 - 1674)

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## Local 25 Iron Workers

### Iron Workers 25

NOVI—June's ZOOM Union meeting will be Monday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 7:00pm. NOTE DATE CORRECTION.

**ZOOM:** If you have not yet signed up for Notifications please sign up as they will go out via the APP. To participate in the Zoom Union meeting is very easy... just be sure you have downloaded our APP or signed up for our emails via our website (www.ironworkers25.org). We have been communicating through the PUSH NOTIFICATIONS – Please download the APP if you haven't done so yet!! Again, via our website!

**Back to in-person Union meetings starting in July! We are so pleased to announce that after 16 months of Covid precautions we will have our first in-person Union Meeting Monday July 26 at all Union Halls. Please join us for some much-needed camaraderie & socialization.**

**Pay union dues with personal check or money order and mail to: Iron Workers Local 25 – P.O. Box 965 – Novi, MI 48376-0965. PLEASE include your book number on the face of the check/money order. Pay union dues in person at the Novi Union Hall (M-F) from 8 am to 3 pm (NO Cash). After-hours use the outdoor-dues-collection box.**

**CREDIT/DEBIT CARD processing for Union Dues:** Comerica has changed the processing platform in compliance with new banking regulatory rules. The new platform now requires all new and existing users to authenticate themselves. Anyone who has used the prior system will need to set up brand new payment information AND will need to create a new log-in and password the first time you log in. The link is available on our website www.ironworkers25.org and cell phone APP. The NEW phone no. 866-635-2826. A letter was mailed in April explaining all you need to know. If you have questions, please call the Union Hall or your Business Agent.

**The Dennis O'Dowd Golf Outing & Fundraiser** is Saturday July 10, 2021 at Mystic Creek Golf Club, Milford MI. If you wish to participate and/or support please contact the Novi Union Hall or a Business Agent.

**The International Iron Worker Festival** will take place Aug. 13-15 at Mackinaw City. Find a room at www.mackinawcity.com For more information contact Mike Christensen 989-751-5082.

**Iron Workers Local 25 Annual Picnic** will take place on Saturday, Aug. 28 at the Training Center 50490 W. Pontiac Trail, Wixom MI 48393. More details to follow; mark your calendar!

Ironworkers Local 25 would like to recognize the 2021 Dennis O'Dowd Scholarship winners. Congratulations to all who applied. Ironworkers Local 25 supports you in your educational endeavors and wish you all the best.

Emma McIlhargie from Birch Run High School, Daughter of Jason McIlhargie, Book #1255632  
London Harvey from Garber High School, Daughter of Bruce Harvey, Book #1311493

Haylee Washburn from Salem High School, Daughter of Doug Washburn, Book #1110573  
Noah Luck from Hartland High School, Son of Roger Luck, Book #1207459

August Hutchinson from Saline High School, Son of Brian Hutchinson, Book #1230130

Hailey Grunas from St. Charles High School, Daughter of Jon Grunas, Book #1289226

Blake Hillier from Harrison Community High School, Son of Josh Hillier, Book #1253639

Justin Converse from Charlotte High School, Son of Judd Converse, Book #1140625

Simone Grice from West Bloomfield High School, Step-Daughter of Kyle Oliver, Book #1224953

Kaylee Epling from Riverview Community High School, Daughter of Steve Epling, Book #1235302

Griffin DeShetler from Carlson High School, Son of Chuck DeShetler, Book #1290947

Shiloh Maliskey from Saginaw Arts & Sciences Acad., Daughter of Paul Maliskey, Book #1255632

**Organizer's Minute:** "Whatever is begun in anger, ends in shame." - Ben Franklin.

When I teach Construction Organizing Membership Education Training (COMET) classes I get a firsthand view of the next generation of Iron Workers.

When I ask the apprentices how we should solve the non-union problem, the first answers I get are often fueled by anger, and a confrontational attitude. I get it. They are proud, and eager to show their willingness to fight for this great union of ours. COMET shows us the hard reality that prejudice against non-union ironworkers has only been destructive to our goal of dominating the industry. The path to victory lies in communication, education and solidarity. "The supreme art of war is to subdue the enemy without fighting." - Sun Tzu

*In Solidarity, Your Organizer Hank Kiluk #1252798 Cell: (313) 600-8242.*

**IT'S MANDATORY TO WEAR A FACE MASK IF YOU VISIT ANY OF THE UNION OFFICES OR UNION HALLS.**

**FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE:** 800-572-8553 or 248-347-3100 and follow the prompts. Hours 7:30am to 4:30pm. The mailing address for member BENEFIT related matters is: Iron Workers Local 25 Fringe Benefit Funds, PO Box 99219, Troy MI 48099-9219. Blue Cross Health Claims and Customer Service 877-790-2583. Delta Dental Claims and Customer Service 800-482-8915.

**BENEFIT FOR NEW CHILD:** Any member who has a new born child, or a new dependent child through marriage MUST NOTIFY the Fringe Benefit Office of your new dependent within 31 days; otherwise wait until the next open-enrollment period (April 1-April30). A birth certificate will be required.

**BENEFIT FOR LIFE CHANGE:** Any member experiencing a divorce or a new spouse must notify the Fringe Benefit Office within 31 days; otherwise wait until the next open-enrollment period (April 1-April30). A marriage certificate will be required.

**Stewards' Notes: 1) STW Meetings cancelled until further notice. 2) The link for Online Steward Report forms is found in the upper right-hand corner of our website www.ironworkers25.org.**

**LOG-IN DIRECTIONS** will follow once you click the link that reads "Electronic Steward Reports." These forms are much easier than the paper forms, we encourage you to give it a try if you have not yet done so. 3) PLEASE be sure to check dues for members and boomers too AND BE SURE ALL BOOMERS HAVE SIGNED BOTH THE RECIPROCAL AND THE ASSESSMENT-TARGETING.

**THE TRAINING CENTER WILL BE CLOSED THE WEEK OF JULY 19-23, 2021 FOR THE ANNUAL INSTRUCTOR TRAINING. Also, to clarify a rumor: WE ARE NOT DOING OPEN INTERVIEWS FOR THE APPRENTICESHIP APPLICANTS.**

**New Apprentice Applications are being accepted BUT you MUST go to ironworkers25.org, print the application, gather documentation then phone the school for an appointment; no walk-in foot traffic. The Wixom Training Center - Phone: 248-960-2130.**

**Local 25 thanks Apprentices Corey Whitaker and Eamon Brennan** for their hard work and dedication training for the 2021 GLDC Apprenticeship Competition. Consisting of eight events they rose to the top, displaying their skills and knowledge of every facet of the Ironworking Trade, as well as maintaining the title of best welders (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> place) among 7 locals within the District Council. Congratulations! You both have done an outstanding job representing our Apprenticeship Program!

**Apprentices:** Fill out your monthlies online at the website or mobile app located under the apprenticeship tab "Monthly Report Sign-In." This gives you the ability to electronically submit your monthlies. Also located under the apprenticeship tab you will find "Evaluation Form" Journeyman/Supervision can use this to submit apprentice evaluations using computer/cell phone and submit electronically. **Please note, you must check your email on a regular basis; we now email your annual MUST drug screen paperwork and your pay raise slips.**

**To view classes at the Local 25 Apprenticeship School,** please go to the ironworkers25.org to view the block schedule; we are practicing social distancing protocols, etc. Due to the high volume of apprentices doing their make-up days, we are limiting the number to 10 per day. Please call the school to (Continued next column)



## Local 8 Iron Workers

Iron Workers Local Union #8  
Tim Roman, Business Rep.

**WELD CERTIFICATIONS:** Weld certifications are being held on an as-needed basis. Please contact Rich Hanson at the Apprenticeship office for more information. 414-476-9372.

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** Iron Workers Local 8 in-person Membership Meeting will be held on July 28, 2021, at 5 p.m. CST. Local 8 will stay in compliance with governmental guidance of social distancing and capacity limits. Due to this limitation, our plan is to continue a virtual broadcast of the meeting in conjunction with in-person attendance. Members can gain access to the meeting at <https://meeting.iw18.org> on the afternoon of the meeting.

**MINE SAFETY TRAINING:** The next MSHA Refresher Class will be held on Aug. 21, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. via Zoom. To sign up for this class, and provide your email address, please contact Ann Lakenen at Pipefitters #111-906-226-6511.

**If you sign up for MSHA classes and do not attend or cancel, you will be charged a fee of \$30 and will be suspended from any further Mine Safety classes until the fee is paid.**

**IRON WORKERS LOCAL #8 ONLINE STORE:** Check out Local #8's swag at the online store at iw18.org.

**INTERNATIONAL IRON WORKER FESTIVAL – 37<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY:** The International Iron Worker Festival will be held on Aug 13-15 in Mackinaw City. Events on Friday, Aug. 13: 3 p.m. – Walk of Iron Ceremony, North Huron Ave. - Noon – 5 p.m. – Registration and Booth Set-up. 6 p.m. – Live Band/Dancing. Events on Saturday, Aug. 14: 10 a.m. – Parade, 11 a.m. – Kid's Events – 12 Noon – Registration closes. 12 Noon – Skilled Events – 6 p.m. – Live Band/Dancing. Events on Sunday, Aug. 15 – 10 a.m. – Old Timer's Events – Followed by World Champion Column Climb – Awards Ceremony – Approximately 2:00 p.m.

## Local 25, con't

make up days. **Do not just show up and expect to be allowed to stay.**

The following scholarship applicants were selected by Asher/Kelly Attorneys at Law and have been awarded Iron Workers' Local 25 Retirees' Club Scholarships valued at \$1,000 each.

Congratulations to all the grandfathers and awardees and we wish these students continued success in their educational endeavors. Alyssa Jordan Bittner Grandfather Marty Adrian Zoe Buhalis Grandfather James Buhalis Griffin Noah Deshetler Grandfather Jon Littler Hailey Grunas Grandfather David Hamilton Emma Ann Schnorberger Grandfather Ken Bush Cody Joseph Sequin Grandfather Gregory Armantrout Maranda Helene Willey Grandfather Kenneth Macomber

The Novi retirees Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday, July 6, 2021 in Novi at 9 am. The Novi retiree meeting will be Tuesday, July 20, 2021 at 10 am. Watch for updates at ([www.ironworkers25.org](http://www.ironworkers25.org)) or the Local 25 app that you can download by searching "Iron Workers Local 25" to stay informed on union matters.

Jim Hamric started up breakfast on the last Friday of the month at Mom's Restaurant, 9 am. Located 2691 Fort St, Trenton, MI 48183. All are welcome!

**The Retiree Club Scholarship Fund Golf Outing** is Thursday July 15 at Green Hills Golf Course, Pinconning MI. For information on participating and/or supporting please contact Dallas Compeau 989-737-5518.

**In Memory:** Edward "Mumbles" Hallums #982884 passed away May 30, 2021. He was 73 years old and had 43 years in the trade. He is survived by (his wife Elaine, and) son Ironworker Ed Hallums #1312609 and many other friends in the Ironworking Industry. Louis John Burr #376696 passed away May 22, 2021 at the age of 94. He was a member for 74 years. Louis proudly served in the U.S. Navy and was a member of the Amvets.

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

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (06/14/2021 12:00 pm E.S.T.).



## Tighten up

A GAS SUPPLY LINE'S BOLTS at the new Graphics Packaging Boilerhouse in Kalamazoo are tightened by Ben Merritt of Plumbers, Pipe Fitters and Service Trades Local 174. He's employed by Andy J. Egan. The project to introduce a coated recycled board mill into the plant will include the new mill, a cardboard area, a boilerhouse and a finished goods warehouse.

## Canadian sponsor of Keystone abandons construction of last segment

CALGARY, Alberta (PAI)—The energy firm that has lobbied for more than a decade to build the entire Keystone XL pipeline all the way from the Montana-Alberta border to Gulf Coast refineries in the U.S. formally abandoned the last segment on June 11.

TC Energy's decision means that last segment, a diagonal leg from the border to Steele City, Neb., will not be built. It also means the end of a Project Labor Agreement between TC Energy and six U.S. building trades unions, including the Teamsters, the Laborers and the Operating Engineers, mandating union workers build the pipeline.

TC Energy's decision was foreshadowed when Democratic President Joe Biden, on his first day in the Oval Office, yanked the federal permit for the cross-border crossing for Keystone. Environmental groups cheered, since they opposed Keystone because it would carry 830,000 barrels daily of "dirty" Albertan crude oil to the refineries.

Laborers President Terry O'Sullivan voiced how upset the building trades unions were when Biden axed the permit five months ago. He called decision "both insulting and disappointing" to workers "who will lose good-pay-

ing, middle-class family-supporting jobs. By blocking this 100 percent union project, and pandering to environmental extremists, a thousand union jobs will immediately vanish and 10,000 additional jobs will be foregone," O'Sullivan said. "For union members affected by this decision, there are no renewable energy jobs that come even close to replacing the wages and benefits the Keystone XL project would have provided. Killing good union jobs on day one with nothing to replace them, is not building back better," he said then.

Construction of Keystone exposed disagreement within the union movement. Building trades unions lined up for it. Unions worried about carbon emissions—including National Nurses United and both transit unions—opposed it. Neither the friends nor the foes of Keystone had immediate comment on TC Energy pulling the plug.

Given the potential for oil spills fouling groundwaters and underground aquifers and the fact the "dirty" oil's extraction would contribute to greenhouse gases that cause global warming, the green groups and Native Americans—whose ground waters were threatened—backed

Biden's decision.

