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Since 1952 • Serving the highly skilled men and women in Michigan's building trade unions

65 Cents

COVID rules, but many job

sites stand pat - for now

MIOSHA delivers new

By Marty Mulcahy

Editor

arms, masks come off in grocery

stores and restaurants and

COVID-19 infection numbers

continue to decline, rules govern-

ing workplaces in Michigan and

Administration has dramatically

eased social distancing and mask-

ing rules for Michiganians in so-

cial situations, stores and else-

where. But some workplaces are

still a different animal - for the

construction industry, if jobsite

owners and contractors choose

to continue more stringent rules

requiring workers to undergo

temperature checks, mask wear-

In recent weeks the Whitmer

the nation are also changing.

As vaccine shots go into

June 4, 2021

SHORT CUTS

Teamsters derail CEO's pay package

WASHINGTON, D.C. American CEO's enjoy a 379-1 pay advantage over the average worker, a number that has grown 940 percent since 1978.

Corporate boards usually rubber-stamp pay increases and golden parachutes for top executives, and shareholders almost never organizing a sufficient resistance.

But now comes the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, which led a successful organized effort among Marathon Petroleum Corp. shareholders to "Vote No" on a compensation package for executives. It was headlined on May 5 by a denial - with 70 percent of shares voting no – of a \$6 million restricted stock award to retiring Chairman and CEO Gary Heminger.

"With the recent announcement of an overwhelming say-on-pay defeat at Marathon Petroleum, shareholders sent an emphatic message to the company's Board of Directors: stop rewarding executives with lavish pay packages that are both unwarranted when measured by performance and out of touch with reality at what is going on within the company,' said Ken Hall, Teamsters General Secretary-Treasurer.

The Teamsters said the vote was the worst ever loss for a proposed compensation company for a S&P energy company. The union was motivated to send letters to shareholders calling for the "no" vote, based on pressing safety concerns related to refinery workers in St. Paul, Minn. The resounding pay defeat follows news that the company is receiving \$2.1 billion in tax benefits under the federal CARES Act, even as it plans to lay off 12 percent of its workforce.

"Marathon investors," Hall said, "are not impressed with the golden parachutes the company provides its executives, the 379:1 CEO to median employee pay ratio, and the risks the company has created by jeopardizing safety at its St. Paul Park refinery by locking out its workers. Placing workers, the community, and the environment at undue risk is a clear environmental, social, and corporate governance failure reflected in the vote."

Don't worry too much about Heminger's ability to enjoy retirement: the Teamsters pointed out in their letter that his compensation also includes a \$35.1 million pension benefit and a \$12.9 million defined contribution account.

Pay cuts for Kroger workers, not CEO

Kroger CEO Rodney McMullen received a \$6.4 million raise in May – a raise of 45 percent - as he steered the supermarket chain through the COVID-19 pandemic. McMullen earned \$14.2 million last year.

But the typical Kroger employee saw her pay drop by 8.1 percent last year. Median pay at Kroger, numerous news outlets report, fell by more than \$2,000 to \$24,617. Kroger early last year proudly announced a \$2 hourly hazard pay increase – called a "Hero Bonus" for store and warehouse employees working during the pandemic.

The bonus was rescinded in May 2020.

Quotable

"Don't fear failure so much that you refuse to try new things. The saddest summary of a life contains three descriptions: could have, might have, and should have."

-Louis E. Boone, 1941-



GRAPHICS PACKAGING in Kalamazoo and its building trades workforce is erecting a \$600 million coated recycled board mill that will make make the facility the largest producer of recycled paperboard in North America. The company makes folding cartons for food and beverage

Trades serve Graphics Packaging with new \$600M coated paper mill

By Marty Mulcahy Editor

KALAMAZOO – Graphics Packaging, a leading profood, beverage, food service, and other consumer products companies, is undertaking a project intended to make the company the largest and lowest cost producer of Coated Recycled Board (CRB) in North America

Along with Wieland, the general contracting and construction management firm on the project, as well as its subcontractors and building trades workforce, a \$600 million project to construct a new "K2 mill" is ongoing. The work will yield a massive new CRB machine which is expected to have an annual capacity of approximately 500,000 tons - which represents 44 percent of North producer of recycled paper-

board in North America.

Graphics Packaging said it expects the machine "will produce the highest quality coated revider of packaging materials to cycled board product in North America with the lowest-caliper

capabilities in the industry." Graphics Packaging President and CEO Michael Doss called the new works a "significant investment into (Continued on Page 2)



American production of the ATWORK SETTING UP 15,000-volt switchgear at the Graphics product. It will make the Packaging plant in Kalamazoo is Randy Williams of IBEW Local Kalamazoo facility the largest 131. The project steward is employed by Van Ert Electric Co./KEI **Electrical Construction and Maintenance.**



WE ASKED THIS GROUP of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 357 members coming off their break to stand next to the massive new K2 Coated Recycled Board (CRB) machine at left, being installed at the Graphics Packaging plant in Kalamazoo. They are (l-r) Jarrett Nieboer, Alan Freund and foreman Greg VandeMaele. They are employed by R.W. Lapine.

Work zone crashes are also a hazard for motorists, survey finds

It's never a bad idea to remind the public about how dangerous it can be to work construction along a highway.

from the Associated General Contractors and construction software development company HCSS, who reported May 27 the results of a nationwide highway contractor survey that found 60

way upgrades experienced cars crashing into their work zone during the past year.

And workers aren't the only The latest reminder comes people at risk, although having cars and trucks whizzing nearby at highway speeds is inherently dangerous. While 19 percent of contractors participating in the survey experienced crashes that resulted in injury to construction percent of firms working on high- workers, nearly twice as many

has re-started ing and social distancing, then those rules take precedence. As we went to press, major projects on jobs sponsored by

automakers, power plants and other larger projects proceeding under National Maintenance Agreement terms were still largely operating under COVID safety protocols that have been in place for the past year. On other projects, for vaccinated workers, workplace COVID rules may be

loosening up. "New guidance from MIOSHA or federal OSHA or the CDC may change at any time and impact how COVID-related jobsite safety protocols are being handled," said Patrick Devlin, secretary-treasurer of the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council. "But as things

employers still set the rules on their construction sites, and they will let workers know when and if safety protocols are adjusted."

Sean Egan, a member of Muskegon IBEW Local 275 who is deputy director for Labor at the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity and Director of Director of COVID-19 Workplace Safety, offered updated (Continued on Page 2)

UI work search requirement for jobless

Michigan has reinstated a search for work requirement for jobless workers earning unemployment benefits.

Suspended beginning last year due to the pandemic, the requirement was re-instituted as of May 30. According to the state Unemployment Insurance Agency, "for each week you claim unemployment benefits, you will be required to search for work and submit details of at least one work search activity per week."

Further guidelines from the

•Make sure you understand your responsibilities when it comes to conducting and documenting your work search to avoid mistakes which could result (Continued on Page 3)

The 2020 Union Craft Labor Supply Study: Optimism remains, even as growth projections dip and labor shortages ease

Union Constructors)

A year after the COVID-19 pandemic fundamentally altered the business landscape, professionals in the union construction industry are slightly less optimistic about growth in 2021, but given the circumstances, it's not as bad as you might expect.

Another bright spot: although finding skilled and qualified craftworkers is still a challenge for contractors, fewer employers across the country re-

ported labor shortages last year. These are just a couple of the takeaways from The Association of Union Constructors (TAUC's) seventh annual Union Craft Labor Supply Study, based on a comprehensive survey of 1,129 U.S. industry respondents

conducted in January 2021. Once again, TAUC commissioned the Construction Labor Research Council (CLRC) to conduct the survey and compile the resulting study and analysis.

firms – 35 percent – reported experiencing a crash in which drivers or passengers were injured.

'The men and women of the construction industry are frequently working just a few feet, and sometimes inches, away from speeding vehicles," said Ken Simonson, the AGC's chief economist and author of the annual survey. "Too often, drivers (Continued on Page 3)

(From the Association of Contractors, building trades representatives, owner-clients, con-



struction managers and association professionals of every size and from evgraphic re-

gion weighed in and gave their perspectives, creating a truly oneof-a-kind data set.

Last year's study occurred just prior to the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic. This year, the data reflect nearly a year of living with the pandemic. Thus, the results from last year's study compared to this year provide a clean "before and after" look at the data.

There was strong consistency across all nine U.S. geographic regions with fewer people indicating a shortage of union craft workers in 2020 than in 2019 for every region. And while we also found reduced optimism regarding growth, even in the midst of a pandemic, about two-thirds of the study participants projected growth.

In other words, what makes the findings about growth projections stand out is that they are not lower than they are, given the challenges the construction and maintenance industry faces: a pandemic, union craft labor shortage, increasing cost of materials, (Continued on Page 3)

Construction trend up, but challenges persist For now, Michigan's on Industry moves forward, fitfully top of U.S. in job gains experiencing losses in recent ultimately limit the ability of this

construction starts fell 2 percent in April to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$853.5 billion, according to a May 18 report by Dodge Data & Analytics.

Single-family construction posted a sizeable decline following a mostly higher pattern of activity in recent months, while nonresidential building and non- construction labor were bound to

"The pullback in single fam-

ily construction starts was inevitable after showing exceptional strength over the past year," said Richard Branch, chief economist for Dodge Data & Analytics. "Higher material prices, supply shortages, and a dearth of skilled building starts both gained after catch up with housing and will

sector to show the same rate of expansion this year as it did last.

"Meanwhile, nonresidential starts are stabilizing and should continue to heal throughout 2021, however, this sector will also be challenged by similar issues facing the housing market that will cause its starts to be below pre-pandemic levels for months to come.

(Continued on Page 3)

It's mostly because of a statistical anomaly, but we'll take it. Michigan topped the charts

among the states when in comes to construction industry employment gains over the past year. Our No. 1 rank in jobs gained between April 2020 and April 2021 was made possible by a rather whop-

ping gain of 68,400 jobs during that 12-month period, according to the latest industry employment numbers released by the Associated General Contractors.

And of course that 64.2 percent increase in employment was made possible by a rather awful six-week shutdown of many areas

(Continued on Page 3)

Viewpoints



June 4, 2021

The case for strong unions

There once was a time in this country that if you wanted to keep your job you worked until you dropped – or until the boss said, "quitting time."

There once was a time that your wages were never enough to pay all the basic bills. There once was a time that if your supervisor told you to do something, you did it, no matter how menial or objectionable. There was a time when vacations, sick days and benefits were not on the table. It was a time when workers had basically no voice, no rights, no choice.

And then came unions in the late 1930s. Unions gave all of us power over what our jobs looked like and what was acceptable and safe in the workplace. Whether we were a member of the union or an indirectly affected white collar employee, unions gave us the eight-hour work day, paid leave, health care, retirement, health and safety regulations to protect us at work, a voice at the table, profit sharing and so much more.

Unions gave us the ability to choose, be treated well and to strive for a good life for our families.

Today, we need unions more than ever in our nation as we come out of the pandemic and we move into this third decade of the 21st Century. A shift in the dynamic of the work world has lessened the powerful effect of unions over the past years, and too many people are being left behind. The "gig economy" and union busting or breaking up attempts at unionizing is leaving too many working two or three jobs to make ends meet.

Over the past decades union membership has steadily declined, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. In 1983, more than 20 percent of working Americans were members of a union. By 2019, that percentage had decreased to 10.3 percent.

But the tide is turning. Support for unions is at an all-time high. According to the Economic Policy Institute, "There is a huge gap between the share of workers with union representation (12 percent) and the share of workers who would like to have a union and a voice on the job. ... Almost half of nonunion workers polled in 2017 (48 percent) said they would join a union in their workplace tomorrow if they got the chance. That's 50 percent higher than in 1995, when 32 percent of those surveyed said they would vote for a union.'

And Gallup estimates that as of 2020, 65 percent of all Americans approve of labor unions; including 83 percent of Democrats and 45 percent of Republicans.

If you are not unionized, it is important to consider what a union would do in your workplace. Would it change your wages? Would it make the work day better? Would it make the success of your company equal a larger financial stake for you and greater return on your investment of time and talent?

And consider what unionizing would give essential workers - crucial to our safety and livelihoods during the pandemic, but virtually left behind as they provided transportation and health care services and delivered products and food. They would finally have a voice, a living wage and a better life!

The right to unionize, and all it means, is as important today as it was in the 1930s – when unions first gained a strong foothold, when they first drastically improved the lives of so many. It is essential that

all workers today know their right to organize and use it. We changed the work world nearly a century ago, and we've let that progress slip. Now is the time to pick ourselves up, band together and make America's unions strong again.

And we need to restore free and fair opportunities to unionize by passing the PRO Act in the U.S. Senate to level the playing field for American workers.

> **UAW President Rory Gamble** (via The Detroit News Labor Voices, May 18, 2021



Source: American Federationist, 1922

Corporate wailing and woe

By Jim Hightower

"Outrageous," screeched the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. "It doesn't feel fair," whimpered a top corporate executive.

The wailing by those who run corporate



America is not for the plight of the workaday families who've seen their incomes stagnate and even plum-

met to zero during the pandemic. Rather, this chorus of woe comes from powerful plutocratic interests that have been enjoying windfall profits.

Why? Because, they cry, that meanie in the White House, Joe Biden, intends to modestly hike their corporate tax rate.

But wait... Didn't Trump and the GOP Congress slash the corporate share of our nation's upkeep nearly in half just four years ago, shifting the burden to the middle class and poor? Yes. And didn't they promise that those cuts would create millions

of new jobs? Yes again. But instead, corporations got richer and working stiffs got shafted.

Still, here they come again, howling that raising corporate taxes would crash the stock market. Well, the day Biden announced his plan, stock prices did fall... by less than 1 percent. The next day, they bounced right

Moreover, those are crocodile tears the rich are shedding. They know that - as Biden himself makes clear – his proposed uptick in their tax share "is not going to affect their standard of living at all. Not a little tiny bit."

They'll still have their two or three big houses, private jets, and yachts. But, with them paying just a bit more toward the common good, our country will be able to reinvest in society's physical and human infrastructure, making America stronger and fairer for all.

That's why there are broad and deep public majorities – even among Republicans – for Biden's infrastructure plan and the cor-

porate taxes to pay for it. (via www.otherwords.org)

Graphics Packaging's new coated paper mill

(Continued from Page 1) our integrated CRB platform.

"This is a unique opportunity to make a highly strategic investment in sustainable packaging, exceptional product quality and an unmatched cost position for producing CRB. Importantly, the investment will be capacity neutral as we expect to reduce production at other higher cost CRB facilities after we ramp up production of this highly productive CRB machine starting in early 2022. Increasing consumer preference for sustainable packaging is expected to drive steady, longterm demand for packaging solutions manufactured from 100 percent recycled fiber."

Ed Lorenz, a principal and project executive for Wieland, overseeing the project, said ground was broken on the project in September 2019. "The new GPI mill will total approximately 350,000 square feet over four buildings, including the mill, the cardboard area, the boiler house, and the finished goods warehouse," said Lorenz.

Headquartered in Atlanta, Ga., Graphics Packaging operates globally and is one of the largest producers of folding cartons and paper-based food service products in the U.S. Its customers include many of the world's most widely recognized companies and brands, including Kellogg's of Battle Creek.

The company has had operations in Kalamazoo since 1867 and currently employs 625.

Doss said that planning for the project took five years. Even prior to COVID-19 and the public's increased tendency toward take-out foods, Doss said the there was an upward trend in using food packaging. He said when the new machine is online, the plant will use 300 million gallons less water per year and will generate 20 percent less greenhouse gases across its CRB platform. The process will also use 18 percent less electricity.

"We make folding cartons which are part of goods sold for big food and beverage companies," Doss said in a company video. "And their margins are thin, so we need to be a low-cost, high-quality producer. This investment really helps us ensure that with our CRB platform, we will be the low-cost producer, by far, by almost \$140 a ton, which is massive in the commodity busi-

"Everything we see to this point suggests that it's on track, and our investment here is Kalamazoo is a big part of that."



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SETTINGA PIPE RACK in the boiler building addition at the Graphics Packaging project in Kalamazoo are Alvin Vandergriff and Liam Knapp of Iron Workers Local 25. They're employed by Barton Malow.

MIOSHA delivers new COVID rules, but many job sites stand pat - for now

(Continued from Page 1)

guidance from the state in a video released May 26. He said that while new rules based on CDC guidelines can lead to relaxed restrictions for workers, employers are free to continue implement COVID safety protocols as they have been during the pandemic.

"There have been some pieces that have been in place for a long time that are critical to the prevention of the transmission of COVID in the workplace," Egan said, adding that the new rules are "giving employers a lot of flexibility to be creative" in implementing safety protocols going forward. But those protocols still primarily apply to the unvaccinated, especially in indoor environments.

"As it relates to face coverings and social distancing, those tools work," Egan said. "And for those people who are not yet vaccinated, that's why you're seeing a difference between vaccinated and non-vaccinated. And these tools continue to be the most effective in making sure that we don't transmit COVID to each other. Vaccinations are really the key. The CDC made it very clear that relaxation of social distancing and face coverings is related to fully vaccinated individuals."

However, Egan said employers can simply continue to require face coverings and social distancing for all employees regardless of their vaccination status. He said employers can also ask employees if they're fully vaccinated as part of their daily health screening protocol.

Egan didn't focus on the state's construction industry when he talked about the updated COVID protocols, but he showed numbers that revealed construction to be a top workplace sector for the spread of the virus, which is declining. Picking data from May 20, the state Department of Health and Human Services reported that the "construction/ manufacturing" sector experi-enced 157 COVID outbreaks that day – more than half of all of the 305 workplace outbreaks in the state. The next lowest was associated with offices, where there

"We're continuing to see vaccination rates go up which should continue to pull case counts down," Egan said. "And we've seen that directly impact our workplace safety and health, so definitely we encourage all employees to get that vaccination."

Legal guidance from Michigan labor attorney John Tesija on May 25 said that for in-person work, "as expected, MIOSHA issued new COVID-19 workplace safety rules for employers yesterday that removed the mask and social distancing requirements for fully vaccinated employees (other than those working in healthcare and public transportation). To comply with

NFPA 70E

TRAINING

24 -HOUR

this order, (his emphasis) mask Force... has decided to continue and social distancing is still required for employees that are not fully vaccinated."

Tesija added: "Employers are given wide discretion to use any manner deemed effective for the workplace to apply the new rules, which include: 1) keeping records of vaccinated employees; 2) posting signs reminding employees that are not fully vaccinated that they must wear masks and maintain social distancing; 3) allow or require remote work of non-vaccinated employees; or 4) even require mask and social distancing of all employees, including those that are fully vaccinated.

"How intrusive the vaccination verification program can be is not well defined in the new order, so anything from asking employees to verbally declare their vaccination status to asking for actual proof - such as to inspect their CDC vaccination card – appears permissible. The order defines 'fully vaccinated' as an employee that has had two weeks pass after their final vaccination shot."

Major employers of building trades workers sponsoring billions of dollars in ongoing projects – Ford, General Motors and Stellantis – comprise the "COVID-19 Task Force." They released a related joint statement

"Out of an abundance of caution, the COVID-19 Joint Task to require workers to wear masks at the worksite until the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issues guidelines in response to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) recent change in COVID-19 workplace standards. Ford, General Motors and Stellantis will also comply with all state, county, and city regulations where we operate facilities.

"The COVID-19 Task Force met and after reviewing the CDC guidelines and OSHA standards, decided it is best for worker safety to wait for expected updated OSHA workplace standards and consult health experts to maintain safety and uniformity as we transition through the pandemic. We know that masks can be uncomfortable, but we ask that everyone comply.

The COVID-19 Task Force will reconvene in two weeks and review updates at that time. In the meantime, Detroit Three worksites will continue to wear masks onsite to be as cautious as possible with worker health and safety. While we continue following the protocols that have kept our workplaces safe, we know that one of the best ways to fight this virus is by getting vaccinated. We encourage everyone to roll up their sleeve so we can move more quickly toward continuing to relax our protocols."