TC Energy told Reuters it would consult with its partner, the Albertan provincial government, on what to do next and how to "gracefully exit." It had pledged to invest \$1.7 billion to prevent Keystone's environmental impacts—a pledge green groups and the Native Americans distrusted.

The environmentalists were elated. One leading group, the Sierra Club, said it would now focus stopping two more controversial pipelines: The Dakota Access Pipeline, which endangers the drinking waters of the upper Missouri River while crossing sacred tribal lands, and Line 3 through Northern Minnesota.

## Counties want money to fix the damn roads

When it comes to road funding, the state's counties want their cut.

The County Road Association of Michigan on June 2 released its Michigan County Road Investment Plan, which the group said "provides a realistic picture" for restoring the 75 percent of Michigan roads and 52 percent of bridges that are under county jurisdiction.

The association said Michigan's 83 counties collectively are seeking another \$1.84 billion, on top of the allocated \$1.7 billion by the state Legislature, to meet its goal of \$3.6 billion annually for bridge and road restoration. Such a funding level, the group said, would bring the state's county roads up to a condition level of 90 percent "good/fair" for federal-aid eligible road and bridges in 10 years. Currently, Michigan's county roads/bridges have a 52 percent good/fair rating across the state.

The state's counties control a 90,000-mile, 5,700-bridge network. The County Road Association said 13 percent of the state's bridges are "functionally obsolete." Notoriously bad about allocating money for road work over the past few decades, Michigan's Legislature, thanks to federal stimulus dollars, now is facing a \$2 billion budget surplus this year and a \$1.5 billion surplus in 2022.

County roads may indeed get a good chunk of the cash they're seeking in a supplemental budget bill that's in the home stretch among lawmakers in Lansing that would move \$526 million to local bridge rehabilitation work.

"If these two chamber-approved bills come out of the Legislature with \$526 million for local bridges," said County Road Association spokeswoman Denise Donohue, "Michigan will wisely invest its one-time surplus funds in a 'giant step' to resolve a one-time-catch-up problem where we didn't previously see a solution."

## Senators defeat GOP move to cut worker pay in 'Innovation Act'

WASHINGTON (PAI)—By a 58-42 margin, senators voted down a scheme by Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, to cut workers' pay in projects to be funded by the massive U.S. Innovation and Competition Act that lawmakers later passed on June 8.

The measure establishes new programs to encourage U.S. semiconductor and other high-tech manufacturing. It authorizes, but does not actually dole out, \$250 billion over five years to fund such projects.

The legislation drew bipartisan support in the evenly split Senate as a "response" to Chinese dominance in the semiconductor industry. Recent supply-chain shortages of imported semiconductors from the People's Republic of China forced the idling of U.S. factories whose workers make larger products—like cars—that need semiconductors.

The measure now heads for the House, where the *New York Times* reported Republicans are ideologically skeptical of it. They view the measure as dreaded "industrial policy" and interference with what they call "free enterprise," but which really isn't.

Cornyn, an influential former Senate GOP whip, saw an opportunity to try to cut wages for construction workers who would build plants that receive the federal semiconductor subsidies. He proposed language banning Davis-Bacon Act prevailing wages for those workers. His prime allies were fellow right-wing Republicans, notably Tom Cotton, R-Ark.

During the final debate, Cornyn lied by saying prevailing wages did not, until the semiconductor bill, apply to the private sector, but only to "public workers." Davis-Bacon wages apply to all projects, public or private, that receive federal funds.

Had Cornyn won, cut-rate shady construction companies

that pay workers rock-bottom wages would have been able to win bids to build the plants.

But all 48 Democrats, both independents, and GOP Sens. Roy Blunt (Mo.), Shelley Moore Capito (W. Va.), Steve Daines (Mont.), John E. Kennedy (La.), Marco Rubio (Fla.), Rob Portman (Ohio) and Lisa Murkowski and Dan Sullivan (both from Alaska), voted "no."

NABTU President Sean McGarvey called Cornyn's cut "an unnecessary exercise that delayed passage of this much needed and timely legislation." The vote also "is a fresh reminder to" construction workers "about who really are their champions in public office."

In a prior statement during the two weeks the measure was on the Senate calendar, McGarvey elaborated about the dangers of Cornyn's cut.

The right-wingers' "proposed strategy to best China in semiconductor production is to simply cut the wages of proud, patriotic American construction workers who will do whatever it takes to increase America's semiconductor production," he said.

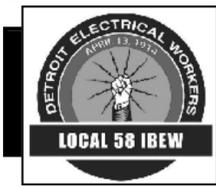
"Our industry is ready to compete for the future, yet these senators seem intent on waving the white flag of surrender to China and other adversaries, all because they think construction workers in their states and throughout the country are paid too much for their hard work."

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# IBEW LOCAL 58

**IBEW 58**  
DETROIT – The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at 6:30 pm. Dinner will be served at 5:30 pm.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS INFORMATION:** Election of Officers ballots were mailed on Friday, May 28, 2021. **Please notify the hall of any recent address change** to make sure you get your ballot in time to return it for counting on June 25, 2021.

If you have not received your ballot, request call Election Judge Ronald Archibald at the Union Hall during regular business hours to request a "Duplicate Ballot" (313.963.2130 ext. 3066). All duplicate ballots will be MAILED OUT. Your ballot must be received at the designated Post Office box by 8:00 AM on Friday, June 25, 2021 in order to be tallied at the Local Union Hall on that date and at that time.

**Do not turn in your ballot to the Union Hall. EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE!**

**Electrical Industry Training Center** is offering Continuing Education classes. Please check them out at <http://www.detroitiec.org/continuing-education/>. We will start to cancel classes if they don't meet the minimum enrollment requirements, or more hopefully we will order books for those of you who've signed up. Members on the Storm Book must secure their training through the Continuing Education Program offered by the school. If you need assistance in registering for a class please call the Training Center at 586-751-6600.

**Blood Drive:** Our next Blood Drive will be Sept. 6, 2021, Labor Day, 6:30 AM-12:30 PM at the Union Hall. Please schedule your appointment today at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and enter sponsor code **ibew58** or call 1-800-REDCROSS, (1-800-733-2767). Appointments honored, walk ins welcome as space permits.

**Local 58 Dues Information:** Dues **MUST** be paid by **June 29, 2021** if you want credit for this quarter. You can call the Dues Department to pay your dues and make sure we have received your payment before Quarter End. Go to Apple/Google Play and download the IBEW 58 APP, we must have a current email address on file for you. In the APP go to My Profile, My Member Tools, Pay Dues. Please follow all instructions. You can also pay by phone with credit/debit or mail a check/money order-which needs to be received in office by June 30.

**Local 58 Motorcycle Group:** The next meeting will be Wednesday, July 14, 2021 at the Union Hall starting at 5:30. For more information contact Anthony Anderanin at [aanderanin@gmail.com](mailto:aanderanin@gmail.com) or Grace Trudell 313-244-2268 for more info.

**Local No. 58 Benevolent Fund:** The next Benevolent Fund meeting will be Tuesday, July 6, 2021 5:00 pm.

**Members of the Community Service Committee:** The next meeting will be Wednesday, July 13, 2021 at 5:30 PM. The Wobbly Kitchen is up and running again and we are assisting them every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday with food prep and distribution at Cass Park. We are asking volunteers to show up at the hall at 8:00 am to help with the Wobbly Kitchen program. To get involved with future community service projects contact Mike Conflitti or Rob Z at the union hall. 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 for further information to volunteer or participate.

**Members of the Entertainment Committee:** The next meeting will be Wednesday, June 13, 2021, following the Community Service Committee meeting that starts at 5:30 pm.

**The Annual IBEW 58 Family Picnic** is returning this year with the lifting of restrictions on outdoor gatherings. The Picnic will be held on Saturday, Aug. 7, 2021 at Camp Dearborn, Milford Michigan starting 11 am. 10 camp sites have been reserved near the picnic site. When you call Camp Dearborn let them know you are from IBEW 58 and would like to rent one of the sites.

**EWMC of Southeastern MI** – The next chapter meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 21, 2021 at 6pm. Please bring any suggestions that you have for EWMC involvement and engage-

ment. What can we safely participate in that continues to promote the IBEW in the community? We are starting to wrap up collecting for our Toiletary and Sock Drive to benefit the Detroit Public Schools Community District Office of Homeless and Foster Care. Please bring your new and unused toiletries and socks to Local 58 anytime during regular business hours and put them in the collection container.

Thank you to those who continue to attend our Zoom meetings. As we transition back to in-person meetings, we will keep this option available for those who need it. Please make sure your cell phone number and your email address are up to date. The meeting information will be sent out as soon as available. If you are not receiving the notices, please make sure that your information is updated here at the hall. Please continue to stay safe at work, home, and in the community. #ibewstrong

**The RENEW Committee meeting** will be on Tuesday, June 22, 2021 at 5:00 PM.

**The Safety Committee meeting** will be on Monday, July 12, 2021 at 5:30 PM.

**The Veterans Committee** will now be meeting monthly immediately after the Safety committee meeting on the 2nd Monday of each month.

**The Political Action Committee (PAC)** meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month Via Zoom. To be added to our email list contact Jeannette Bradshaw (313-408-1287). PAC contributions can be made through the APP, and at the Union Hall. You can contribute more than the \$4 dollars that is suggested on your quarterly dues, but you cannot exceed \$175.00 per calendar year. The loss of our deduction cut our resources in half, and we would like to assist local candidates and our members looking to run for office.

**Local 58's Women's Softball team, The Live Wires** will be celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> year anniversary this year and welcomes new players. We play single recreational games, USA Softball rules, Monday nights at Claude Allison Park in Redford on Beech Daly Rd. All skill levels welcome to join the camaraderie and solidarity. If you or someone you know would like more info, please contact Grace Trudell at 313-244-2268.

**Local 58's Women's Committee.** Our next regular meeting is Thursday, June 24, 6pm at the hall. We will still also run-on zoom for the meeting. Please watch your emails for the meeting information. We are looking forward to being face to face again! Can't wait to see you! ARC Scholarship and nominations are closed for 2021. We have decided to postpone the ARC Awards dinner for this year. It is our hope that we can return next year and celebrate our members as was intended with our dinners in the past. You can Email us at: [58womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org](mailto:58womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org), or call committee chairs Angela Panicucci (586) 291-8014 or Kayla Pauli with any questions or suggestions, we look forward to hearing from you. Follow us on Instagram @ibewomen58; Check us out on Facebook Local 58 Women's Committee.

**Local 58 Senior Softball Team** - We now have a senior 55- and over team. Games are played Monday and Wednesday mornings at 10 am or 12 pm in Shelby twp. at two locations. Main diamonds at Ford Field on 23 Mile rd. west of Van Dyke and second at Mae Stecker Park on 24 Mile rd. east of Van Dyke. Those who can come on out to cheer on your team. You may get a laugh or two and say I can do that. If you would like more info, please contact Gerry Cassani at 586-804-8026 or Joe Schraufnagel at 586-255-1205.

**IBEW Local 58 Retirees Association:** Spring is upon us, and we can now look forward to mowing lawns, gardening, walking, biking and other warm weather coming activities. The Retirees Association continues its suspension of our events. We expect to return to a normal schedule sometime before the end of this year. We are still guardedly hopeful that a Christmas Party in early December will take place. Any news on returning to social gathering will be shared in this column and in our monthly newsletter. Just a reminder, if you haven't paid your 2021 dues, \$8 per year, per person, please send

(Continued next column)



# IBEW Local 948

IBEW Local 948  
FLINT – Our July Union Meeting will be held on Monday July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 6:00pm.

Our June Executive Board Meeting will be held on Monday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021 at 4:30 pm.

The Retiree Club Meetings are still cancelled until further notice. Do not forget to check our website for new content. Be sure to log in to see all the new content. [www.local948.com](http://www.local948.com).

You can pay over the phone with debit or credit card. You can also stop by the Hall during business hours (7am-noon/ 1-4pm) and pay by cash, check, debit or credit card. **Do not wait till you owe a reinstatement fee (4 months behind).**

2021 – Monthly Dues – Journeyman \$43.70 a month – Apprentices, CE, Sound Tech \$40.70 a month

2020 – Monthly Dues – Journeyman \$43.70 a month – Apprentices, CE, Sound Tech \$40.70 a month

If you are unfamiliar with our referral procedure, please refer to our website @ [http://local948.org/job\\_referrals/](http://local948.org/job_referrals/)

**Gregory Remington**  
Business Manager

**E-mail and Re-signs:** If the Hall does not have your e-mail address it would be a good idea to send us an e-mail to [jwallace@local948.org](mailto:jwallace@local948.org) so we can add you to the e-mail list. This is a great way to keep up with the latest information on job calls and other information sent from the Hall.



# IBEW Local 131

Serving Southwest Michigan Since 1916

IBEW Local 131  
KALAMAZOO – The next General Membership meeting is scheduled for July 5 at 6 p.m..

The next Executive Board meeting will be held on June 21 at 5 p.m.

The Local is looking to hire another individual to help with phone calls, dues payments, and various other tasks during these incredibly busy times. This position will be a full-time position for at least three months, at the end of this time frame, we will reevaluate the need for additional full or part time work of this new staffer. If you know of anyone interested in a position such as this please have them send a resume to [office@ibew131.com](mailto:office@ibew131.com)

Due to the Governor's current executive order, we ask that those coming to the Local Union to conduct business please wear a face covering.

All Book 2 signings shall be done by fax or email from the member's home local.

**Work Outlook:** The work outlook is strong. We expect to have a busier than usual summer continuing into the fall. If you are aware of interested electricians working in our jurisdiction, please have them visit [www.poweringkalamazoo.com](http://www.poweringkalamazoo.com) or call the office.