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BUILDING MICHIGAN: Ford's Highland Park plant HISTORY IN THE MAKING



THE FORD MOTOR CO.'s Highland Park plant was the largest manufacturing plant in the world when it opened in 1910 to build the Model T. It became the second-largest less than two decades later when Ford opened his massive Rouge works in Dearborn to build the Model A. The Highland Park site, shown here in the 1930s, was subsequently used to build Ford tractors and parts. For Ford, the Highland Park plant had limited capacity to grow and no access to water transportation – and he thought the plant's dependence on railroads for incoming materials and outgoing products made Ford vulnerable to railway strikes. "Ford and his manufacturing team decided upon implementing a moving assembly line at the Highland Park plant long before the plant was built," said Model T Ford Fix, an enthusiast's source for information on the vehicle. "At the time, assembly-line type manufacturing was already used to make large quantities of other goods, such as sewing machines and firearms. What was revolutionary was Ford implementing all of the processes and procedures within a few short years to achieve this level of mass production for entire automobiles.'

Henry Ford refined and implemented the automotive industry's first assembly line at his first plant, the comparatively tiny, three-story, 67,000-squarefoot Piquette Avenue Plant in Detroit. Built in 1904, workers there cranked out the first 14,000 Model Ts until January 1910. But Ford quickly outgrew that manufacturing building.

Just seven years later, in 1917, Ford began construction on the mammoth Rouge plant in Dearborn, When it was completed in 1928, the plant consisted of 93 buildings spread over 2,000 acres – for decades it was the largest industrial facility in the world.

But in between the Piquette Plant and the Rouge works, Ford operated out of his Highland Park Plant at Woodward Avenue and Manchester Street, about four miles north of the Piquette plant. In 1907 Ford purchased 60 acres of land at the site to build a plant there, eventually acquiring a total of 230 acres. Historically the Highland Park is a bit like the middle sibling who could get lost in the shuffle - but it holds an incredible niche in world history.

Automotive enthusiast magazine Hemmings said the plant is "considered by many to be the birthplace of modern manufacturing." The Society of Architectural Historians' Archipedia, calls the Ford Highland Park Plant "the first large automobile manufacturing complex in Detroit, the birthplace of mass production on a continuous moving assembly line that revolutionized automobile production and made Ford the largest automobile manufacturer in the world."

Not only did the plant become the first in the world (in 1913) to utilize a moving assembly line to build automobiles, in 1914, Ford infamously began paying workers a \$5 per-day salary for eight hours of work.

The plant's National Register of Historic Places application says "In 1910, the Ford Motor Co. moved its operations to the Highland Park Plant, and here over the next five years, the principles of mass production were developed by constantly rearranging men, machinery and materials to systematize production, reduce unnecessary motion and cut costs. In 1913 Ford and his engineers developed the continuously moving assembly line, 'the crowning achievement,' says company historian Allan Nevins, 'in the creation of mass production techniques.' This technique reduced the assembly time of a completed automobile from 728 minutes to 93 minutes."

Actual construction on the Highland Park plant did not start until 1908, and it "proceeded slowly because of Ford's determination to finance building costs entirely out of company



AUTOWORKERS install gas tanks in Model Ts in 1913 at the newly opened Ford Highland Park plant. Ford Motor Co. said its Highland Park plant "was nothing less than the most influential factory of the 20th Century. Within its walls Henry Ford and his associates developed the moving assembly line, introduced the \$5 day for workers, and produced millions of reliable and affordable Model T automobiles that put the world on wheels.

profits," says Ford Motor History. Model T manufacturing moved from the Piquette Plant to Highland Park on Jan. 1, 1910. The Highland Park plant was the largest manufacturing facility in the world – until Ford opened the Rouge plant in Dearborn.

"When Henry Ford transferred his company's operations to Highland Park in 1910, the plant consisted of a four-story main factory building, a large four-story administration building, a gigantic power plant with five tall smokestacks... and several other structures in various stages of completion," said the application for the plant's National Historic Place designation. "From 1910 to 1922 Ford and his colleagues constantly expanded the size of the complex as they developed new mass production techniques to meet the steadily increasing demand for the Model T.

"In a sense Highland Park was never completed because Henry Ford's constant search for cheaper and more efficient production methods, which rapidly made machinery and factories obsolete."

The Ford Highland Park works was one of the first large industrial projects designed by famed Detroit architect Albert Kahn. The Nailhead blog said the book Albert Kahn, Architect of Ford, by Federico Bucci "explains that it was the Highland Park Model T Plant project that not only brought Henry Ford into his own as an industrial giant, but Albert Kahn equally so. This was Kahn's biggest, most important contract to date, and it was what really put him on the map as possibly the world's foremost industrial architect, and it was the direct result of his muchlauded recent work on the Packard Plant (opened in 1903)"

Constructed of reinforced concrete, the Ford Highland Park factory building was several stories high, Architecture Week said, "and the assembly of the car's components took place from top to bottom, with the car rolling out on the ground floor,

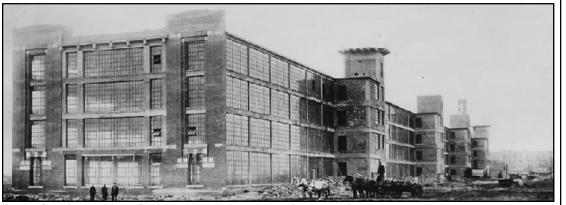
ready to be tested. The use of concrete made it possible to adapt a factory's layout to the needs of automobile construction by freeing up the floor space with fewer load-bearing supports."

Kahn, said the Detroit Historical Society, "used some of the elements incorporated in his 1903 Packard factory, such as widely spaced concrete columns, adding a glass roof and walls of windows that prompted the nickname the Crystal Palace. The extra light and ventilation provided a more pleasant work environment and allowed for more machines and workers in the space."

The Model T was assembled in Highland Park until 1927, when the 15 millionth car rolled off the assembly line. After that, said the Detroit Historical Society, the Ford Model A began production at the Rouge Plant, and the Highland Park Plant began to focus on automotive trim manufacturing, and truck and tractor production. During World War II, Sherman tanks and aircraft engine parts were assembled at Highland Park.

While Fordson tractor production continued over the next few decades, some buildings were leased out, others were demolished. In 1960 the power house, with its iconic smokestacks that at one time held letters spelling "Ford" between them, was torn down, along with the Crystal Palace. In 1974 all production at what remained of the facility ceased, and Ford said the site had grown to about 20 structures encompassing about 3 million square feet of floor space.

Today only about eight structures remain. Ford had been using some of them for records storage. In 2013, the Woodward Avenue Action Association purchased two of the historically prominent buildings at the site - the 40,000-square-foot sales and service building and the 8,000-square-foot executive garage near it - with the goal of renovating them and creating an informational and historical Welcome Center. But those plans fell through.



"THE CRYSTAL PALACE" – that was the unlikely nickname given to the primary Model T assembly building at what was the largest manufacturing site in the world. The four-story assembly building at Ford's Highland Park plant is shown during construction prior to its opening in 1910. At more than 2 million square feet of space, the heavily-windowed building offered plenty of natural light and ventilation, and the wide open interior floor spaces allowed by Albert Kahn's reinforced concrete design eased the placement of assembly lines. Photo credit: Ford Motor Co.

Optimism remains, even as growth projections dip, labor shortages ease

(Continued from Page 1) logistics challenges, etc.

By Marty Mulcahy

Respondents were instructed to report information based on their own organization, not their perceptions of an overall generic labor market, hearsay or what they may have read in some publication.

Following are some of the highlights of the survey:

·Worker shortages. The percent of respondents projecting growth in the construction and maintenance industry for 2021 fell by 13 percent compared to 2020. Last year, 78 percent of respondents projected growth in their organization. This year, that number fell to 65 percent.

The shortage of union craft workers continues, but it improved somewhat in 2019, and then again in 2020. That is, the percent of respondents reporting a small shortage fell from 54 percent (2018) to 48 percent (2019) and then to 42 percent in 2020. Also, the percent reporting a "large worker shortage" fell from 18 percent in 2020 to 10 percent this year.

Thus, the percentage of contractors with a large shortage of workers is now relatively small, while more than a third (36 percent) have enough workers, and 12 percent have too many workers.

For a number of years this study has signaled that the union craft labor shortage was not quite as severe as some sources seemed to indicate. This year, almost certainly due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the shortage is even less pronounced.

However, that is not to suggest that there is no shortage, or to downplay its importance. Rather, the TAUC *Union Craft* Labor Supply Study shows the shortage as fairly modest, except for 10-18 percent of the construction and maintenance industry where there has been a large shortage through recent history.

The year 2019 stands out in that the actual reported shortages for 2019 were generally less than predicted at the beginning of 2019. For 11 of the 14 crafts covered, the union craft labor shortage existed, but was less than expected. On average (craft weighted), 55.2 percent of the respondents in January 2019 thought there would be a shortage of union craft labor in their

organization that year. In reality, results from a year later (January 2020) show that many fewer (42.9 percent) reported an actual shortage. So, there definitely was a shortage, but it wasn't as deeply felt as expected. This same theme occurred in 2020, but for obvious reasons that year is an anomaly

 Apprentice shortages. Electricians, Iron Workers, Carpenters & Millwrights and Sheet Metal Workers were the crafts with the most significant claimed shortage of apprentices in 2020. There was a decrease in the pervasiveness of the shortage for seven of the 14 crafts. The biggest reduction in the shortage occurred with Roofers & Waterproofers and Carpenters & Millwrights.

•Skills in demand. Welding, and it's not even close. Participants in the study had the opportunity to list, in an openended manner, the skills/tasks that were most difficult to fill in their organization, and thereby in high demand. Welding, including all types (e.g., Mig, Tig, alloy, certified pipe) was named by 31 percent of respondents. "Plumber" was in second place (9 percent) and "equipment operator" third (7 percent).

Better times ahead? From

2017-2020, projected construction industry growth was stable and strong, falling in a narrow band of 76-78 percent of the respondents projecting growth for the ensuing year. However, as anticipated due to the Coronavirus, this consistency ended in this year's survey, with 65 percent projecting growth for 2021 (down 13 percent from last

Similarly, the percent of respondents thinking there will be "very strong growth" fell to 19 percent in 2021 from 24 percent in 2020. The percent projecting "very strong contraction" has increased the past two years, from 3 percent in 2019 to 6 percent in 2020 to 8 percent in 2021.

•Pension plan status. Respondents were asked about the financial status of union craft pension fund(s) in their organization and the impact the funding status had on recruiting employees. A plurality (41.1 percent) said the funds in their organization were adequately funded and a majority (59.0 percent) said the financial status of the funds had little impact on recruiting employees.

At the other end of the spectrum, 10.2 percent said the pension funds in their organization were a concern and 4.9 percent said the funding status made it much more difficult to attract workers.

 Shortages by craft. Every building trades craft has been experiencing a deficiency in workforce numbers – the average percentage of respondents claiming a "shortage" or "large shortage" in 2020 was 38 percent. Respondents said only the Bricklavers and Allied Crafts (32 percent), Roofers (31 percent), Boilermakers (22 percent) and Teamsters (14 percent) were experiencing fewer craft shortages than average. The greatest shortages were reported among the Carpenters/Millwrights (52 percent), Electrical Workers (52 percent) and Sheet Metal Workers (49 percent).

Industry moves forward, fitfully

(Continued from Page 1)

Nonresidential building starts rose 16 percent in April to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$276.3 billion. But for the 12 months ending April 2021, nonresidential building starts were 26 percent lower than the 12 months ending April 2020. Commercial starts were down 27 percent, while institutional starts were 18 percent lower. Manufacturing starts were down 53 percent for the 12 months ending April 2021.

For the 12 months ending April 2021, Dodge reported total residential starts were 12 percent higher than the 12 months ending April 2020. Single family starts gained 20 percent, while multifamily starts were down 8 percent.

Michigan's on top of U.S. with job gains, for now

(Continued from Page 1)

of construction in Michigan – one of the few states to do so – which sandbagged jobs numbers as the state initially responded to the

Still, construction employment in Michigan is doing fairly well these days, up 700 jobs from March to April 2021, the AGC reported May 21. In reporting the most recent numbers, the AGC said Michigan's entire construction workforce of 175,000 was still down 2,300 jobs in April 2021 compared to pre-COVID February 2020. And those lower numbers are generally representative of most other states. Seasonally adjusted construction employment in April exceeded the February 2020 level in only 14 states.

"Today's numbers show that construction has yet to fully recover from the effects of the pandemic in most parts of the country,' said Ken Simonson, the AGC's chief economist. "Even where employment has topped pre-pandemic levels, the gains are likely due mainly to feverish homebuilding and remodeling, not to widespread resumption of nonresidential building and infrastructure projects."

Employment declined from the February 2020 level in 36 states,. Texas lost the most construction jobs over the period (-44,800 jobs or -5.7 percent), followed by New York (-29,300 jobs, -9.1 percent) and California (-27,600 jobs, -3.0 percent). Louisiana (-19,600 jobs, -14.3 percent) had the highest percentage of job loss during that period.

"Federal officials can give the industry a needed boost by removing tariffs on key construction materials such as lumber, steel, and aluminum, and taking steps to ease supply-chain backups," said Stephen E. Sandherr, the AGC's chief executive officer. "It is also time to end barriers keeping workers home, including reopening schools and ending the unemployment supplements."

Work zone crashes

(Continued from Page 1) who are distracted, speeding and/or under-the-influence crash into those work zones, putting workers and themselves at risk of serious harm and death."

The Federal Highway Administration's most recent highway crash zone numbers are from 2019, when there were 842 people killed (including workers, drivers and pedestrians), up from 757 in 2018. In 2019, 135 highway workers were killed, compared to 124 in 2018.

"In many cases, vehicle speeding contributes to these crashes in work zones," said Steve McGough, president and CFO of HCSS. "Utilizing speed cameras with a zero-tolerance policy would go a long way to protect the traveling public and our workforce.'

Simonson noted that the pandemic-induced decline in vehicle traffic appears to have had little impact on highway work

zone safety. He noted that only one-third of survey respondents reported any apparent increase in safety because of lower traffic levels. But an equal number of contractors reported that lower traffic levels made conditions less safe, by encouraging many motorists to drive at faster speeds.

UI work search requirement for jobless has re-started

(Continued from Page 1)

in you not receiving benefits or having to repay the benefits you receive.

•You must actively search for work while you are claiming benefits

·You must conduct at least one work search activity each

•You must report your work search activities at the time you certify for benefits. Your certification will not be complete, and benefits will not be paid until your work search activities have been reported to the UIA.

Meanwhile, the interim head of the state UIA, Liza Estlund Olson, told a state House hearing on May 25 that long-term joblessness isn't much of an issue right now – despite theories that people are milking the unemployment benefit system instead of going to work. Of course, that depends on your definition of "long-term."

According to the MIRS news service, Olson responded to questions by members of the House General Government Appropriations Subcommittee, and said that eligible unemployed are entitled to as many as 79 weeks of benefits between the state and federal programs.

On average, she said, people are staying in the state's traditional Unemployment Insurance system for 15 weeks and one of the federal pandemic-related unemployment programs for an average of 24 weeks.

Olson said the new search for work requirement would likely lower those benefit week aver-

Just joking

A man comes home from a long day at work, plops down on the couch in front of the television, and tells his

wife,"go get me a beer before it starts."

The wife sighs and gets him a beer.

Fifteen minutes later, he again demands, "get me another beer before it starts."

She seethes inside, but fetches another beer and slams it down next to him. He finishes that beer and a few minutes later says, "quick, get me another beer, it's going to start any minute.

The wife is furious. She yells at him,"is that all you're going to do again tonight? Every night you drink beer and sit in front of that TV. You're nothing but a lazy, demanding, drunken slob, and I'm sick of it!"

The man sighs and says, "Yup. It started."

Local 190

Plumbers, Pipe Fitters, Service Technicians, Gas Distribution

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 Monday, June 14 and will start 6 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings. Masks and maintaining social distance will be enforced.

MICHIGAN GAS JOURNEYMAN: Requalification testing for Consumer Energy and Semco Energy will start Tuesday, June 1 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 HALLCLOSING 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 5 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. Masks must be worn when entering the union hall building and

training center due to the executive order. **SCHOLARSHIPS:** Local 190 Scholarship is now available at

the union hall for distribution to members and their families. There are two scholarships available. One from Local 190, due back no later than July 9. The UA scholarship will now only be accepted electronically, no later than June 9th https://uascholarship fund.communityforce.com. 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 AN-NUAL GOLF OUTING: Our annual golf outing will be held on Saturday, July 31. 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 union member, \$60 retiree union member and \$100 for non-union. Please purchase your tickets no later than Wednesday, July 29. 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. Feel free to stop into the Union hall and pick up a copy of the instructions.

UALOCAL 190 WEBSITE: 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.

LAID OFF OR BACK TO WORK-IMPORTANT REMINDER **TOALL 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

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. Go to the Local 190 website www.ua190.org and go to the benefit section for more information.

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

REPRESENTATIVE FROM FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: Effective Wednesday, Nov. 25 due to COVID there will be no representative at the union hall the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Wednesday of each month until further notice. 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 Dept. 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 @ 5pm, 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. 14th 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 class will be four days long. The Training Center is looking to put on a recertification/upgrade class. This upgrade is a 120-question (Continued next column)



LOOKING AT BLUEPRINTS while working at the Graphics Packaging paper mill in Kalamazoo are Terry Patterson and Carl Beintema of Plumbers, Pipe Fitters and Service Trades Local 174. They're employed by Andy J. Egan.



Local 174 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & Service Trades

West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters & Service Trades Local 174

COOPERSVILLE – Meeting Notice: Our next meeting will be Tuesday July 6 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.

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 31. 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 (1st alternate) 11. Robert Barnett (2nd alternate)
- 12. Lenny Dehoff (2nd alternate)
- 13. Micah Perkins (4th alternate) 14. Jeffery Rumsey II (5th alternate)

UA Convention: The UA Convention will convene on the week of August 23, 2021. The convention will either take place in San Diego CA in person, be entirely virtual, or a hybrid approach with some delegates participating in person and others virtually.

Local Union Picnic: The Local 174 Family Picnic will take place at Heritage Landing in Muskegon on Saturday, July 17 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@ua174.org.

Dave Reynolds Memorial

enough for a class.

Robert Currie:

Kevin Groeb

bers and friends.

following members on retiring:

Thomas Young: January 8, 2002

Local 190, continued

test. All rigging certification and re-certification classes will in-

clude 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

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 on-line 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.

Wishing you all good health, good luck and a satisfying retirement.

away March 24th. Jack initiated July 13, 1950 and became a lifetime

member July 13, 2000. Our deepest condolences to all family mem-

INGS HAVE BEEN CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

CONDOLENCES: Our lifetime member Jack Anderson passed

RETIREE MEETINGS - **SPADES and BREAKFAST MEET-

NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE BUILDING TRADESMAN PAPER:

Please contact Karen Spearin at the union hall, (734) 424-0962 Ext

#210, if you would like to put a special notification in the paper.

Initiation Date:

January 12, 1998

June 12, 1989

RETIREMENT CONGRATULATIONS: Congratulations to the

Retirement Date:

May 1, 2021

May 1, 2021

June 1, 2021

ICRA Certification (16hrs): Looking to put on another ICRA

Golf Outing: The Local #174 Golf Outing will take place on Saturday, Aug. 7 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.

DHE Plumbing and Me**chanical:** 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@ua174.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 1st 2021 your insurance premiums will be reduced by approximately 12.5%. New rates are as follows:

Single Medicare \$262.55 Retiree & Spouse Medicare

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 Sept. 30, 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@ ua174.org which both offices have access to. There is a dispatch phone extension that will switch between the two offices

(616) 345-0788 Dues: Please keep your

Medicare Retirees Labor First:

depending on who is on dis-

Active and non Medicare Retirees

Aetna: (888) 290-7241

Save-Rx: (800) 228-3108

New insurance carriers:

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 ban-

quets, 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.

Retiree Breakfast: Cancelled until further notice.

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 - 3rd Wednesday of the month / Labor Temple 918 Benjamin / 5:30pm

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

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

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 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.ua174.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

(Continued next column)



Plumbers & Pipe Fitters

Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 333

meeting to be announced. SCHOLARSHIPAPPLICA-TIONS: 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 Jack-

LANSING – June's union

son 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 starts at 9am. \$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 need 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 or call the Training Center (517) 323-

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.

Sincere condolences to Connie Dingley, on the loss of her son Timothy Dingley who passed away May 17, 2021 at the age of 62. Tim retired from the Local, May 2015. We wish to extend our condolences to Tim's brother Tony and his nephew Mitchell Dingley. Our thoughts and prayer are with all you during this sorrowful time.