We are continuing to fill a large number of calls for "Project Bronco" at Graphic Packaging International for Van Ert Electric.

The LMCC has launched a new website, [www.poweringkalamazoo.com](http://www.poweringkalamazoo.com). This website will be used to highlight local signatory contractors and used as an organizing tool. Follow us on Facebook @poweringkalamazoo, Twitter @PoweringKzoo, Instagram @poweringkalamazoo, and LinkedIn @poweringkalamazoo. Please feel free to share the wage calculator feature of this site.

**If you believe we do not have your email address or correct cell phone number, please email Christine at [cbhms@ibew131.com](mailto:cbhms@ibew131.com)**

**Dues pricing** - The price for dues in 2021 is \$40/month. If you're unsure about your balance, please call the Hall for the exact amount or email Christine. If your dues ticket reads paid through June 2021, your dues are not current; please contact the Hall.

We have finalized our automated dues reminders; these reminders will be sent ahead of possible late dues. You may receive a message via text or email if you have not tendered your most current I.O. Dues payments. Dues payments can also be made

## Local 58, con't

a check payable to the "Retirees Association," to Ray Owen, 428 Welch Rd., Northville, 48167. Let's continue to check on each other, via phone calls, texts or emails. We are all looking forward to seeing one another in person very soon! Stay safe and take good care!

**Be sure to keep the Union Hall** updated with changes to your phone no., address, and email.

**Members that have Passed Away.** Edwin Acevedo, Father to Technician I Edwin Acevedo Jr.; Clare Bills, Pension member, 54 year IBEW membership; Jennie Colella, Widow to the late Pension member William Colella; William Deska, Pension member, 67 year IBEW membership, Father to JIW Steven Deska; George Shaw, Pension member, 69 year IBEW membership.

We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss.

online; to log in, use your Last Name and Card Number.

Life events happen, and we'd always like to make sure you have updated beneficiary forms. If you're questioning whether yours is up to date, stop on down to the Hall to get new documents.

If you're interested in receiving updates from the Hall, please email Christine at [cbhms@ibew131.com](mailto:cbhms@ibew131.com) to get your email address added.

**Retirements:** Congratulations to the following retiring members: Adrian DiVisser, July 2020. Michael Chaddock, May 2020. John Magnan Jr., May 2020. Robert S. Davis, June 2020. Roger Clark, March 2020. Patrick Klocke, May 2020. Keith Moore, April 2020. William Slater, July 2020. Thomas Vrobel, August 2020. Peter Spreitzer, August 2017. Joe Haskins, May 2021.

**Condolences:** Brother James Stewart passed on January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Brother Gary Yack passed on January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Brother Wes Smith passed on March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Brother Adam Russell passed on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021. Brother James Wynn, passed on April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Brother Wenford Abbs March, 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Brother Thomas Morgan passed on May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

All Memorials (members and members families) and full obituaries can be viewed on the website under the Memorials Tab.

**FROM THE APPRENTICESHIP: Instructor Advertisement.** We are seeking a full-time instructor for KAJTC Electrical Apprenticeship program. Please apply by sending a resume to **Morris Applebey, Training Director. A complete job description will be on the Kalamazoo JATC Website. Resumes will be accepted up to July 1, 2021.**

**\*\*Code Update Classes:** it is now required for Journeyman to pay in advance to hold your spot in the Code Update Class. We require 48 hours' notice for cancellations, if you need to reschedule for another available Code Update Course.\*\*

Please visit our website [www.kalamazoojtc.com](http://www.kalamazoojtc.com) or stop in to sign up for the Code Update Class. September 3, 2020. Call Nicole at 269-388-4434 with any questions.

**Drug Test Renewals:** Please keep track of your drug test expiration date through [www.safe2work4you.com](http://www.safe2work4you.com). It is your responsibility to stay current on your drug test. Please contact Nicole (269) 388-4434 to get your authorization form printed for you to pick up. If you don't want to come to the Hall to pick it up, please email Nicole and request your form to be emailed to you. [nwolf@ibew131.com](mailto:nwolf@ibew131.com).

**Negotiations:** The Local Union has ratified our contract for the upcoming cycle, along with important language changes, the local has received total package increases of 3.5%, 3%, 3% over the next three years. Thanks to our Negotiation Committee for all their hard work, Brother Scott Mueller, Brother Tim Haydon, Brother Randy Williams, Sister Kari Collison, and Brother Scott Bryer.

**Organizing:** As much technology as we use to track non-union electricians in our jurisdiction, often, our best resources are you, the members. If you see a non-signatory in the area working at a location, please let the Hall know.

"United we Bargain; divided we beg"

**Brian O'Donnell**  
Business Manager/  
Financial Secretary



# IBEW LOCAL 557

**IBEW Local 557**

SAGINAW – **Union News.** The heat of summer is on! School bonds are on the horizon and we wanted to send out some info. We have 31 eligible members living in the Swan Valley district who could help spread the word. This bond proposal, which will be voted on August 3rd, will include a good amount of money going towards electrical work. So please, let your friends and family know the importance this bond has for our local and our communities future. Also, new apprentices should be out to work shortly – we expect to see lots of holes dug.

The following policies are in effect to keep our members, their families, and the union hall staff as safe as possible:

-The Union Hall is OPEN. Please limit trips to the Hall for critical business through utilization of the glass service window.

-When visiting the Union Hall, if not fully vaccinated, please continue to wear your masks.

- Please continue to take care of as much business as possible via email, phone, or fax when you can.

-Please try to take care of your quarterly dues payments by utilizing a credit or debit card over the phone. E-checks are also available.

-Apprentices should continue to monitor emails and correspondence from the school regarding upcoming class schedules. **Please make sure you are up-to-date on all work reports and book payments.** You can send book reports via email, fax, or drop them off at the hall.

-Stop by the hall and purchase your short or long sleeve 557 shirt. Represent your local with pride wherever you go.

Keep in mind, all of these decisions have been made to keep members and their families safe.

**MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS-** We are excited to announce our next meeting will take place at the Hall! We're throwing a party! This will be our first in person mandatory meeting since March of 2020. We have tent, food truck, and local band secured and ready to go! Come out and hang with us on July 13th at 5:30pm. Hope to see everyone there!

**MICHIGAN INITIATIVE-** The Michigan Initiative has a new organizer. Please contact Brother Gus Voisine for any organizing issues you see or have. If our members have any questions or work tips they can reach out to him on his cell: 989-941-8046.

**UNION HALL OPERATIONS-** The Union Hall is open. Please limit visits to the Hall for critical business if possible. We ask that if business can be taken care of with phone calls, emails, or a fax that you please do so. Thank you to our members who have been fully vaccinated, but members who haven't been, please be mindful and exercise caution. Otherwise, the glass service window in the front of the building should be utilized as much as possible to keep everyone as safe as possible. Thank you to our membership for their understanding and patience.

**BOOK SIGNING-** Out of work lists can be signed for other Locals through fax or email. This is to continue to cut down on as many in-person transactions as possible. Contact your home local and request a correspondence to be sent to the Local you are interested in signing.

**WORK OUTLOOK-** J. Rank was the low bidder for the Dow Event Center job. The Mary Free Bed project continues to stay on 10's. The Caro Center is finally ramping up as more apprentices and JIW's are sent out. Meridian Wind Park is continuing along as scheduled.

**HEALTH CARE-** The Michigan Electrical Employee's Health Plan continues to cover 100% of the costs related to testing for COVID-19. During this pandemic, remote care is encouraged and Blue Cross members can call the 24-Hour Nurse Line at 800-117-BLUE. You may also want to inquire if your primary care provider offers telemedicine. The Health plan continues to meet regularly via teleconferences to stay on top of the pandemic and update coverage as necessary.

Don't forget to schedule your annual physical with your doctor. By completing your annual physical, you could catch a health concern early and also help keep the cost of health care down. Registering on the Blue Cross/Blue Shield website is highly recommended. Please take the time to visit [www.bcbsm.com](http://www.bcbsm.com). Upon registering you can take the Free Health Assessment test and find instant results that can lead to living a healthy lifestyle.

**BLUE CROSS APP-** Download the Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan app for your smartphone. Search for "BCBSM" on the Google Play app or Apple store. Benefits to utilizing the app include: instant access to EOB's, a virtual ID card on your phone, information on deductibles, explanations of coverage and other helpful tips related to your Health Care coverage. EOB's can be downloaded to smart phones or computers and used to substantiate WEX receipt requests

**WEX APP-** Search for the "TIC HRA" app in Google or Apple and download it today. Utilization of this app will give you access to account balances, receipt reviews and submittals, barcode scanning for covered items, other helpful services. This is a great tool to accompany your Health Care benefits.

**JOB CALLS-** Please stay vigilant checking the Job Line if you are seeking work. All work calls for the day will be available on the Job Line after 4:30 pm. IF YOU ARE SEEKING WORK don't forget to CALL 989-781-0516, option 3.

**STAY CURRENT ON DUES** –Please check to see if you are current. The Hall has the ability to accept credit cards and also E-checks. The credit card service can accept payments for dues, merchandise, apprentice book payments and other purchases. There is a convenience fee to use either service. Both payment methods to pay dues can also be accomplished over the phone to ensure you are current.

**CONTACT NUMBERS-** Michigan Electrical Employee Pension fund and Michigan Health Plan (517) 321-7502 or (855) 633-4584. Fax (517) 321-7508, [www.mielectricalhealth.org](http://www.mielectricalhealth.org)  
**In Solidarity,**  
**Breanna DePottey, Press Secretary**

"Discipline is the soul of an army. It makes small numbers formidable, procures success to the weak, and esteem to all."

–George Washington (1732 - 1799)

"Adversity is the trial of principle. Without it a man hardly knows whether he is honest or not."

–Henry Fielding (1707 - 1754)

"I am not an Athenian or a Greek, but a citizen of the world."

–Socrates (469 BC - 399 BC)

"When he was young, I told Dale Jr. that hunting and racing are a lot alike. Holding that steering wheel and holding that rifle both mean you better be responsible."

–Dale Earnhardt (1951-2001)

## CASH FOR \$CRAP METAL

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<p style="margin: 0;"><b>McNichols</b> Scrap Iron &amp; Metal Co. 6500 E. McNichols (near Mt. Elliott) <a href="http://mcsnicholsscrap.com">mcsnicholsscrap.com</a> <b>(313) 365-6100</b></p>	<p style="margin: 0;"><b>Detroit</b> Iron &amp; Metal Co. 8300 Dix (corner Lonyo) <a href="http://detroitironandmetal.com">detroitironandmetal.com</a> <b>(313) 841-5100</b></p>
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## IBEW Local 692

**BAY CITY – Message from the Business Manager.** Please remain vigilant in your efforts to stay healthy and safe from Covid-19. All adults are now eligible to be vaccinated in the state of Michigan. Please contact myself or one of our agents for any questions you may have regarding Covid-19.

The July monthly membership meeting will be held outside at 6 PM on Monday, July 12th. Please make note of the date change; due to the July 4th holiday, the meeting is pushed back one week. Hopefully we will see everyone there.

Former IBEW Local 692 Business Manager Jack Tobias would like to thank all of those brothers and sisters that took time to attend his wife Lisa's celebration of life event that was held on Saturday June 5th 2021. Brother Tobias was humbled by the outpouring of support and was so thankful for the brotherhood that was exhibited by so many past and present brothers and sisters.

**Contract Negotiations.** Please note that all members should have received a raise to their paychecks effective with the work week starting May 31st, 2021. If you did not see an increase in your hourly wage, please contact the hall for representation immediately.

**Work Report.** Master Electric has secured the new Meijer in West Branch as well as the new Isabella County Jail located in Mt. Pleasant. The Meijer will begin this month. The new jail is seeing some delays, we will keep you posted. Ted's Electric has been awarded some of the work at Midland Public Schools with Barton Malow serving as GC. Ted's was also awarded the Bay County lift station project. A large energy upgrade project is currently being bid for Midland Public Schools.

Alpena Schools have been awarded to Zone II contractor John's Electric. John's has also been awarded the Alpena library project and a large marijuana grow facility located in Harrisville. Clements Electric is continuing work on the Sterling Saw Mill, Monitor Township Fire Department, Bay-Arenac ISD bus garage, multiple marijuana dispensaries and the Handy Middle School office renovation. Countyline Power has secured Midland/Gladwin County dam work, the Mackinaw City lift station and the Roscommon Airport. Consumers Energy work for the summer includes Karn 1&2 utility separation, and also work on the generator at Alcona Dam. Northern Valley Electrical has the LaFarge PLC upgrade. There are also a large number of Solar Projects that are slated for our jurisdiction. We are currently working on a timeline for all solar work. Rest assured both organizers and myself are working very diligently to secure whatever work is being bid in our jurisdiction for our membership. Work remains very good in Detroit, Ann Arbor, Kalamazoo, and Lansing.

Please contact the hall if you would like to sign any books.

### Ryan Charney

#### Business Manager / Financial Secretary

**Organizers Report.** 692's Organizing team will continue to speak with unrepresented workers in our jurisdiction about the benefits of joining the IBEW. Jobsite visits are occurring more regularly as statewide COVID restrictions are relaxed. We are actively recruiting JIWs as well as accelerated apprentices to help man the work we anticipate our contractors will secure in the upcoming months. Apprenticeship interviews for 2021 have concluded for the time being, and a new class of successful applicants should be announced soon. Engaging with young people to encourage them to consider a career in the skilled trades has been a consistent focus as we've attended and presented at multiple career day events in the past month.