Congratulation to our members that have become parents and grandparents this year.

Local 174, con't

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

Training News. FIRST AID: First Aid/CPR/BBP class will be the second Thursday of the month, from 5-9p. The next classes will be held June 10 and July 8, 2021. **OPEN WELDING:** Open

Welding on Wednesday evenings has been cancelled until further notice due to lack of par-

ASSE BACKFLOW RE-**PAIRER:** 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.

"Patience has its limits. Take it too far, and it's cowardice.

-George Jackson (1941 -



Local 636

Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters, Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Service

Pipe Fitters 636

DETROIT - The Next Union Meeting is scheduled for June 15, 2020, it will be 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 mandatory and temps will be taken at the door.

The Pipefitter 636 48th Annual Golf Outing is now SOLD OUT. There is a waitlist so if you are interested in golfing, you may contact Terry Gilligan to get on the list. 248-538-6636

The Pipefitters Local 636 Annual Picnic will be held on Aug. 21 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 636!!

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, contact Jim Dunn @ 248-709-7036 or Joe Bourgeois @ 313-590-0448

Pipefitters 636 would like to extend our condolences to the family of Retiree Brother Kenneth Banchoff who passed away on May 12, 2021. Also to the family of Retiree Brother Ronald Hicks who passed away May 20, 2021.

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

Sub Fund Office: Kristina Springer: Please send all SUB Fund Requests to email: kspringer@pipefitters636.org 248-538-7065

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

The Hall is now open to all foot traffic. Masks are RE-QUIRED. Dues payments or SUB transactions can still be done via email or by phone. SUB email is kspringer@pipefitters636.org

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

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

UA password good thru June 30, 2021: CERTIFIED AP-**PRENTICESHIPS**

Any member who 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: For those members who use the Voice Response Unit, VRU to obtain balance information and transfers funds in your Defined Contribution Pension, the number has changed. The new number for the VRU is 877-410-9984. Plan provider number

(Continued next column)



Sprinkler Fitters Local 704

DETROIT - The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday, June 16 at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

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 ques-

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.

Please keep your information updated with the union hall.

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

Local 636, con't

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. All inquiries.

Are you "Work Ready"? Have any of your safety modules expired? Is your Drug Test current? Check your report card at mustbsafe.org and if it is time for renewal call the Training Center 248-585-0636 and they will register you. Be "ready" when the calls come in. Safety modules and drug tests are paid for by the Contractors Association. WHEN YOU STAY CURRENT WITH YOUR SAFETY MODULES, DRUGTEST AND FIRST AID, YOU WILL QUALIFY FOR FU-TURE BONUS PAYMENT'S.

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. Consultations with Work Life Strategies are a service paid for by the Insurance Fund. Referrals to outside professionals, if needed, will be paid for according to the current health care plan benefits.

"Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see."

-Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)

"Enough organization, enough lists and we think we can control the uncontrollable.' –John Mankiewicz

"People are ridiculous only when they try or seem to be that which what they are not. -Giacomo Leopardi

"Sometimes when you look in his eyes you get the feeling that someone else is driving.

– David Letterman (1947 -)



Local 671

Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 671

MONROE - The next Regular Union meeting is scheduled for July 1st, 2021 at 7 p.m. The Executive Board will meet in person on July 1st. 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.

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 4man scramble format with an 8am shot gun starts. Tickets are available at the hall for \$70 or \$250 for your foursome if prepaid. All proceeds will go to Local 671 scholarship fund.

Congratulations: I would like to congratulate Brother Terry Durocher for achieving life member status back on March 3. Thank you, Brother Terry, for 50 years of service in the UA and Local 671.

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

Mailings: Recently you may have received a mailing from the hall for American Income Life. AOL 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 AOL. If you do not desire any additional life insurance. Just let them know you are not interested and if there is any high-pressure sales tactics being used, 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 INFORMA-**TION THAT THE HALLNEEDS TO GET OUT. The App is available in the Google Play Store or on iTunes.

In Closing: We have just recently celebrated Memorial Day and that marks the beginning of summer. As we venture into the summer months and start our outdoor activities, please use the safe work habits you practice at work also at home. I hope your summer is filled with health and good fun with your family and

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

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

ualocal671.com

"Dictators long ago found out it is easier to unite people in common hatred than common love.

- Dagobert D. Runes



INSTALLING STAINLESS PIPE in the automation tower at the Graphics Packaging plant in Kalamazoo are (I-r) Chris Bouschar (Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 111, Marquette) and Paul Tobias (Plumbers nd Pipe Fitters Local 190 (Ann Arbor).

Local 85

Plumbers & Steam Fitters



Plumbers and Steamfitters 85

SAGINAW - Union Meetings will be Wednesday, June 23, 2021. Meetings will be held at the Union Hall, 3535 Bay Road and start at 7 p.m.

The next **Northern Meeting** is scheduled for Wednesday, June 2, 2021 at 7 pm at BJ's in Gaylord.

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

Please note: Our new mailing address for all correspondences has changed to 3535 Bay Rd. Saginaw, MI 48603. ALL NON-CRITICAL IN-

TERACTIONS is cancelled until further notice. Please utilize email and phone calls whenever pos-

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

Jamie Badour, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 8515 jbadour@ualocal85.org

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

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

Bobby Anderson, Organizer

(989) 799-5261 x 8512 rjanderson@ualocal85.org Kristin Tuthill, Office Professional (989) 799-5261 x 8511

ktuthill@ualocal85.org Please check $ualocal 85.org\ or\ our\ Facebook$ page for the most up-to-date information.

The **new website** is up and running. Please check out www.ualocal85.org. Click on Local 85 Members to access members only information. Login in-

formation is username: first initial with full last name. Password is 00 with your UA Card No.. If you 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.

TRAINING NEWS. Congratulations to our newest journeyman Cruz Hale!

GOD BLESS ORGA-NIZED LABOR AND THE LA-**BOR MOVEMENT!**

SUB Fund:

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

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

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

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

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.

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 or Facebook for all up to date information.

CONDOLENCES: We extend our condolences to the family of Dennis Mitchell who passed away on May 15, 2021.

Remember you all are essential to me.

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



SETTING UP TO WORK on a steam pipe condensate line at the Graphics Packaging upgrade project in Kalamazoo is apprentice Jake Boer of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 174. He's employed by Andy J. Egan.

"Have you learned the lessons only of those who admired you, and were tender with you, and stood aside for you? Have you not learned great lessons from those who braced themselves against you, and disputed passage with you?"

-Walt Whitman (1819 - 1892)

"If a man remembers what is right at the sign of profit, is ready to lay down his life in the face of danger, and does not forget sentiments he has repeated all his life when he has been in straitened circumstances for a long time, he may be said to be a complete man.

-Confucius (551 BC - 479 BC)

"Dignity comes not from control, but from understanding who you are and taking your rightful place in the world." -Gordon Atkinson

"I smoke in moderation, only one cigar at a time.

– Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)

"Most advances in science come when a person for one reason or another is forced to change fields.'

- Peter Borden

"If you can count your money, you don't have a billion

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-J. Paul Getty (1892 - 1976)

"Don't compromise yourself, you are all you've got. –Janis Joplin (1943 - 1970)

> "Make failure your teacher, your undertaker." -Zig Ziglar

"The past is not dead. In -William Faulkner (1897 -

fact, it's not even past."

DOOGIES ENTERPRISES LLC.

Plumbers Local 98

DETROIT - Membership of Plumbers Local 98. Brothers and Sisters, Your officers and I hope everyone enjoyed an enjoyable holiday weekend. When the weather warms up the motorcycles come out. Please remember to share the road safely. Look twice, save a life.

WAGE ALLOCATION. The new wages and allocation were approved at the Special Called Meeting on May 13, 2021. Find the rates on our website ualocal98.com/wage-allocation.

MEETINGS. The next Union Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 17 at 7:00 pm in person. Please note this will be on the third Thursday of the Month due to the State Convention. June's meeting will take place outside at our Union Hall and all Covid restrictions will be in place using social distancing and masks. Join us starting at 5 o'clock for a BBQ, we will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, and re-

Our meeting in July will go back to our usual 2nd Thursday of the month. That will be Thursday, July 8th at 7:00 pm.

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 President of the retiree association has worked out a detailed plan for restarting these meetings. All Covid-19 protocols and distancing will be adhered to. They are exercising extreme caution so everyone can remain healthy and safe. The next Retiree meeting will be **Wednesday**, **June 9 from 12pm – 2pm** at the

OTHER EVENTS. The National Pipe Trades Convention will be taking place in San Diego in August. Jon DeRoo will be sending out details to the delegates once all of the information is received.

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

BAs Gary Glaser and Tom McWilliams are admins on the Must/ Most program, contact them if you need help.

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/ **protectmicommision.** Or, if you would like to be a part of the conversation and join a workgroup, you can reach out to protectmicommission@michigan.gov or 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.

Additional information on vaccination sites is available on our website, please visit ualocal98.com/covid.

We are also offering FREE coronavirus antibody testing through the Fringe Benefit Fund. This is part of the Building Trades Welfare Foundation - Mayo Clinic Labs COVID-19 Resilience Project. Testing is available for vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals. For more information, as well as a link to sign up for testing on either June 17 or June 26, please go to ualocal98fringe.org.

UNION HALL. The Union Hall is Open by **APPOINTMENT** ONLY. Properly worn masks are required. There is a COVID-19 questionnaire that MUST be filled out by everyone entering the Union

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. SUB Apps should now be filled out electronically. This can be found on the web page under the **OOWL** section. If you're still having unemployment issues call BAs Gary Glaser or Tom McWilliams.

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. All of the information regarding the scholarships available through Local 98 and the UA can be found on our website, ualocal98.com/scholarship. These scholarships are open to the dependents of our members who are seeking a higher education. Please note, the UA scholarship deadline is fast approaching, June 9, 2021. The deadline for the Local 98 Scholarship is **June 30, 2021**, but it is best to get your application submitted sooner rather than later.

GOOD/WELFARE. 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.

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

The Apprenticeship Application process is now open through

Julv 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 and click on License Renewal. **Deadline was April 30th, you may be required to pay a late fee.

ASSE Backflow Tester Re-Certification exams are sched**uled 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 June 25, 2021. The next scheduled recertification class is July 27 & 28,

OPEN WELDING -Call Chris Opalka 248-585-1435 ext. 146 to reserve a booth and visit the updated welding shop. 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 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. **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



AT WORK SETTING DRAIN LINES at the K-2 powerhouse at the Graphics Packaging project in Kalamazoo are Chris Whitlow and Jacob Klinchman of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 357. They're employed by Andy J. Egan.



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 as-

sistance you may need. The June 1st wage allocation was ratified at the May meeting and was as follows: \$1.35 on the check; \$0.45 Health & Welfare; \$0.10 Organizing.

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

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.

If you missed the recent MRA webinar with Zenith American, you can access it again on our website at – LU111.com, click on the Zenith link, click on the MRA link and enter the password. Please check it out for useful information.

Thank you to the membership for your patience during this process due to the current situation of the COVID-19 mandates of gatherings. Any questions please call Business Manager, Dean Gutzman and stay safe.

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 online safety training, go to our web site uall1.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 vear.

"I am grateful for all my problems. After each one was overcome, I became stronger and more able to meet those that were still to come. I grew in all my difficulties.

J. C. Penney (1875-1971)

"To my embarrassment I was born in bed with a lady.

-Wilson Mizner (1876 - 1933)



Plumbers & Pipe Fitters Local 370 FLINT – The next Member-

ship Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at 7:00pm. Please note the change to the 3rd Tuesday of the month due to the State Pipe Trades Convention. This will be a refreshment meeting.

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

Scholarship Applications for the 2021-2022 school year are now available online at our website UALOCAL370.ORG. The applicant must be a son or daughter of a member in good standing of UA Local Union 370. Complete lists of qualifications and applications are also available at Local 370 Hall. Applications are due by May 15, 2021.

The 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 signup 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, June 15, 2021 at 4:00pm

FMR Committee – Tuesday June 15, 2021 at 4:00pm

PAC committee – Tuesday

June 15, 2021 at 5:00pm Executive Board -Tuesday

June 15, 2021 at 5:00pm Building Committee - Tues-

day June 15, 2021 at 6:00pm Finance Committee -Tuesday

June 15, 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 MUSTBSAFE.com website and complete all 18 safety modules. Members will not be eligible to work at any job site requiring them until all 18 modules are complete and are current on their drug test. If your drug test is expired you must take one before you can be dispatched to any GM work. Drug tests are only valid for 1 year. Call the hall and we will print you a drug test authorization

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



Pipe Fitters

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

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

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

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

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

Members wishing to take the U.A. welding certification test contact business agent, 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. T.I.C. fringe administrators' toll free number is 1-888-797-5862.

"Time is what prevents everything from happening at once.

-John Archibald Wheeler, American J. of Physics,

"Education is a method whereby one acquires a higher grade of prejudices.

-Laurence J. Peter (1919

"The deepest definition of youth is life as yet untouched by tragedy.

- Alfred North Whitehead (1861 - 1947)

HVAC Service Plumbers, Pipefitters & HVAC Service Local 357 KALAMAZOO - UNION

Local 357 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters &

MEETING: June's membership meeting will be a special-called meeting and will be held on MONDAY, JUNE 7TH. The meeting will start at 6:30 pm and be held outside on the east end of the building.

To enter the building to vote you will need to wear a mask. If you wish to submit a wage proposal you will need to by June 1st. The Finance Committee and Executive Board will conduct their regularly scheduled monthly meetings. The Building Tradesman Paper serves as your official notification.

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 IS-SUES: 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-

WEBSITE INFORMATION -FRINGES-TIC: Check out the website at www.ualocal357.com and the FACEBOOK Page @ www.facebook.com/UALocal 357/. 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 17th at Pineview Golf Course.

"Am I not destroying my enemies when I make friends of them?"

Abraham Lincoln (1809 -



ASH FOR SCRAP MET Aluminum - Copper - Brass Nickel - Alloys - Carbide Radiators - Lead - Batteries McNichols Detroit Iron & Metal Co. Scrap Iron & Metal Co. 6500 E. McNichols (near Mt. Elliott) 8300 Dix (corner Lonyo) mcnicholsscrap.com detroitironandmetal.com (313) 365-6100 (313) 841-5100

Bricklayers and Allied

Craftworkers



Painters District Council 1M WARREN – Dear Members,

DC1M WEBSITE: www. iupatdc1michigan.org DC1M FACEBOOK: www. facebook.com/iupat1m

DC 1M UNION CARDS* Any questions regarding lost, damaged Union cards, or if you have dues inquiries or have not received a card



please contact the DC1M offices at: Warren Office:

(586)552-4474 extension 100 Freeland Office: (989) 695-

ROBERT

*FULL TIME GONZALEZ POSITION **OPENINGFOR**

FTI APPRENTICSHIP-LAN-SING FACILITY* The FTI of the Great Lakes Michigan Apprenticeship is looking to fill a full time instructor position at the FTI Lansing Facility. Any interested candidates please contact FTI Training Director Shawn O'neill at (517) 304-4425 or email dot@iupatdc1m.org

*DC1M BUSINESS MAN-AGER and REPRESENTATIVES **ELECTION*** Thank you to the Membership for your vote of confidence. All DC1M Representatives have been elected by White Ballot. We have made great progress over the last eight years and look forward to building on that progress.

The Staff of DC1M and I are humbled by your support and feel honored to continue serving you for the next four years.

PAINTERS DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M SMART PHONE **APP.** Painters District Council 1M is pleased to announce its' all new

For IPHONE go to IOS store, For ANDROID got to Google

lied Trades" download APP Username: your member id#

Search for "Painters and Al-

Password: painters With this APP you can ac-

cess training classes, Local Union meeting times and dates, receive alerts, and communications from your Union, etc.

GET INVOLVED AND PAR-TICIPATE 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-

New job starts should be reported to the Union office, please

Get involved. Work smart. Work safe.



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

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 Bylaws

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.

"Adapt or perish, now as ever, is nature's inexorable imperative.

-H. G. Wells (1866 - 1946)

"I would not waste my life in friction when it could be turned into momentum.

-Frances Willard (1839 -

Michigan Painters **District Council**

<u>District Council 1M</u> 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

Web site: www.iupatlocal514.org.

Arbor, MI.

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

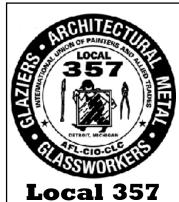
Business Rep – Jake Fluty Meeting date: The Fourth Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m

Place: 3115 Joyce St., Burton MI

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.



Glaziers &

Glassworkers

Glaziers & Glassworkers 357

WARREN - Our next regular scheduled union meeting will be on Monday June 7, 2021 at 6pm. We will be voting on delegates to the district council at this meeting.

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

Brother Dave Simpson passed away on May 15. Brother Larry Thiesmeyer passed away on May 19. Please keep them both in your thoughts, and prayers.

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

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

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

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

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

-Business Rep- Don Stepp



Local 514 **Cement Masons**

& Plasterers

Operative Plasterers and Cement Masons Local 514

DETROIT - The next membership meeting is scheduled for June 15, 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!**

Adolfo Santos-25 years John Predkelis-25 Years Gregory Brisboy-25 Years Jackie Galloway Sr-25 Years Angelo Risi-60 Years

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.micementplasterer training.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

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.

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-

Members working for nonsignatory commercial contractors are naving a negative impact on our market share. Members working non-union will be brought up on charges and fines will be enforced. Let's work together to secure our future!!

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

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

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 DE-TROIT COMMERCIAL CE-**MENT 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 or call (866) 640-5138, you can also call the fund office at (248) 645-6550 with any related questions.

PLASTERERS AND CE-MENT 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 at 1-877-876-9357 or (517) 321-7502. PLASTERERS'AND COMMERCIAL CEMENT MA-(Continued next column)



BAC Local 2

WARREN/LANSING - We take the COVID-19 outbreak seriously and recognize the importance of minimizing the spread of



KUKAWKA or concerns,

please contact either the Warren office at (586) 754-0888 or the Lansing office at (517) 886-9781 JUNE 2021 CHAPTER

MEETINGS.

KALAMAZOO CHAPTER: Thursday, June 10, 2021 at 6:00 PM, 11847 Shaver Road, Schoolcraft, MI 49087

LANSING CHAPTER: Monday, June 14, 2021 at 6:00 PM, 3321 Remy Drive, Lansing, MI 48906

MARQUETTE CHAPTER: Monday, June 21, 2021 at 7:00 PM, 119 S Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

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

TRAVERSE CITY CHAP-TER: Wednesday, June 16, 2021 at 7:00 PM, 1231 Hastings Street, Traverse City, MI 49686

DEATHS REPORTED:

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Brother** Fernando Farneti (Finisher) who passed away on January 09, 2021. Brother Farneti had been a member for 66 years.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Brother** Daniel Sawyer (Refractory Specialist) who passed away on March 09, 2021. Brother Sawyer

had been a member for 43 years. 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 Lan-

sing office (51/) 886-9/81. **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 infor-

Local 514, con't

SONS can call: (248) 645-6550 for pension and annuity, and Toll Free 1-877-876-9357. All **Plaster**ers 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.

mation, 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. **ASPEEDY 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-BACLOCAL2'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.

TMT RTI CLASSES RE-SUME WITH REDUCED CA-PACITY DUE TO COVID-19; REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

To register visit detroit troweltrades.org and click Calendar. Classes are filled on a first registered first served basis and will be held on the following Saturdays from 7:00am – 3:30pm: June: 5th & 12th

Apprentices, remember that Related Training Instruction (RTI) classes are a requirement of your Apprenticeship, failure to attend will delay your apprenticeship and raises.

Additional classes will be added as necessary to accommodate all apprentices.

Feel free to contact your BAC field representative or the Apprentice Coordinator should you have any questions.

METRO DETROIT AP-**PRENTICE WORKSHEETS** 2362 (D&V Health Fund) AVAILABLE FOR DOWN-**LOAD:** Turning in monthly worksheets is a requirement of your apprenticeship. Metro Detroit Apprentice Worksheets are available for download at http:// bit.ly/Apprentice Worksheets. 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: detroittroweltrades.org

LANSING TRAINING **CENTER:** To make your appointment for your annual RESPIRA-TOR 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.michigan bricklayers.org to view the Lansing Apprenticeship and Training website and register future 2020 online training classes.