It is important to recognize the fact that apprentices alone will not replace those brothers and sisters leaving the workforce for retirement. We need to actively recruit and organize non-union electricians to keep pace with attrition and strengthen our membership.

Recent school board decisions to award bond projects to non-signatory contractors should strengthen our resolve to support candidates who see the value in local labor and appreciate the efforts made by our membership to strengthen our community. Although we have seen some recent success turning school jobs around to our contractors in lieu of a lowball bid, it is important that we keep the pressure on and continually educate trustees on the benefits of partnering with NECA and the IBEW.

If any members are interested in receiving some talking points that will be helpful when discussing with their local elected officials the importance of hiring local professionals to work on taxpayer-funded projects, please contact the hall and we will supply you with that information. Educating people in positions of power is one way we can ensure that our contractors continue to secure work for our members.

Brian Klebe 989.252.9225 • Brendon Baranek 989.327.4131

**Union Dues.** 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.*

2021 Dues (Effective Jan. 1, 2021) Monthly \$41.20 • Quarterly \$123.60 • 6 months \$247.20 • Yearly \$494.40

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

**State IBEW Golf Outing.** The 2021 State IBEW Golf Outing has been cancelled this year.

**Local 692 Retirement Party.** The retirement party originally scheduled for May 2021 has been postponed to **March 11, 2022**. It will be located at the DoubleTree in Bay City. Please mark your calendars and make every effort to attend this great event to honor our retirees!

**Retirees Lunch.** All retirees' lunches have been postponed.

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

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

**RENEW Committee.** The next scheduled RENEW meeting will be held Monday, June 14th at 6:00 PM in the Union Hall. Masks are required unless fully vaccinated. If you are a member in good standing under the age of 35 and looking to get more involved in the local, please reach out to the hall and we can get you the information that you need.

**Important links & numbers.** IBEW Local 692, 989-684-4510

www.ibew692.org

Health Plan, 517-321-7502, www.mielectricalhealth.org

Michigan Pension Fund, 517-321-7502, www.michigan-electrical.org

First time logging in, use your Social Security Number in the "ID Box" NEBF/NEAP: 301-556-4300

IO Pension: 202-833-7000

*"I cannot say whether things will get better if we change; what I can say is they must change if they are to get better."*

—Georg Christoph Lichtenberg (1742 - 1799)

*"We desire nothing so much as what we ought not to have."*

—Publius Syrus (~100 BC)

*"Excess on occasion is exhilarating. It prevents moderation from acquiring the deadening effect of a habit."*

—W. Somerset Maugham (1874 - 1965)

*"It is worse still to be ignorant of your ignorance."*

—Saint Jerome (374 AD - 419 AD)

*"When a subject becomes totally obsolete we make it a required course."*

—Peter Drucker (1909 - 2005)



## IBEW Local 498

"Powering Northern Michigan Since 1949"

### IBEW Local 498

TRAVERSE CITY – Meetings.

**Regular E Board-** The next regularly scheduled E-Board meeting is set for July 9th, 2021 @ 6pm.

**Regular Meeting –** Schedule is 7pm Friday, July 9th, 2021. We will continue the Solidarity Picnic before the Regular meeting at 6:30pm.

**JATC - First Aid/CPR class** dates are scheduled as follows: June 28th open evening class @ 5pm

Please call the hall or the JATC to reserve your seat. There is limited seating of 15 per class. An additional date of June 29th is scheduled for those who need it if all the days get filled up.

**Email –** Please get an email address to the hall so we can get info out easier and faster, thanks. You can email your address to the hall at [ibew@local498.net](mailto:ibew@local498.net). Please put your name in the subject.

**Contracts -** We have updated Inside Wireman Contracts available at the hall.

**Dues 2021 –** There is no Union Dues increase for 2021. Effective Jan. 2021 the rate will remain \$140.10 per quarter.

**Resale Items –** We have Local 498 Beanie Hats for resale and T-shirts. Stop in to get yours today! Proud Union Home signs are in and available at the hall. Free to members in good standing.

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

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

**Made in America Websites –** [www.theunionbootpro.com](http://www.theunionbootpro.com) - 100% American made/union-made. Union member discounts 27% off. Use this code when ordering. Be0498mD or order toll free 1-800-723-5384.

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

Important numbers for you to write in your address book: MEEHP (Health) 1-855-633-4584 or 1-517-321-7502 Fax# 1-517-321-7508

MEEPP (MI Pension) 1-517-321-7502

(New address Michigan Pension and Health Plan)

TIC International Corporation, 6525 Centurion Drive, Lansing, MI 48917

NEBF 1-301-556-4300

NEAP 1-301-556-4300

IO Pension 1-202-833-7000

(Continued next column)



## IBEW Local 445

### IBEW Local 445

**BATTLE CREEK – Initial Sign and Daybook:** Effective June 1, 2021, with the suspension of the NDERA, normal initial sign to Book 2, dings and the Daybook procedures will return to normal business as usual. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Hall.

**The Annual IBEW 445 Picnic** is scheduled for June 26, 2021. The venue has been changed this year to C.O. Brown Field for a Battle Creek Bombers game. There will be fun, games and food before the game. You will be receiving a mailer with the information to reserve your tickets. Please take advantage of the early ticket reservation to help the ballpark determine the amount of food they will need to prepare.

**The Retiree Breakfast:** The Retiree monthly breakfast will start again on June 17, 2021 at 9am at Lux Café at 2587 Capital Ave SW. Mark your calendar for the third Thursday of each month to attend.

**Building Committee:** The Hall is looking for Members that are interested in being on the new Building Committee. You can be an Apprentice or JIW to be on the Committee. Please submit your interest in writing to [info@ibew445.com](mailto:info@ibew445.com).

**The Annual IBEW 445 Golf Outing** is scheduled for July 17, 2021. If you would like to play or volunteer, please contact the Hall for additional information.

**The Night at the Ballpark Outing** has been scheduled for July 31, 2021. Please watch your mailbox for additional information.

**The General Membership Meeting** is the second Monday of each month and starts at 5:00 p.m. at the Hall. Please make sure to wear your masks.

**The Executive Board** meets the fourth Monday of each month starting at 4:30 p.m.

**PLEASE HELP!! –** The Hall is asking for each member to verify their address, phone number and email address that we have on file. We are looking into a texting and email service, and if you would like to be included in those correspondences, we need your current information. Thank you!

**Local Website –** Please check the Local 445 website for the latest information, including job postings. The Local 445 web address is [IBEW445.com](http://IBEW445.com).

## Local 498 cont'd

### DUES RATES

Jan 1, 2021 – No increase. Still remains \$140.10/Quarter

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

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

Remember to check the hall recorder at night after 4:00pm for any jobs that might be available. 231-943-4980 ext. 3#

*"To someone seeking power, the poorest man is the most useful."*

—Sallust (86 BC - 34 BC)



## IBEW Local 252

### IBEW Local 252

**ANN ARBOR – CONTRACTOR CLASS:** We will be hosting Pro-Union Consulting to assist IBEW Local 252 members in becoming profitable union electrical/renewable energy contractors. **THE DATES FOR THIS CLASS HAVE BEEN CHANGED TO AUGUST 5th, 6th, and 7th, 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.** Please call the Union Hall to sign up. We need a minimum of 20 people for the class.

**PICNIC:** The picnic is scheduled for August 21st! More details to follow.

### TRAINING CLASSES 2021:

**1. Photovoltaic Class:** Monday, August 2nd through October 11th, starts at 5:00 p.m.

There is a \$50 fee to hold a spot in all classes except First Aid/CPR. You must register one week prior to class start date. Call the Training Center at (734) 475-1180 to register. Masks must be worn at all times in the school.

**JATC Instructor:** The Ann Arbor Electrical JATC is seeking a full-time instructor. If you are interested please drop off a resume to the school at 13400 Luick Drive, Chelsea, Michigan, 48119 before July 30, 2021.

**COVID-19 UPDATE:** If your employment is disrupted due to COVID-19, please contact the Hall so that we can ensure that you get everything that's entitled to you, and that proper protocol is followed for everyone's safety.

**Local 252 Website & App:** The Local's website [www.ibew252.org](http://www.ibew252.org) is up and running. There is also a Local 252 App available to download. Search "IBEW 252" in the app store. You must create a new login and password to access the Members Only section. Your login for the old website is no longer valid.

**SERVICE PINS:** If you would like your service year pin please call the hall to make arrangements to receive it.

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

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

**Aflac Insurance:** Aflac has teamed up with the IBEW to offer its members Aflac benefits at a reduced rate. Contact Representative Lisa Enerson for information about Accident, Cancer, Critical Care, Dental and Vision insurance from Aflac. Phone number: (517) 306-0144.

**AT&T Discount:** Union members can save up to 15% on the monthly service charges of qualified wireless plans, or unlimited calling for \$15/mo. for AT&T Wireless Home Phone plans. Visit [UnionPlus.org/ATT](http://UnionPlus.org/ATT) with discount code 4924966.

**Winter Gathering:** Due to covid-19 concerns, the Winter Gathering in Lakeland, FL will not be held this year.

**Retirees' Breakfast:** The Retirees' Breakfast will resume on April 14, 2021 and will take place

the second Wednesday of each month at 8:00 a.m. at Leo's Conroy Island, 160 South Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. There is parking and entrances in both the front and rear of the restaurant.

**Union 4 Life Golf Outing:** The 2021 golf outing has been scheduled for Sunday, September 26, 2021 at Stonebridge Golf Club, 1825 Clubhouse Dr. Ann Arbor, MI 48108. Registration begins at 8 a.m. with a tee-off at 9 a.m. To complete your team or individual registration, visit [www.union4lifecharity.com](http://www.union4lifecharity.com). Registration is \$100 for individuals, \$400 for a 4 person team.

**Retiring Soon?:** The NEBF and IBEW Pension Benefit Fund applications can 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 months before your planned retirement date.

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

**Condolences:** The Local sends our sincere condolences to the family of Homer "Alan" Root, who passed away on May 30, 2021. The Local sends our sincere condolences to the family of Shane Nowling, who passed away on June 1, 2021.

**CREDIT CARDS:** The Local is now accepting credit cards to pay union dues. We accept Visa, Master Card, American Express and Discover. There is a fee of 3.5% to use your card.

**UNION DUES FOR 2021:** Effective January 1, 2021 union dues for "A" members will remain \$119.25 per quarter. Union dues for "BA" members will remain \$61.80 per quarter.

**DUES PAYMENTS –** Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 3/2021, your dues are not current. "A" members pay \$119.25 per quarter for 2021. "BA" members pay \$61.80 per quarter for 2021. Please mail your check to 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Your second quarter dues (Apr. through Jun.) are due now.

**Payments for second quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Wednesday, June 30, 2021.**

*"Popular opinion is the greatest lie in the world."*

—Thomas Carlyle (1795 - 1881)

*"The attempt to silence a man is the greatest honor you can bestow on him. It means that you recognize his superiority to yourself."*

—Joseph Sobran

*"Faith, as well intentioned as it may be, must be built on facts, not fiction—faith in fiction is a damnable false hope."*

—Thomas A. Edison (1847 - 1931)

*"Habit is habit, and not to be flung out the window by man, but coaxed downstairs, a step at a time."*

—Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)

*"The easiest thing of all is to deceive one's self; for what a man wishes he generally believes to be true."*

—Demosthenes (384 BC - 322 BC)



Over 40 years of quality Administrative Services

To each of our Members, Clients and Vendor partners impacted by COVID-19, our thoughts are with you. Rest assured knowing that BeneSys is working hard on your behalf while we navigate these difficult circumstances together.

#### THE FULL SERVICE BENEFITS ADMINISTRATOR

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Louisville, KY	Salt Lake City, UT	



## Heat and Frost Insulators Local 47

Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 47

LANSING – \*Local 47's Union Meeting will be held on Friday, July 9, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at 906 Terminal Rd., Lansing, MI 48906.

To combat and limit the spread of Covid-19, Local 47 encourages all members to continue to work safe, and if you feel sick contact a doctor immediately.

Any retirees wanting to go to work, please call the office.

The Funds Trustees have waived the 79-hour rule.

All members should have received a letter from our International regarding the Asbestos Exposure Scientific Study. For more information on how to participate in this study, please contact Business Manager Patrick Welch at the main Local 47 Office number: 517-708-0665

### Per the Rules and Procedures:

Members must notify the office within 24 hours of being laid off or charges may be placed.

Members must notify the office before ANY overtime is worked.

Contracts are available at the Union Office or at the Union Meeting upon request.

**OSHA 10:** Local 47 will be offering OSHA 10 to any Active Member who is not current with the program. The course is done online, so if you wish to take the course please contact the Local Union office with your email address and we will be more than happy to set it up for you. If you do not have a computer at home, you are welcome to come to the Local Union Office to take the course.

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.

Local 47 has been receiving a lot of returned mail from our members. We ask that if you have a change of address or phone number to please call the Local Union Office right away so we can update your information throughout our system, TIC's, and with the International. It is very important to make sure your contact information is always update with Local 47.

Anyone interested in joining the newly formed Breath Of Life Committee is asked to please call the Local Union Office.

We have received our Breath of Life Gun Raffle Tickets, if you interested to purchase any tickets please call the Union Office or you can get a hold of someone on the job site who is selling them.

Local 47 now accepts PayPal and Venmo for our members to send their PerCapita Payments, shirt purchases, or any other monies that may need to be sent to the Local.

-To send money via PayPal all you need is our email address which is: [insulatorslocal47@hotmail.com](mailto:insulatorslocal47@hotmail.com) (Please make sure to check the "Friends and Family" box to avoid any fees)

To send money via Venmo call the Local Union office and we can text the QR code to you.

We will be amending the Rules of Procedure within the next month or two. If any member has a recommendation to amend any part of the Rules of Procedure you will need to send in writing which part you would like to recommend along with your recommendation. Once completed please make sure to sign, date and put your registration number at the bottom of the page and mail to the office.

Pension and Health Welfare: Joshua Kroell (989) 385-2671  
Allied Workers' Local 47 Fringe Benefit Funds, 6525 Cent-

(Continued next column)



## Local 25 Heat and Frost Insulators

Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25

**SOUTHFIELD – RETURN TO IN-PERSON FUNCTIONS:** We have received word from the International Union that we will be allowed to resume in-person functions beginning July 1. Our first regularly scheduled Membership meeting will take place Thursday, July 8 at 6 p.m. at the Union Hall. We are in the process of getting our annual picnic on track for the first Saturday in August, as well as, nailing down the venue for our annual Christmas Party. If you are interested in acting as the Picnic or Christmas Party Chairperson, please contact the Union office.



CURT MCGLONE

**ALL LOCATIONS:** As many of you know, throughout the month of May the Executive Board and Officers conducted phone polls regarding the \$2 June 1st increase. Based on recommendations and overwhelming support from the Members, the Executive Board made the following allocations:

**Supplemental Pension Benefit:** \$.19 increase – this allocation allowed us to double the Supplemental Pension Benefit. As of June 1st, going forward, the benefit will be \$50 per credited year. All previous years will remain at \$25 per credited year.

The remaining \$1.81 will appear "on the check." However, a \$.03 increase in contributions to the Bereavement Fund and \$.02 increase in the dues will also appear, "on the check."

**NOTICE TO ALL:** When you move into the Medicare Advantage Program, your deductible balance for the year, is supposed to carry over. Whatever you have paid toward your annual deductible, prior to changing over to Medicare Advantage Program, should follow you. As with any system, there can be flaws. Please keep an eye out for any charges related to your deductible balance not being carried over, when you move into the Medicare Advantage Program. If you receive a charge that should have been covered by your deductible, please contact the Fund Office.

**GARRY FLUCKS CELEBRATION OF LIFE:** There will be a Celebration of Life for recently departed retired brother Garry Flucks. This Celebration will take on June 6, 2021 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. at 12111 Pardee Rd., Taylor, MI 48180, Pavilion B.

**APPAREL:** New Local 25 apparel is available at the Union Hall. New items include: knit hats and beanies, new hi-vis short and long sleeved t-shirts and hi-vis hoodies. Apparel can be viewed on the Facebook page.

**M.U.S.T. SAFETY MODULES:** It is important to keep your M.U.S.T. Safety Modules up to date. If you have Modules expiring and needing to be completed, give the Union Office a call to have the testing authorization turned on.

**EMPLOYMENT CHANGES:** All employment changes; hire, lay off, fire, shop change, disability, etc. must be called into the Union Hall. The only way to guarantee you are on the out of work list and your employment records remains current and correct.

**LAY OFF/HIRE:** Please be reminded, all members shall notify the Business Manager within 48 hours after accepting a job or upon termination of employment. Failure to report will result in an automatic \$50 fine.

**S.U.B. FUND:** Please be reminded, in order to receive a S.U.B. Fund check on Friday, all paperwork must be submitted to the Office no later than 2:00 p.m. on Thursday.

**SUB FUND TIME LIMITATION:** Please be reminded, per the Plan Document: Each time a participant receives a State Unemployment check, he/she must mail or deliver the receipt, check stub, or a copy of the check to the Administrator's office within 30 days of receipt of said State Unemployment check. Any request for a benefit payment past the 30 days will be denied per the Plan Document.

**BENESYS:** When calling the Fund Office, Benesys, please be sure to get the name of the person providing you information. Lately, we have been experiencing some incorrect information being provided to our members.

In order to make sure the correct information is provided, it helps to have a name so the Union Office can call Benesys, correct the person providing incorrect information and find out why they are providing our members with incorrect information.

**SICK AND INJURED:** Please keep all our sick and injured members in your thoughts and prayers.

### Insulators Local 47, continued

turion Drive, Lansing, MI 48917-9275

Toll Free Number: (800) 323-8079

Telephone Number: (517) 321-7502

Fax Number: (517) 321-7508

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

To all active members, if you have not sent in your Coordination of Benefits Form, your Spousal Form, 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.heatfrostlocal47benefits.org](http://www.heatfrostlocal47benefits.org):

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

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

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

**Good and Welfare:** Get well to all our sick and injured members.

### Line 5 tunnel won't be built by 2024

Canadian pipeline giant Enbridge, which is proposing to build a new Line 5 petroleum pipeline encapsulated in bedrock in a tunnel under the Straits of Mackinac, is now indicating that completion of the project won't take place in 2024.

"We believe the tunnel can be under construction in 2021 and in service as soon as early 2024," the firm said in May 2019.

Now, with permits from the Michigan Public Service Commission and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers yet to be issued, and opposition from the environmental community and the Whitmer Administration, the three-year timeline for construction is being pushed out.

The news service MIRS this month quoted Enbridge spokesman Ryan Duffy, who said that "project permitting... continues to be the driver of project timing."

The current Line 5 transports petroleum products in dual steel pipelines sitting atop the lakebed of the Straits. Enbridge is responding to concerns about getting those pipelines out of the water by building the \$500 million tunnel, for which it has pledged to employ union trades.

"Free speech carries with it some freedom to listen."  
—Bob Marley (1945 - 1981)

"No man is good enough to govern another man without that other's consent."  
—Abraham Lincoln (1809 - 1865)



### At Graphics Packaging...

**HEADED ALOFT TO WORK** at the new boiler house at the Graphic Packaging plant in Kalamazoo is Frank Pingitore of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 357. The fourth-year apprentice is employed by Andy J. Egan. Graphics Packaging is expanding its ability to make folding cartons for the food and beverage industries with the construction of a new coated recycled board line at its plant.



**THE MICHIGAN NURSES Association won a \$420,500 in a settlement with Munson Medical Center in Traverse City – a big win for a group of workers who have put their lives on the line for others during the COVID-19 pandemic.**

Photo credit: Michigan Nurses Association

## Strong union wins the case for Munson nurses

TRaverse City— Munson Medical Center nurses will be receiving an additional \$500 in their checks as a result of a settlement for a class action grievance reached between the Michigan Nurses Association and Munson Medical Center. MNA RNs at Munson ratified the terms of the settlement on May 20.

"We see this as an important step forward between Munson administrators and unionized nurses," said Carolyn Moss, a Munson nurse and president of MNA's local bargaining unit at Munson Medical Center (TCMNA). "This puts words into action."

The settlement involving 841 nurses concerned an issue over low census back pay. Nurses allege they were not being appropriately compensated per the terms of their contract when being sent home for low need on scheduled shifts, but later required to return to the hospital and work the remainder of their

scheduled shift. In addition to providing back pay, the terms of the settlement additionally strengthened the protections of the nurses' union contract to not allow for ambiguity in scheduling moving forward.

"At a time when nurses are exhausted and burned out from the pandemic, it is really important for us to feel like our work is valued," said James Walker, a nurse at Munson Medical Center and TCMNA's Grievance Chair. "We want to be able to recruit and retain nurses at our hospital so that we can always provide the best quality patient care."

Munson nurses say that having a strong union contract is key towards achieving that goal. In addition to providing low census protections, the nurses' union has guaranteed RNs wage increases of approximately 13 percent over three years. Nurses were also able to negotiate as a union to win important protec-

tions during the pandemic that they say could have saved lives – like exempting immuno-compromised workers from being required to work with COVID-19 patients.

"The past year has shown that we are stronger when we are united than when we are divided," said Jason Judd, a nurse at Munson Medical Center and Vice President of TCMNA. "We are proud of what we've been able to accomplish collaboratively through negotiations. We want to continue in this direction as we move forward together."

The Michigan Nurses Association (MNA) is the largest, most effective union for RNs across the state. The Traverse City Munson Nurses Association (TCMNA) is MNA's local bargaining unit at Munson Medical Center, representing the approximately 1000 nurses at Munson Medical Center. MNA is an affiliate of National Nurses United.

## OSHA to force only health care firms to protect workers vs the coronavirus

By Mark Gruenberg  
PAI Staff Writer

WASHINGTON (PAI) – Almost 16 months and 598,751 deaths after the Trump administration officially declared the coronavirus a pandemic, Biden administration issued its Emergency Temporary Standard forcing health care firms to protect workers, now.

But the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) mandate only applies to the health care firms, which lead all the rest of "essential" occupations in reports of coronavirus outbreaks and illness numbers.

It doesn't apply to essential workers toiling in other high-risk industries, such as grocery workers, truckers, retail workers, construction, and, most importantly, meat and poultry plant workers. The processing plants have been sites of some of the worst employer refusals to protect workers against the virus and its community spread.

"We've identified the grave danger for the health care workers, but we recognize there's a hazard in other industries," Jim Frederick, OSHA's current top official as acting assistant administrator, told a June 10 telephone press conference.

As a result, neither National Nurses United, which was first and foremost in campaigning for the emergency standard, nor the

labor-backed National Council on Occupational Safety and Health (NACOSH), was completely satisfied. Nor was the AFL-CIO.

"This is still a dangerous and deadly pandemic," explained NNU Co-President Zenei Triunfo-Cortez in a statement. NNU says it's counted at least 400 deaths among its RN members so far, among 3,800-plus dead health care workers overall.

Hospitals' failure to protect workers and foot-dragging to protect profits "is directly responsible for the appalling level of infections and deaths we have experienced. An ETS is a major step toward requiring accountability for hospitals who consistently put their budget goals and profits over our health and safety," she added.

"NNU has had to battle hospital employers from the outset of the pandemic to ensure the provision of optimal personal protective equipment and other infection control measures," the union said.

NNU also supports stronger workplace pandemic safety measures for all workers, all patients, and all communities, she added. She also warned against a potential resurgence of the pandemic in coming months.

"Health care workers who have saved lives during this pandemic deserve full protection – and so do all the other workers who provided us with food, shel-

ter, sanitation and everything else we needed," said the council's co-executive director, Marcy Goldstein-Gelb.

AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka lauded the standard as a good first step while pointing out most other "essential" workers it does not cover are low-wage workers of color.

The nurses union identified two more hazards to workers and customers. One is lack of protections against aerosol-driven (sprayed through the air by speech, coughs or sneezes) Covid-19 droplets. NNU will check the standard to see what it mandates about that. The other is governments' loosening of anti-pandemic rules as infection numbers have declined.

As for meatpacking firms, grocery stores, retailers and other firms with higher infections, OSHA "will continue targeting inspections at the plants with the highest numbers of sufferers from Covid-19," Frederick said. If it finds those firms don't protect workers, OSHA will charge them under its General Duty Clause, a vaguer standard without specific criteria.

The ETS decision was delayed for weeks. OSHA sent the ETS to Democratic President Joe Biden's White House Office of Intergovernmental and Regulatory Affairs in late April. OIRA finally approved it on June 9. There was no explanation for the delay.



## Local 80 Sheet Metal Workers

### Sheet Metal Workers Local 80

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

**\*\*REMINDER\*\*** Meetings are no longer held at the Plumbers Hall and are now held at Local 80's Union Hall.

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** The next general membership meeting is scheduled for June 22, 2021 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, 48076.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:** The next executive board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday July 20, 2021 at 5:00 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Southfield, MI

**UNION HALL REGULAR HOURS** Monday through Friday 7:30 – 4:00, unless otherwise indicated in holiday hours.

**HOLIDAY HOURS:** The union hall will be closed on Monday July 5, 2021.

**RETIREE MEETING SCHEDULE:** Membership meetings have been reinstated. All membership meetings will be held at the Local 80 hall. Please enter the hall through the ramp entrance. The remaining 2021 meetings will be held on Mondays, August 16, 2021, October 18, 2021 (Annual Party) and December 20, 2021. All meetings will start at 12:30 pm. Any questions regarding joining the Retirees Association please contact Steve

Murzen at 248-652-0593.

**PICNIC:** Unfortunately due to COVID this year's picnic is cancelled. We hope to be able to resume next year.

**SUB CHANGES:** As of May 1, 2021 the sub fund has been raised to \$250 per credit for building trades journeyman. Bereavement & Jury Duty is now \$500 but you must be off 2 days.

**Effective immediately** you will need to start sending your unemployment proof to smw80subfund@gmail.com or fax it to 248-557-0297. Your unemployment proof needs to be in by 2pm on Tuesdays to be paid on that Friday. Local 80 will be handling all of your proof now. If you have any questions please call us at 248-557-7575.

**GOLF OUTING: SOLD OUT!!!** Tickets are now available for members only until May 17th! Please join us on July 17 at Cracklewood Golf Club in Macomb Twp. Tickets can be reserved at a cost of \$90 a ticket for members and \$125 a ticket for non-members. Your ticket will include coffee, donuts & danishes, a bloody mary bar, lunch at the turn, open bar up until 1 hour after golf, beer & pop available on the course and a wonderful steak dinner (subject to change due to covid restrictions & CDC guidelines). Please contact the hall with any questions you may have or to reserve your ticket!

**THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE:** Steven Martin, Larry Danforth Jr., Allie Schoder, Robert Nowicke, Devern Rabideaux, Lawrence Narkiewicz, Joshua Holmes, Christopher Pauwels, David Canady, Melvin Nelson, Steven Brosch, James Thornton, Joe Tarnacki & Joshua Berger.