MEMBERSHIP ASSIS-**TANCE:** 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. These services were established and are intended to help get us

through difficult life situations. FACEBOOK: "Like" Local 2 on Facebook "Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Union, Local 2 of Michigan."

E-MAILADDRESS: 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 information@bricklayers.org and in the subject line place "Local #2 e-mail address" then type your name, phone number and email address in the body of the communication. We appreciate your time and effort in helping us accomplish this task.

BAC 2 MI Texting Pro**gram:** 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) 531funds, 2244 (outstate michiganbac.org)

Cement Pension Fund (248) 645-6550 (detroit cement masons.

CALL-A-DOC (800) 835-

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

break, like a bubble, at a touch; nay, you may kick it about all day like a football, and it will be round and full at evening.'

"Truth is tough. It will not

- Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809 - 1894)

"When I read about the evils of drinking, I gave up reading." -Henny Youngman (1906 -

"Each day comes bearing its own gifts. Untie the ribbons. -Ruth Ann Schabaker

"Personally I'm always ready to learn, although I do not always like being taught."

"When you go to buy, use your eyes, not your ears.'

–Czech Proverb

-Sir Winston Churchill (1874



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 \$34.54 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

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

BAY CITY **MICHIGAN**

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 June monthly membership meeting will be held outside at 6PM on Monday, June 7. Please make every attempt to attend. New mask guidelines will take effect June 1st at the union hall. If you are not vaccinated you will need to continue to wear a face covering. If you have been vaccinated and can provide proof if asked a mask will no longer be needed. Please continue to socially distance when visiting the union hall.

Contract Negotiations: A special thanks to our negotiating team of Pat Nitschky, Derek Simms, Brian Walker and Travis Brady. They worked very hard in representing all members that work under the Local 692 Inside Wireman Agreement. We met with the employer side on 7 different occasions and fought hard for the membership. The membership overwhelmingly ratified the agreement on April 26. Some highlights to the ratified contract include 3%, 3% and 3% total package increases over the next 3 years. Zone 2 received an additional .25 cents on top of the 3% over the next three years. This was done in an effort to bring the two zones wage packages closer together. Lastly, all work inside of the "old" Dow Chemical will progress to 100% over the next two years. This has been a long time coming for those members inside what they now call the I Park. The most beneficial part to this agreement is our side gave nothing up. Great work Brothers!

Work Report: Master Electric has secured the new Meijer in West Branch as well as the new Isabella County Jail 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 nonsignatory 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 Klele 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 January 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.

Death Benefits: We regret to inform you of the death of retired Brother William "Bill" Dittenber, Card Number D320143, who passed away on May 16, 2021. Brother Dittenber was born on Feb. 2, 1940 (age 81). He was initiated May 21, 1973. Bill resided in St. Louis, MI.

A Memorial Mass will be held at Nativity of the Lord Parish (Mount St. Joseph Catholic Church) in St. Louis, MI on Wednesday, June 9 at 12 P.M. Visitation will be from 10 A.M. until the time of the service. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Cutler Library, St. Louis, MI 48880.

#326. Local death fund assessment \$5 each (due within 30 days) payable to: IBEW Local 692 1300 W. Thomas Bay City, MI 48706. Please stay up-to-date on Death Benefit payments. Local death fund assessments are \$5 each (due within 30 days). They can also be paid in advance, which is recommended to ensure that families receive the benefit in the event of a member's unexpected passing. Any overpayment of benefits will be refunded to the family of the deceased member.

State IBEW Golf Outing. It 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. 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 14 at 6 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.

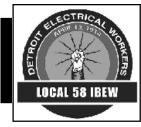
Important links & numbers. IBEW Local 692, 989-684-4510

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 No.in the "ID Box" NEBF/NEAP: 301-556-4300 • IO Pension: 202-833-7000



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

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, please 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 at http:// out www.detroiteitc.org/continuingeducation/.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-

VACATION FUND: Disbursement from the Vacation Fund is anticipated to be transferred to your PNC Bank Stored Value Card or if you elected, direct-deposited into your checking or savings accounts, on or around May 25, 2021. Please check the listed contributions from your employers with your pay records for accuracy. A list of contributions may be obtained from the Benefit Office Website, www.ewibt.org by logging into your personal information and clicking My Benefits then Vacation Benefits.

If you require a paper statement, please contact the Benefit Office for a printout. If there is an rror, contact the Benefit Office at (586) 575-9200 ext. 212.

ATTENTION-TO UPDATE **BANKING INFORMATION THE** FUND OFFICE MUST RECEIVE CHANGES BY April 30, 2021. You may check your Stored Value utilization history by logging on to www.pncpaycard.com and by entering your 16-digit card number listed on the front of the card and the last four digits of your Social Security Number, also referred to as your Account Access Code (or AAC for short). Customer Service can be reached by telephone at (866) 453-5071.

Local 58 Dues Information: Dues should be paid by the first day of the quarter. You can pay your dues with an APP. Go to Apple/Google Play and download the IBEW 58 APP. 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.

Local 58 Motorcycle Club: For more information contact Anthony Anderanin aanderanin@gmail.com or Grace Trudell 313-244-2268 for more

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

The Jerry Gaudi Memorial Golf Outing will be Friday, June 4, 2021, at the Glenhurst Golf Course in Redford, Michigan.

This will be the 20th Annual Gaudi Open. The Entry Fee is \$75 per ticket, which includes cart, golf, prizes, & lunch (at the turn). Everyone is welcome and bring a friend. Limited to 120 golfers due to Covid restrictions. Arrive by 8:00 AM, Golf starts at 9:00 AM. Hole sponsorships are available for \$100 and raffle tickets are available for a Cooler of Cheer and an IBEW golf bag with accessories. If interested in hole sponsorship, raffle tickets or donations please contact Michael Bellhorn 586-612-5964 or Jim Peltier 586-610-1154. Thanks again for all your support.

Members of the Community **Service Committee**: The next meeting will be Wednesday, June

IBEW LOCAL 58

8, 2021 at 5:30 PM. The Wobbly Kitchen is up and running again and we are assisting them every 2nd and 4th 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.

Local 58 Community Service Committee and the Benevo**lent Fund** volunteers teamed up to build a wheelchair ramp for Matt Glaser. Matt is a Limited Energy member who needed the ramp for access to his home in Eastpointe. The Volunteers constructed the ramp in sections at Paul McAdams house and moved the sections to Matt's house to install. The project took a week or two to complete and the finished project was exceptional!

Matt and his family are very thankful and appreciative for our efforts and would like to thank the volunteers who gave their time to help: Mike & Joanie Bellhorn, Pat Burns, Nick Chapital, Chad Donavan, Jim Grabowski, Bill Helwig, Ray Kujawski, Jim LaBroski, Paul McAdams, Rick Moroni, Ricardo Musto, Brian Richard, Felicia Wiseman and Rob Zawadzki. The Committees would also like to thank Lake Erie Electric and McCally Tool for their donations of materials and Joyview Market for donating burgers & hotdogs for lunch at the event. To get involved in future community service projects, get in contact with Mike Conflitti or Rob Z at the

Members of the Entertainment Committee: The next meeting of the Entertainment Committee will be Wednesday, June 8, 2021, following the Community Service Committee meeting that starts at 5:30 pm.

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 engagement.

what can we safely participate in that continues to promote the IBEW in the community? We are still collecting for our Toiletry and Sock Drive to benefit the Detroit Public Schools Community District Office of Homeless and Foster Care. New and unused toiletries and socks can be placed in the collection container at Local 58 anytime during regular business hours.

Thank you to those who continue to attend our Zoom meetings as we navigate through these difficult times. 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, June 14, 2021 at 5:30 PM.

The Veterans Committee will now be meeting monthly immediately after the Safety committee meeting on the 2nd Mon-

day of each month. The Political Action Committee (PAC) meets the 1st Wednesday of each month Via Zoom. To be added to our email list please 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 20th year anniversary this year and welcomes new players. The season begins April 26th. 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 24th, 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: 58 Womenscommittee @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

Local 58 Senior Softball **Team** – We now have a senior 55 and over team. Games are played Monday and Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am or 12:00 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. First game is at Ford field May 10th 10:00 am diamond # 5. If you would like more info, please contact Gerry Cassani at 586-804-8026 or Joe Schraufnagel at 586-255-1205. Remaining schedule will be soon to follow.

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 a check payable to the "Retirees Association," to Ray Owen, 428 Welch Road, 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 any changes to your phone number, address, and email.

IBEW Pension: Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: Robert J. Collins, Dale Hadden, James Hafner Jr., Saulo Hernandez, Brian Honeycutt, Phillip Kendrick Sr., James Neirynck, Dale Neikart, and David Smalstig,

Members who have Passed Away- Jerry Birch, pension member, 54 year IBEW membership; Birdie Cates, Wife to pension member Donald Cates Jr.; Stefanie Edmonds, Daughter to JIW Michael Edmonds; George Fike, pension member, 54 year IBEW membership, Father to JIW Cheryl Fike; Joseph Masiarczyk, pension member, 60 year IBEW membership, Father to pension member Bethany Saigh, Uncle to pension member Ronald Rau, and JIW Delbert Rau Jr.; Betty McRuer, Widow of the late pension member Alexander McRuer; Rose Marie O'Berg, Widow to the late pension member William O'Berg; Russell Phillips, pension member, 65 year IBEW membership; Douglas Wahl, Father to JIW Jeffrey Wahl. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families



IBEW 665

LANSING-HAPPY MEMO-**RIAL DAY:** Memorial Day is the unofficial start of summer. It is also a day we honor those who died fighting for our freedoms. This year, we hope you took a moment from your holiday to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. Many of the fallen heroes are directly connected to our IBEW brothers and sisters. Like all veterans, they deserve nothing less than our utmost respect.

Thank you those who served us and hope you had a great Memorial Day holiday.

VETERAN'S SHOOT: Attention Veterans, we'd like to invite you to participate in this year's Capital Area Sportsmen's League Veteran's Shoot on Saturday, June 5, 2021. Shooting Begins at 11:00 am and lunch will be provided. The entry fee is free for Veterans. Other guests will have normal pricing.

Pre-registration is required and is limited to the first 35 registered shooters. Pre-registrations and Additional information please contact 517.627.6982 or CASLShotgun@gmail.com

For more info you can contact Chad Jansen at the hall at 517-393-5530

WORK OUTLOOK: Local 665 is gearing up for another busy Spring and Summer. For our traveling brothers and sisters, Local 665 is still accepting initial sign by fax or email from a member's home local.