**DUES PAYMENTS: YOUR DUES PAYMENTS ARE DUE PRIOR TO THE FIRST OF THE MONTH.** The books will close at the end of the business day on the last day of the month. **Payments made on the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month are considered late for that month. There will be no exception, once the books are closed it cannot be undone.** Members will receive a text message dues reminder prior to the end of the month. If you are not receiving our text messaging please call the hall. **REMINDER:** We ONLY take Visa, Master Card & Discover and do not accept American Express.

**BENEFICIARY REMINDER:** Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice on all of your Local 80 and international benefits. The law requires that in the event of an untimely death your benefits go to your spouse first and if there is no spouse to your children UNLESS you designate otherwise in writing with each specific benefit. Depending on your classification you could have benefits due to your heirs from Local 80 pension, insurance, annuity and from international and SASMI. Each individual benefit needs to have a designated beneficiary unless you want it to go to your spouse or children. As always seek the advice of an attorney.

**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 need to call BeneSys at 800-400-7710 and update your address with them as well, that is not done through the hall.

**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:** Saturday and Sunday work assignments. Please remember that when performing work on a Saturday or Sunday the steward must report it to the hall, give each members name and obtain a form for signatures. Each member must sign the form along with the number of hours they worked. The completed form must be sent back to by hall by the end of the day on the following Monday. Weekend work assignments must be called or emailed into the hall prior to 3:00 pm on Friday.

**WORK ASSIGNMENTS: Everyone must obtain a work assignment prior to starting work.** If you fail to do so you could be written up on charges.

**LAYOFFS:** All members must report to the Union Hall immediately upon lay-off, even if you only work one day. These are the By-Law rules for the Out-of-Work List. Your name will be removed from the list 14 days after receiving an assignment. It is very important to report to the union hall immediately after your layoff. Members get confused because the S.U.B. Fund allows you a period of up to seven (7) days to apply for S.U.B. benefits after lay-off.

**LAY-OFF SLIPS/TERMINATION NOTICES: Lay off slips must accompany all applications for sub pay.** Without lay off slips you cannot collect sub pay. It is the member's responsibility to make sure they get one from the contractor when laid off. Your application cannot be submitted without one. It is the contractor's responsibility to issue one in accordance with our contract.

**S.U.B. BENEFITS:** Report to the hall promptly upon layoff. You must complete a S.U.B. Application within seven days from your layoff date or you will forfeit S.U.B. benefits. Lay-off slips must accompany the application to be eligible. Proof of UIA benefit payments must be submitted within 21 days of when you were paid in order to receive SUB benefits. Do not submit your sub applications directly to the fund office. Your application must be signed by the hall or you will not collect benefits.

**OUT-OF-WORK LIST:** You must be on the out-of-work list to collect S.U.B. benefits or SASMI. Members must re-register bi-annually: March 1 through March 20 and September 1 through September 20. If you fail to re-register you will be removed from the list.

**SHORT WORK WEEK SUB PAY:** If you work 16 hours or less in a week or have a short work week due to weather you may collect sub for that week but only if it is at the beginning or the end of a layoff. You may NOT collect if you are not laid off. You must complete a sub application at the hall, provide a pay stub for that week and the hall will submit it to the fund office. If you are not laid off and it is due to weather the company MUST provide written documentation that it was weather related.

**MEMBERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:** If you are experiencing problems in your family, marriage or relationships, stress or emotional difficulties, grief or loss issues or problems with alcohol and drug use please contact our assistance program. Ulliance is there to help you with your needs. They can also help you with legal issues, financial concerns, elder care referrals and child care resources. Contact them at 1-800-448-8326 or www.LifeAdvisorEAP.com. **Make sure you mention Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 when calling and not (Continued next column)**



## Local 7 Sheet Metal Workers

### Sheet Metal Workers Local 7

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

The next Statewide Meeting will be, August 19, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

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

\*Zone 2—July 20<sup>th</sup> -6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 3- (Saginaw) July 7<sup>th</sup> -6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 3- (Traverse City) September 19<sup>th</sup> - 6:00 p.m.

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

\*Zone 5—August 5<sup>th</sup> - 6:00 p.m.

**Please register on our website at www.sheetmetal7.org for the most up to date information on meeting schedules for 2021. Once you are registered it must be approved in order to be able to log on. Please contact your representative if you are having 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.labelitcanireport.com and download the official app by texting "SMART" to 90975.

**ZONE 1 Info:** Work in the Zone 1 Area remains strong and looks to remain this way. Please remember to inform James or Eric of your employment status if you become laid off. Apprentices please remember to inform Kevin at the Zone 1 Training Center of your employment status as well. If you are experiencing any problems with unemployment or health insurance, please contact James or Eric for further assistance. Any Journey-person interested in upgrade classes, please contact Kevin at the Zone 1 Training Center (269) 781-7183 (class availability depends on the level of interest).

**ZONE 1 Retiree monthly meetings:**

1st Wednesday 8:30 am at Bob Evans 1725 N W Ave, Jackson, MI 49202.

2nd Tuesday 1:00 pm at Rocky Top 1900 Lansing Ave, Jackson, MI 49202.

**ZONE 1 Announcements:** Congratulations to Wayne Stover (Zone 3 Rep) and Dave Rutz (Zone 2 Rep) on their retirements. Thank you for your leadership and dedication to making Local 7 a stronger organization.

**In Solidarity,** James Callahan and Eric Farrington.

**ZONE 2 Info:** Work in Zone 2 is still very good. In the upcoming months we will be moving to a new location yet to be determined for the office and meeting locations, will keep you up to date as we find a new location. This will be my last report as I did not run for the B.A. job in the upcoming election. I would like to thank all the members for allowing me to serve the union for the last 12 years as B.A. and just shy of 37 years as a member, it been a good run, and all the best to your futures and to our next agent. **Thanks Dave**

**ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw)** Work in Zone 3 is steady, most of the members are working and looks like we will have a lot of school work this year. If any members need OSHA 30 or need to get welding certs contact me and we can make arrangements to get it done. Our elections are coming up June 18 & 19 so get out and vote it's your right. Everyone have a great summer. **Thank you, Wayne Stover**

**ZONE 4 Info:** Work in Zone 4 is good we only have a few members available to work, which will change in a few weeks when all the school work cuts loose. If anyone is interested in travel work there is plenty of opportunities out there call me if interested. Work safe and enjoy summer. **Your Brother, Larry Kinzie**

**ZONE 5 Info:** Congratulations to Chase Warner, I'm completing his apprenticeship and becoming a journeyman as of June 1, 2021. Work in the Upper Peninsula: it's getting very busy for the summer and we are looking for some travelers so if you're interested please contact your local business agent. Also good luck to all the members we're running for elected positions in the upcoming election. **Respectfully Greg Faust**

**SASMI Information—Zone 3 and 5: Underemployment—**Filing for period 2020-B is from July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020. Eligible members who worked less than 750 hours from July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 may receive an underemployment benefit. Health and welfare benefits paid on your behalf will be deducted from your benefit. **NOTE:** Members who received an Emergency Advance Benefit must file for Underemployment to receive the remainder of that benefit for the stabilization period.

In addition, you must provide copies of all W-2 forms for the entire year of 2020.

**Dues Department: \*Online dues payment is now available\*** Dues of 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

**James Callahan** (Agent-Battle Creek/Kalamazoo) 269-342-8842

**David Rutz** (Agent-Grand Rapids/Muskegon) 616-458-2313

**Wayne Stover** (Saginaw) 989-692-0002

**Travis Eastman** (Traverse City) 231-943-5150

**Larry Kinzie** (Agent-Flint) 810-785-6831

**Greg Faust** (Agent-Upper Peninsula) 906-372-9288.

## Local 80 continued

the contractor you are working for.

**NOTARY:** We have a notary public available at the hall at no charge. Please call to confirm availability.

**SAVE THE DATE:**

Local 80 Golf Outing: July 17, 2021

Local 80 Picnic: August 7, 2021 \*Cancelled\*

**TRAINING CENTER NEWS:** The next **Sheet Metal Workers' Local 80 Apprenticeship Entrance Exam** is scheduled for the fourth week of July, 2021. The deadline to apply is July 23. Requirements include a high school diploma or GED, a valid driver's license and applicants must be 18 years old by October 1, 2021. Applications must be submitted in person and are accepted by appointment only. Appointments to apply can be scheduled by calling the Local 80 Training Center @ (586) 979-5190.

*"Generosity is giving more than you can, and pride is taking less than you need."*  
—Kahlil Gibran (1883-1931)

*"An object in possession seldom retains the same charm that it had in pursuit."*  
—Pliny the Younger (62 AD-114 AD)



## Local 292 Sheet Metal Workers

### Sheet Metal Workers Local 292

TROY—MEETING NOTICE: The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 14, 2021.

Member meetings are held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at The Knights of Columbus in Clawson. Check out the calendar tab at [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com) for the location and date.

The E-Board/Stewards meeting is scheduled for **June 22, 2021** at 6:00 pm at the Union Hall.

**\*\*Per the CDC guidelines, masks must be worn and social distancing must be followed during all meetings.**

**2021 ANNUAL GOLF OUTING:** The 2021 Annual Charity Golf Outing is scheduled for Sunday, August 22, 2021, at Fox Hills in Plymouth, MI. 18 holes of golf, Cart, Dinner and Prizes all included for a Donation of \$100 per golfer. Reservations must be received on or before July 26th at the Union Hall or online at [www.eventregisterpro.com/smartlocal292](http://www.eventregisterpro.com/smartlocal292). All proceeds benefit the Local 292 Children's Charity and the Diabetes Foundation. Please make all donations payable to Local 292 Charity Fund. Raffle tickets are available for purchase at the union hall or through your shop steward.

**NEW PRESCRIPTION CHANGES:** The Board of Trustees of the Sheet Metal Workers Local 292 Health Fund (the Fund) is introducing a new prescription drug benefits program effective January 1, 2021. The new program will be administered by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (replacing EnvisionRx). Since Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan already administers our Simply Blue PPO Medical Plan, your medical and prescription drugs will be integrated and coordinated, which should make it easier for you and lead to better care. The new card will be used for both medical and prescription drug coverage.

You should have already received your new Blue Cross cards in the mail. If you have not received the new cards, please contact BeneSys immediately to request one. You can also download the Blue Cross Blue Shield app (BCBSM) to any smart phone. The app provides tools and features to help you access information pertinent to your account.

These changes are for active members and pre-65 retired members only.

**RETIRES NOTICE:** Due to Covid-19 and restrictions placed for social gatherings, as well as the health and safety of our retirees and their families, the retirees' luncheons have been cancelled until further notice. We will notify when luncheons will resume. Stay healthy and safe.

Please contact Fred Engelman at [fred\\_el@yahoo.com](mailto:fred_el@yahoo.com) if you would like to be added to the retiree email list.

**CONSTITUTION AND RITUAL:** The Constitution and Ritual of the 2<sup>nd</sup> SMART General Convention is now available online. Go to [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com), click on the Constitution/Ritual tab located at the top of the home page. The Union Hall will also have hard copies for members who want one.

**SAFETY MODS AND DRUG TESTS:** To access your MUST account, please go to [www.mustonline.org](http://www.mustonline.org) or access it through the "links" tab at [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com). Members, please note that if you cannot access the MUST site to complete your safety mods you need to contact Laura or Lee Ann at the Union Hall.

**MEMBER ASSISTANCE:** Local 292 is now partnering with Ulliance, an employee assistance program designed to assist active members and their eligible family members who may be struggling with emotional, domestic or substance abuse issues, as well as legal and financial referrals. If you and/or a family member feel this may benefit you, contact Ulliance at 1-800-448-8326 or [www.LifeAdvisorEAP.com](http://www.LifeAdvisorEAP.com) for completely confidential assistance. Ulliance is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Services are of no cost to active members and their dependents.

**SUBSTANTIATION REQUEST:** Many members have been receiving 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. This validation is required by the IRS, the Fund cannot make exceptions. It is the member's responsibility to ensure all requested documentation be returned to the Fund office in a timely manner. 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.

**DUES:** Membership dues are required to be paid in advance of the month for which they are due. The union hall is not open on Saturday or Sunday, therefore, if you pay dues on either of those days, it will not be processed until Monday. If you are on suspension warning, your dues are 60 days late. To avoid suspension, dues must be paid online or at the union hall by 4:00 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 paying online ([sheetmetal292.com](http://sheetmetal292.com)).

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

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

**TEXT BLAST NOTIFICATION.** We have recently updated the text blast contact list. All members have been added. If you haven't been receiving texts and would like to be added or wish to opt out of text blast, please contact the Union hall and we will make the change.

**FACEBOOK & TWITTER:** Be sure to check our website—[www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com); Facebook page - Sheet Metal Workers Local 292 and Twitter - @SMW292, for updates and information.

**NOTARY PUBLIC.** For your convenience, we now have a Notary Public on site at the union hall. Notary services are free of charge to our members.

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

**Attention all Welders!** We are looking for any member interested in a Saturday welding classes June 19, 26, July 10, 24, 31 and August 14, 21 and 28.

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

**Note:** Anyone that 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.

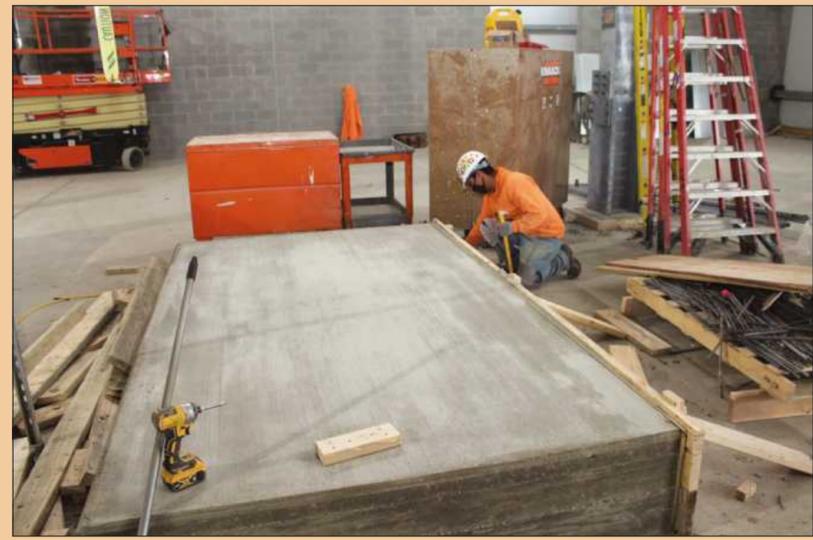
Call the Apprentice School at 248-589-3237, Dave's cell 313-623-9390 or Quintin's cell 248-495-6764 to reserve a spot. Remember we must have the deposit before you will be scheduled in the class.

*"I can accept failure, but I can't accept not trying."*

—Michael Jordan (1963 - )

*"I have never killed a man, but I have read many obituaries with a lot of pleasure."*

—Clarence Darrow (1857 - 1938)



**TAKING THE FORMS** off of a platform at the Graphics Packaging coated recycled board paper mill project in Kalamazoo is Juan Jimenez of Carpenters Local 525. He's employed by Fessler Bowman. Completion of the Coated Recycled Board machine at the plant will create an opportunity for the mill to provide 44 percent of CRB in the North American market.



## Local 149 Roofers & Waterproofers

Roofers 149

**DETROIT – Main Office – Southeastern Lower Michigan – Regular Membership Meeting.** The regular membership meeting is scheduled for Tues, July 6, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

**Executive Board meeting.** The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., June 29, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

**WE ARE PLEASED TO OFFER FREE CORONAVIRUS ANTIBODY TESTING.** Free of charge, the Fund is providing coronavirus antibody testing for you and your eligible dependents age 5 or older, as part of the Building Trades Welfare Foundation-Mayo Clinic Laboratories COVID-19 Resilience Project (Resilience Project). Testing is for vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals.

### TYPES OF ANTIBODY TESTS OFFERED

- **Finger Prick Test (Blood Spot Card):** This will determine if you have antibodies due to a natural exposure to the virus. This will NOT test for antibodies in response to a vaccine.
- **Blood Draw (Venipuncture):** This will determine if you have antibodies due to a natural exposure to the virus OR to the vaccine. If you are only interested in whether you have positive antibodies in response to the vaccine, select the Blood Draw.

**DATES AND LOCATION.** Tuesday, July 6, 2021, 1:00pm thru 6:30pm, at the Roofers & Waterproofers Local No. 149 Union Hall, 1640 Porter Street, Detroit – Finger Prick Test or Blood Draw.

**TO REGISTER:** Go to [www.roofers149fringe.org](http://www.roofers149fringe.org). You must register at least two days before your preferred testing date. Due to the coordination of this Project with the Mayo Clinic, NO WALK-INS WILL BE ALLOWED. You must register. Additional Project information is on the registration site.

Please do not come to a testing event if you are sick, displaying symptoms of COVID-19, or have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 in the prior 14 days.

**Vacation Checks.** The Detroit Union Hall will open at 5:00am, Friday, July 9, 2021 to distribute vacation checks. The Hall will also be open from 8:00 until Noon, Saturday, July 11, 2020 for anyone that cannot make it down Friday. Detroit Members will need to contact the Union Hall if you what the check mailed.

**Mid-Michigan vacation checks** will be mailed July 7, 2021

**Website for announcements, news, and updates.** [www.rooferslocal149.com](http://www.rooferslocal149.com)

**Detroit Raise Notice.** June 1, 2021, \$0.67 on the check, \$0.23 to the Pension, and \$1.00 to an Annuity/Defined-Contribution Plan.

**Initiation Fees.** Once a Metro Detroit Members Union Card is paid in full, he/she is entitled to \$4.45/hr Vacation/Holiday Pay. In the past, a new member would need to complete four Apprentice 1 classes to receive the Vacation/Holiday pay.

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

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

**DAD's Day.** It is with great sadness that we inform you that the June DAD's Day canister drive is canceled. This was an extremely difficult decision to make. Our union will try to have an event later in the year.

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

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

If you are interested in any of these classes, contact Thomas Jaranowski at the Training Center, 248-543-3847, or [TJaranowski@DetroitRoofers.org](mailto:TJaranowski@DetroitRoofers.org) to make arrangements

**Union Dues.** Make sure you pay your monthly dues before the end of every month to stay in good standings. You can pay dues over the phone with a credit or debit card. Monthly dues can be taken out of your vacation check by filling out a form at the Hall (active Members only). If you have to come in to our office to pay, please understand that we are adhering to Michigan COVID 19 guidelines; masks and social distancing are being enforced to protect our staff and our tenants. The mailbox is only to be used for checks and money orders do not put cash in the mailbox. To be eligible for the International Union Burial Benefit, a member must be in continuous good standing.

If you have any questions please feel free to call the Hall at 313-961-6093

**MID-MICHIGAN AREA – Clio Office.** The next Mid-Michigan regular membership meeting scheduled for Tue., July 13, 2021 at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420.

**Mid-Michigan Raise Notice.** June 1, 2021, \$0.80 on the check, \$0.78 to the Pension, \$0.22 to the H&W and \$0.05 to Check-Off Dues

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

If you are interested in any of these classes, contact Rick Baird at the Union Hall/Training Center, 810-687-1368, or [midmichroofers149@gmail.com](mailto:midmichroofers149@gmail.com) to make arrangements.

**Notice.** When contractors call the Union Hall for help, we need to know who is available, and have an up to date phone number. 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.

The publication above is accurate as 6/14/2021, 10:00a.m.  
**In Solidarity, Brian Gregg Business Manager, Roofers & Waterproofers Local 149**



## Local 169 Boilermakers

Boilermakers Local 169

**ALLEN PARK –** The next Union meeting will be on Friday, July 9, 2021, at 8pm in Area Two – IBEW 275, 140 64<sup>th</sup> Ave N. Coopersville, Mi 49404.



**BOB HUTSELL**

The Area One Picnic has been scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 14, 2021, at 12pm at Camp Dearborn. We are currently looking for volunteers for the Entertainment Committee in Area One to help with the picnic.

In order for a safe and healthy event, more volunteers will be needed than previous picnics. Please call Jamie at the union hall if you are interested. We will update the website and Facebook group as we get more information in for other area picnics.

Union dues for 2021 are \$49.85 per month. The union hall accepts Visa, MasterCard, and Discover. Payments can be made both at the hall and over the phone.

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

**Training Center:** Journeyman wanting to obtain welding certifications are encouraged to attend training in Allen Park, in preparation for the Commonarc test currently scheduled for this August.

**Apprentices:** Mandatory summer training has been scheduled for August. Please watch for a letter with your summer training dates and hotel information (if applicable).

Sweatshirts are available for purchase for \$40.00. Payments can be made with cash, check, or credit. If you live out 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.

Tony Marquette would like to thank the members for all their support after his wife's passing. We continue to hold him and his family in our thoughts and prayers.

*"The future is something which everyone reaches at the rate of sixty minutes an hour, whatever he does, whoever he is."*

–C. S. Lewis (1898 - 1963)

*"Do good and don't worry to whom."*

–Mexican Proverb

*"Teachers open the door. You enter by yourself."*

–Chinese Proverb

*"In the truest sense, freedom cannot be bestowed; it must be achieved."*

– Franklin D. Roosevelt (1882 - 1945)

*"If you are too fortunate, you will not know yourself. If you are too unfortunate, nobody will know you."*

–Thomas Fuller (1608 - 1661)

Laborers' International Union of North America

**LIUNA! LOCAL 1191**

*Feel the Power*

Laborers 1191

**DETROIT – UNION HALL OPERATIONS.** Laborers' Local 1191 has remained open during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, Local 1191 is making every effort to keep our members and staff safe during this time by limiting person-to-person contact at the Local Union Hall. Thanking you in advance and please follow the COVID-19 recommendations to stay safe and healthy.

**Monthly Membership Meetings:** We continue to monitor new orders and directives pertaining to COVID-19. Decisions about membership meetings will be determined and relayed to you as they approach. Union meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Union hall (except for holidays), next membership meeting will on the July, 2<sup>nd</sup> 2021.

**Retirees:** Retiree Council's meetings are the last Friday of the month. The meetings are held 11:00 a.m. at the Local Union Hall, located at 2161 West Grand Boulevard in Detroit.

**Union Dues For 2021:** Effective January 1, 2021 regular monthly dues are \$35.00 for active members. Retiree monthly dues will remain the same \$8.00.

Reminder: Be sure to keep the Local Union updated with any changes to your phone number, address, and/or email.

Members can now Pay Dues online 24/7 on our website at [www.laborerslocal1191.org](http://www.laborerslocal1191.org)!!! Upper right-hand corner Pay Dues tab, and follow the instructions... Please also check out our website and "Laborers' Local 1191" Facebook page for important information about your Local Union.

**NOTICE: The Uniform Local Union Constitution Article VIII sec. 4. The monthly dues are due on the first day of the month and unless paid on or before the last day of the following month, the member shall be deemed suspended by the International Union without notice.**

**Save Time & Money: We urge members to make their payments timely to avoid additional costs! Monthly dues can be deducted from your vacation check and sent directly to the Local Union. Please stop by the Local Union office to get one of the "Vacation Monthly Dues Deduction" forms or you may call the Local Union office at (313)-894-2241 to have one mailed to you.**

**Members who sign up for Vacation monthly dues deduction and pay (6) months at a time will receive a 1-month rebate!!! To better serve our membership, we are accepting Credit & Debit payments.**

**Vacation Monthly Dues Deduction Authorization:** Members may revoke vacation monthly dues authorization at any time by signing a vacation deduction cancellation form. This cancellation form must be sent to the Local Union 1191 office, however understand that Local 1191 needs to have this form on file at least 60 days before the next vacation checks are distributed for the months of May or November.

**Vacation Check Direct Deposit:** If your mail delivery is slow or your mail is getting lost, then it is highly recommended to get your vacation check direct deposited into your bank checkings or savings account. A Payee Deposit Agreement must be completed and signed, and the member must return the payee deposit agreement at least sixty (60) days before the following vacation distribution for the month of May, or November to Michigan Laborers Vacation Fund, 6525 Centurion Dr. Lansing Michigan 48917.

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

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

**Training:** Check out the training classes available to you at no cost. Journeymen and apprentices may still obtain training through MLTAI's online training at <https://lms.mltai.org>. Types of training you can take include: Asbestos Awareness-Silica Awareness-Infectious Disease Awareness-Respirator Awareness-Hazard Communication-Blood borne Pathogens Awareness-Covid-19 Awareness-Lead Awareness.

**NOTE: Classes & Certifications contractors have been asking for are: OSHA 30, Asbestos & Lead Awareness, Hoisting & Rigging, Pipeline Safety, Class A Cdl License, Asbestos Removal Supervisors Licence, Confined Space Permit Required, Grade Checking Blueprint Reading & Measuring Tools, Gps Location.** The above training and certifications are all available at the training center. It could mean the difference of being sent to work or not!

**FYI:** By taking the OSHA 30 your 18 MUST Safety modules are updated as well. If you are not able to go to the Training Center for MUST Safety Modules contact the Local Union to assist you with making arrangements to complete them.

**Referral List:** Every member who is looking for work must call, or come to the Local Union Office on Mondays between 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm and put their name on the out-of-work list. You must have an out-of-work skills sheet filled out and on file in order to be referred out for work by the Local Union. Also be sure to Check & Update your Skills regularly.

**Roll Call: All members on the out-of-work list must re-reg-**

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

Members are urged to report new project starts to the Local Union. Members working for a contractor who may be looking to hire additional laborers are urged to call the Union Hall and help a brother or sister get referred out to work. The next time, it may be your name on the list when that call comes in for work.

**CONTACT NUMBERS**  
Michigan Laborers' Fringe Benefits Funds (Annuity, Insurance, Pension & Vacation)

**Telephone: (877) 645-2267**  
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**BENEFICIARY RE-MINDER:** Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice especially after a divorce on all of your LIUNA Local 1191, 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.

**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.

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

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Elevator Constructors 36

**DETROIT – ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED** that our next regular **Membership Meeting is planned for Monday, June 28, 2021, at 5:30 pm.** As of this printing we are having an in-person meeting, also we will have the radio station going for any health and space concerns. Keep watching your email for possible changes!

**Attention all Apprentices, monthly OJT forms** are now online at NEIEP which **must** be completed before the 9<sup>th</sup> day of the next month. **If you are working out of our jurisdiction, laid off or a probationary, OJT forms must be filled out and turned into the Hall. This is a requirement of the Department of Labor.** Do not put your apprenticeship in jeopardy by failing to fulfill your responsibility.

Reminder to All that the NEIEP website is available to All

*“You only have power over people so long as you don't take everything away from them. But when you've robbed a man of everything, he's no longer in your power – he's free again.”*

–Alexander Solzhenitsyn (1918-2008)

*“First learn the meaning of what you say, and then speak.”*

–Epictetus (55 AD - 135 AD)

*“Have the courage to be ignorant of a great number of things, in order to avoid the calamity of being ignorant of everything.”*

–Sydney Smith (1771 - 1845)

interested in Reviewing and Continuing Education.

We have been informed by NEIEP that school will be in-person for the next semester starting in August. Go to the NEIEP website for the status of your apprenticeship, also watch your NEIEP and personal emails for further information. All future obligations are generated by NEIEP, this is a responsibility of your apprenticeship.

Attention all Members Monthly Checks have been mailed out.

**Attention all Members** Check your pay stubs regularly, there have been multiple issues with several Companies with Pay and Rates due. The hours you are paid should match hours toward vacation, benefits and expenses submitted. All may request a copy of the time you submit, according to the NEBA Agreement, Article XI, Par 2. Any changes made to your time are to be documented and given to you, NEBA Agreement, Article XI, Par. 1.

All Testing must be done according to Code and your Companies Maintenance Control Program. Document all tests that are due and only tasks you have completed. Keep all job logs current with this information. When you need assistance, technical or for safety, request, receive and document.

**Reminder,** the new quarter starts July 1. You are required to have a new card in your possession and remember to include \$10.00 for two Brothers lost from the International.

**All Members,** Local 36, Local 85 and the EIWP are holding outreach sessions on Monday nights, 6:00 – 8:00 pm. Reviewing and answering any questions pertaining to Michigan and Detroit Elevator Codes. Contact the Hall if you are interested. The link will be sent to you for either online or phone participation. We are trying to compile a list of members to have a code book layout session, call the hall if interested. Maintenance Control Programs (MCP) reference the Codes, are you being Code compliant?

Know what the MCP is referencing for you the Licensed Journeyman. If anyone is interested in a class for QEI training, please call the Hall so we can build a potential class list.

**Reminder,** keep your State of Michigan and City of Detroit licenses current. Sign up to receive Safety Alerts at IUEC.org for safety and product alerts to your phone. All Construction and Modernization work is Teamwork. Keep the hall informed of starting all jobs. Remember to always follow COVID-19 guidelines for your safety and those around you.

The Hall would like to pass on its condolences to the Kuras family with the passing of honorary retired brother Ralph Kuras. We also lost IUEC brother Servero Hernandez from Local 31, this death assessment will be added as part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter dues.

Get-well wishes are extended to all our Brothers and Sisters who are on our sick list. Be Safe and Be Healthy!



**Going up in Kalamazoo**

A LOCAL 324 OPERATING ENGINEERS member does some heavy lifting for the other trades while working at the Graphics Packaging plant in Kalamazoo. The trades are constructing a \$600 million coated recycled board line at the plant that will make their Kalamazoo plant the largest manufacturer of CRB in the nation.

**Elevator Constructors Local 36 mourns Ralph Kuras**

Our condolences go out to the family and friends of Ralph W. Kuras, 91, of Cheboygan, who died at home on Monday, June 7, 2021. Mr. Kuras made a career as an elevator constructor and was business manager of Detroit Elevator Constructors



Ralph Kuras

Local 36 for 13 years before retiring in 1989.

A proud veteran of the Army, Ralph served during the Korean War and was a member of the American Legion.

Among those surviving Ralph are his four sons, all retired Local 36 mechanics: Jerry (Lenore) of Minden City, Dan (Maryanne) of Chesterfield, Chris (Dino) of Sterling Heights, and David (Janine) of Cheboygan; as well as seven grandchildren; three great grandchildren; and his sister, Toni Ratobylski of Clinton Township. Ralph was preceded in death by his wife, Delphine and his brother, Jerry.

Ralph's son Dave (Shorty) is also a retired business manager of Local 36. He said his dad worked “everywhere” among the union elevator shops.

“He was a staunch union man and proud to be a member of Local 36,” Shorty Kuras said. “And the union took good care of him over the years, with health care and retirement benefits. In his retirement he loved seeing people he knew at the union picnics; he made a lot of friends over the years. At his age, a lot of his friends had passed, but at one time he knew everybody in the elevator industry, and knew everybody among all the trades.”

A graveside service and military honors will be held at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly at a later date.

**OSHA eyes budget hike; resumes ‘naming and shaming’**

(Continued from Page 1)

flows to states. The inadequacies of the current unemployment insurance system became a particular area of focus during the pandemic. The aim of the new system is to help states serve claimants much more quickly.

**Training workers for careers in clean energy.** The proposal also includes \$100 million to train workers in Appalachian communities transitioning away from fossil fuel production. This fund-

ing is in addition to other federal programs to re-skill workers and transform the communities they live in.

“This funding proposal is as bold as it is necessary in its scope and economic impact as we seek to boost workers and families out of the most challenging economic situation in generations. The proposal acknowledges and addresses the burden that communities of color and other traditionally under-served groups have borne throughout the pandemic,”

said U.S. Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh.

**OSHA is back in the business of highlighting bad actors.** With fewer inspectors than the agency needs, it appears OSHA may be returning to an old strategy (and one that happens to be very cost-effective). Under the Obama administration, OSHA regularly used press releases to announce large fines against companies found to be violating workplace safety rules. This tactic

was often referred to as “naming and shaming.”

At the time, OSHA acknowledged that the tactic led to increased news coverage for the agency and for the employers that were cited. Several studies showed the practice led to reduced violations among employers in the same industry and in the surrounding area of the business that was cited. One study estimated that a single press release had the same effect as 210

OSHA inspections.

Under the Trump administration, OSHA almost completely stopped this tactic. Now, with new leadership at the Department of Labor, the agency has brought it back. Checking OSHA's press releases page shows a weekly listing of violations handed out by each OSHA region, including the company's name, the safety and health hazards they exposed employees to and the total amount of the citations issued.

In the past, we've covered how the size of OSHA fines are generally not much of a deterrent to large employers, especially when the fines are often later reduced on appeal. But negative PR can have a serious impact on an employer's bottom line and reputation, especially when new projects are on the line. This news should give employers one more reason to follow OSHA standards and protect the safety and health of their workforce.

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## Outdoors

# The survey vessel Steelhead



By David Clapp  
Michigan Department of  
Natural Resources

The year 1968 is often described as one of the most tumultuous and momentous in American history.

Among the year's many events, there was an Apollo moon orbit, landmark civil rights legislation passed and the assassinations of Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert F. Kennedy.

That same year, an event on Lake Michigan marked a turning point for natural resource management and conservation on the Great Lakes. The Survey Vessel Steelhead set forth from Charlevoix for its first year of fisheries surveys on the lakes.

Construction of the S/V Steelhead, built in Escanaba by the T.D. Vinette Co., was completed in April 1968. Soon after, the S/V Steelhead set out for its first fisheries assessment operations – investigating the distribution, abundance, growth and diet of major fish stocks on lakes Michigan and Huron. These first assessments are documented in an amazing book titled *The Salmon Hunters*, written and illustrated by the first captain of the S/V Steelhead, William J. Palmer.

Since construction of the survey boat, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources has gone on to commission vessels at each of its Great Lakes research stations.

The Research Vessel Channel Cat (at the DNR's Lake St. Clair Fisheries Research Station) was also launched in 1968. At the Marquette Fisheries Research Station, the R/V Lake Char replaced the R/V Judy in 2007, and the newest vessel, the R/V Tanner, went into service in 2017, replacing the R/V Chinook at the Alpena Fisheries Research Station. The R/V Tanner was named for Dr. Howard Tanner, a former DNR director who is widely recognized as the father of the Great Lakes salmon fishery.

While these vessels have similar missions on each of the lakes, the S/V Steelhead is unique

THE MICHIGAN DNR'S Survey Vessel *Steelhead* is shown heading offshore. The Steelhead is hard at work on the waters of Lake Michigan for more than 100 days each year, with its crew performing fish surveys and other tasks

MDNR photo



among DNR vessels in that crew can live aboard. This allows the boat to work for extended periods far from its home port and facilitate surveys at remote locations, such as around islands and reefs in the middle of the lake or those that require extending beyond a traditional 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. shift.

The original design of the vessel was intended to allow for week-long, offshore sampling cruises with a crew of five. This foresight has reaped benefits throughout the history of the Lake Michigan fisheries program, with collection of unique and valuable information that would have been impossible from small boats limited to near-shore sampling.

The accommodations aboard the vessel are pretty spartan, with bunks for four crew members below deck and housing for the vessel captain in the pilot house. The galley is furnished with a refrigerator, stove, microwave and coffee maker – important for keeping the crew alert during early-morning and late-night surveys.

On the deck above the crew quarters, an enclosed, heated laboratory allows for sample workup and archiving in all sea-

sons and weather conditions, with two chest freezers and an ice machine in the vessel hold to ensure all samples come back to Charlevoix in good condition.

Since that initial cruise described in William Palmer's book, the S/V Steelhead has been involved in numerous surveys and research studies that have directly benefitted Michigan's fisheries. Two examples serve to illustrate this point: annual Lake Michigan lake trout surveys, and the annual multi-agency forage fish survey.

**Lake trout.** Lake trout were one of the target species on that first cruise in 1968 and continue to be one of the primary targets for current survey efforts. Beginning in early April and extending into June, the S/V Steelhead crew deploys gill nets to sample Lake Michigan lake trout populations at ports from St. Joseph to Petoskey.

For every fish that's brought aboard, length and weight are measured, aging structures are extracted, stomach samples are collected, health indices are recorded and wounds from sea lamprey are tabulated. In some cases, additional samples are collected for special studies or at the request of collaborators. For ex-

ample, muscle or fin tissue samples are collected that allow fisheries researchers to chemically measure the diet of fish over long periods of time.

Information collected by the S/V Steelhead crew is then combined across the lake with similar information collected by other Great Lakes agencies to determine the abundance and health of Lake Michigan lake trout populations and to direct management efforts to improve these populations.

For example, if sea lamprey wounds are causing excessive mortality of lake trout in certain areas of the lake, those areas can be targeted for further sea lamprey control efforts.

Currently, most lake trout caught by anglers in Lake Michigan are fish produced in a hatchery. A significant management goal for Lake Michigan is to restore self-sustaining (wild spawning) lake trout populations. To help address this goal, the S/V Steelhead crew conducts fall gill net surveys of lake trout on important spawning reefs.

These surveys are aimed at measuring adult spawner abundance and indexing the contribution of wild and hatchery-produced fish to the adult lake trout spawning population.

One key piece of information collected during this survey is the presence of fin clips or tags on the lake trout sampled. These marks help identify fish that came from a hatchery. Pairing this information with data from stocking events, including location and stocking method, managers can identify actions that have the most impact on restoring wild-spawning fish.

For example, if lake trout from a specific strain (parent stock) are surviving better to reproduce, managers can shift hatchery and stocking efforts to include more of that strain of fish. To date, about 30 percent of lake trout in Lake Michigan are wild fish, but that percentage is increasing every year. Lake Superior's lake trout population is self-sustaining, with supplemental stocking from hatcheries ending in 2006.

**Forage fish.** The multi-agency forage fish survey is critical to the DNR's ability to understand predator-prey dynamics in Lake Michigan, and to successfully manage salmon stocking and lake trout restoration.

To maintain healthy populations of salmon and trout fish anglers usually target, the lake must contain sufficient numbers of forage fish salmon and trout eat, like alewife, rainbow smelt and bloater chubs. Each year the S/V Steelhead crew teams up with vessels from other Great Lakes fisheries agencies to measure the abundance of forage fish in the entire lake.

The DNR crew samples multiple transects along Michigan's shoreline, out to the middle of the lake. On each transect, hydro-acoustic data are collected, electronically recording the number and distribution of forage fish in the water column.

These hydro-acoustic data are combined with fish catches from trawls (lake bottom nets), to verify the size and species composition of the forage fish community. Data from Michigan waters are combined with information collected in other jurisdictions to give managers a lakewide estimate of forage abundance. This estimate is used to help fine-tune stocking numbers and fishing regulations – management "levers" that help the DNR maintain a balance between predatory salmon and trout and the food they need to survive.

Additional surveys con-

ducted from the S/V Steelhead target other important Lake Michigan fish species, such as yellow perch, lake whitefish, Chinook and coho salmon, steelhead and cisco. All these surveys are coordinated with managers in Michigan and other Lake Michigan states, to ensure the maximum amount of information is available on which to base fisheries management decisions.

The majority of funding for this work comes from Michigan fishing license revenue and proceeds from Federal Aid in Sportfish Restoration, a federal program that distributes revenue collected on the sale of fishing equipment and small engine/boat motor fuel back to the states to finance fisheries research, management, and fish production activities.

Like any of us who've passed our 50th year, the S/V Steelhead has occasional aches and pains. The boat will soon require some significant upgrades to continue successful operations. Repowering with efficient modern engines, hull maintenance and replacement of outdated deck equipment, including trawl drums, winches and cranes, are all "must do" items for the S/V Steelhead in the coming years. However, this vessel launched with such foresight in 1968 is still paying huge dividends for the people of Michigan and the fish of Lake Michigan.

More broadly, as a result of the great dedication and vision of the early staff of its Charlevoix, Alpena, Marquette and Lake St. Clair DNR research stations, the DNR now has a standardized Great Lakes fisheries program that rivals any freshwater assessment program in North America.

The vessel crews are well-trained, highly skilled and hardworking. DNR biologists are widely recognized for their scientific knowledge, their collaborative abilities and their strong awareness of the importance of these amazing fisheries to the public.

The DNR's Great Lakes fisheries stations – and especially its research vessels – are truly the foundation of Great Lakes fisheries management, and the department is looking forward with anticipation to what the next 50 years will bring on the S/V Steelhead.

Learn more about the DNR's fisheries research at Michigan.gov/FishResearch.

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