OSHA 30 CLASSES: We have an upcoming in person OSHA 30 Class scheduled for August to October 2021.

Please register with the JATC at sara@lejatc.org or 517-483-9688 to reserve your spot. Class size will be limited to 40 participants. Classes will be held at the Union Hall from 5 pm to 8:30 pm on the 2021 dates listed below: Tuesday Aug. 31, Thursday Sept. 2, Tuesday Sept. 7, Thursday Sept. 9, Thursday Sept. 16, Tuesday Sept. 21, Thursday Sept. 23, Tuesday Sept. 28, Tuesday Oct. 5, Thursday Oct. 7.

Please keep in mind that you must attend all class sessions for OSHA 30 to receive the card.

FIRST AID / CPR CLASS: We have an upcoming First Aid / CPR Class scheduled for Wednesday July 21, 2021 from 5-7 pm at the Union Hall.

Please register with the JATC at sara@lejatc.org or 517-483-9688 to reserve your spot. Class size will be limited to (40) partici-

APPRENTICESHIPAPPLI-**CATIONS:** We often get calls or emails on how and/or where to apply to Local 665's apprenticeship program.

To apply, www.lejatc.org and navigate to the application page on the website.

Applications are accepted on the first Monday of each month.

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

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

DUES AND DEATH BEN-EFITS: Second quarter dues should be paid at this time. We are currently at death benefit # 317. Please check your dues receipt to ensure that you are cur-

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

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IBEW Local 131

will be held on June 21st at 5 p.m.

IBEW

Local 131

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KALAMAZOO – The next General Membership meeting is

The Local is looking to hire another individual to help with phone

scheduled for June 7th at 6 p.m.. The next Executive Board meeting

calls, dues payments, and various other tasks during these incred-

ibly busy times. This position will be a full-time position for at least

three months, at the end of this time frame, we will re-evaluate 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



WE ASKED THIS GROUP of electricians to pause what they were doing to have their photo taken while working to upgrade the Graphics Packaging plant in Kalamazoo. They include (l-r) Steward Randy Williams, Mason Glerum, Andrew Yezik and Nick Lemmerhart. The IBEW Local 131 members were setting up switchgear and are employed by Van Ert Electric Co./KEI Electrical Construction and Mainte-



IBEW LOCAL 557

IBEW LOCAL 557

SAGINAW – Union News- We're pleased to announce 6 new apprentices have been selected for this year's class. They should begin work after their June 4th orientation. Thank you to the members of the JATC for all the extra hours put in to screen applicants and conduct over 60 interviews. Our union pride continues by giving a big thanks to Scott Stafford and the Saginaw 2nd Year apprenticeship class who worked hard to complete the LED-retro-fit at our Hall. Looks great guys, nicely done.

However, we must change pace and announce, with great sadness, the loss of retired Brother Robert "Bob" Card. Bob, born 10/13/ 1938, initiated into the IBEW on 5/1/1968, retired 10/1/2000, and passed on 5/19/2021. Brother Card was a highly respected member of the Local for many years and will be missed by many. Please keep his family and friends in your thoughts and prayers.

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 uti-

lizing a credit or debit card over the phone. E-checks are also avail--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

-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- Our May 4th meeting was focused on wage allocation, and the New JIW rate will be \$35.00/hour on the check. This coming Monday will mark the first week of your new rates. Tuesday, June 1st is the regularly scheduled Union Meeting. This meeting will be held again at the Roberts Park Pavilion located at 455 S. Miller Rd. Can't wait to see everyone together again!

MICHIGAN INITIATIVE- The Michigan Initiative has a new organizer. We would like to welcome a local 665 member, Brother Gus Voisine to this exciting and demanding position. He will be joining us around the first of June. 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- Bids are due soon for the large project at the Dow Event Center. The Caro Center is set to finally start. Thank you also to the members who attended the Jonesfield Township Planning Commission meeting on May 25th. With our members support, and other representatives from Building Trades, The Commission was compelled to approve the plan to fully execute construction on the Meridian Wind Park.

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. 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, website mielectricalhealth.org -In Solidarity, Breanna DePottey, Press Secretary



IBEW Local 948

FLINT - Our June Union Meeting will be held on Monday, June 14th, 2021 at 6:00pm.

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

The Retiree Club Meetings are still cancelled until further notice.

We will be swearing in new members at this meeting.

Do not forget to check our website for new content. Be sure to log in to see all the new content. 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

If you are unfamiliar with our referral procedure, please refer to our website @ 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 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.

"It's not that I'm so smart, it's just that I stay with problems longer.'

-Albert Einstein (1879 - 1955)

"Life is a great big canvas; throw all the paint on it you

-Danny Kaye (1913 - 1987)

"I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but it is my chief duty to accomplish humble tasks as though they were great and noble. The world is moved along, not only by the mighty shoves of its heroes, but also by the aggregate of the tiny pushes of each honest worker.

-Helen Keller (1880 - 1968)



IBEW Local 445

BATTLE CREEK - Initial

Reminder: You can pay those that have scheduled pay-

Building Committee: The

The Annual IBEW 445 Pic-

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

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

the fourth Monday of each month

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!

"Never be indiferent to in-

-Esnesto "Che" Guevara

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.

cash, check, money order or credit/debit card for dues. For ments, please verify with your bank that you are sending in the correct amount.

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.

nic 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. Watch vour mailbox for a postcard with the information.

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

to wear your masks.

The **Executive Board** meets starting at 4:30 p.m.

Local Website - Please check the Local 445 website for the latest information, including job postings. The Local 445 web address is **IBEW445.com**.

justice."

(1928-1967)

them send a resume to 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 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.

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 cbohms@ibew131.com

Facebook @poweringkalamazoo, Twitter @PoweringKzoo, Instagram

@poweringkalamazoo, and LinkedIn @poweringkalamazoo. Please

The LMCC has launched a new website www.powering kalamazoo.com. This website will be used to highlight local signatory contractors and used as an organizing tool. Follow us on

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 May 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 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 cbohms@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 17th, 2021. Brother Gary Yack passed on January 31st, 2021. Brother Wes Smith passed on March 29th, 2021. Brother Adam Russell passed on April 22nd, 2021. Brother James Wynn, passed on April 14th, 2021. Brother Wenford Abbs March, 11th, 2021. Brother Thomas Morgan passed on May 10th, 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 cancelations if you need to reschedule for another available Code Update Course.

Please visit our website www.kalamazoojatc.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. 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.

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

"All progress is based upon a universal innate desire on the part of every organism to live beyond its income." -Samuel Butler (1835 - 1902)

"Men show their characters in nothing more clearly than in what they think laughable."

–Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749 - 1832)

"That man is the richest whose pleasures are the cheapest." -Henry David Thoreau (1817 - 1862)



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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.

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IBEW Local 252

ANN ARBOR - The Business Office would like to wish all of our members and their families a happy and safe Memorial Day Weekend.

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.

TRAINING CLASSES 2021:

1.CPR/FIRST AID: Tuesday, June 8th and 15th, starts at 5:00 p.m.

2. 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.ibew 252.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 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 Coney 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. 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, (Continued next column)



June 4, 2021

Local 275

IBEW 275

COOPERSVILLE - Dear Brothers and Sisters, this year's annual picnic is scheduled for July 31st. You will soon receive your RSVP, so please fill out the requested information and return it to the Hall so we can get an accurate count of age-appropriate gifts for the children. If you are interested in helping with setup, raffles, clean-up, etc., contact Geoff at 616.837.7149 (Ext. 8). Apprentices who volunteer will receive a community service credit, and anyone who volunteers will receive a volunteer reward point.

Recently, you may have received a letter concerning a drug manufacturer's coupon from HPA (Health Plan Advocate) about a prescription you may have. I have gotten a few calls asking if this was legit or not. If you receive a correspondence from HPA, it is legit. The letter sent may seem confusing by the way it is worded, so if you have any questions, please call TIC @ 517.321.7502 for clarification.

At the time of this writing, the following members are three or more months behind in dues: Norm Kaminski, Wasilchenko and Kevin Wynn.

From now on, all resign request will be sent to gyonkers@ibew275.org. The procedures are still the same.

Regular meetings for the EWMC and RENEW committees are every month on the 4th Tuesday @ 6:00pm at the Union Hall in Coopersville and/or via zoom. Both of these are great ways to get involved with the local as well as the community.

Dues for the year 2021 are \$42.90 per month. Please make adjustments when making payments through mail and automatic bank payments.

Local 252, con't

please contact Alana at the Union Hall to start your paperwork at least 3 months before your planned retirement date

Thank You: I would like to thank the membership, staff and all of you who attended for my retirement party and for the gift. All of you have overwhelmed me over the years with your kind words, support, love, and generosity. I have truly loved working for all of you over the years. You have a special place in my heart and I will miss all of you. Thank you again, Linda.

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 James Pine, who passed away on May 20, 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.

"Why not go out on a limb? Isn't that where the fruit is?' –Frank Scully

'Worry is a misuse of imagi-

nation.' –Dan Zadra

"I should not talk so much about myself if there were anybody else whom I knew as well." -Henry David Thoreau (1817

"Seek simplicity, and dis-

- Alfred North Whitehead (1861 - 1947)

Local 498

Powering Northern Michigan Since 1949"

IBEW Local 498 TRAVERSE CITY - Meet-

Regular E Board- The next regularly scheduled E-Board meeting is set for June 11, 2021 @ 6pm.

Regular Meeting - Schedule is 7pm Friday, June 11, 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 14th at Noon (5 seats left) June 14th at 5PM (1 seat left) June 28th at 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 29 is scheduled for those who need it if all the days get filled up.

Habitat for Humanity There is a house in Maple City coming up to be roughed in. Anyone interested please call the hall for more information.

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 . 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 stand-

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/. Local 498 Union members' children get preference to the endowment. A huge thank vou in Memory of Bob Dost for his generosity and being a great union member.

Service Pins – Service Pins for those members who have not received them. Stop by and get yours today!

Made in America Websites 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 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-

(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 **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 re-

sponsibility to pay your dues on

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

"Behold the turtle. He makes progress only when he sticks his neck out."

-James Bryant Conant (1893

"If the wind will not serve, take to the oars.

Latin Proverb



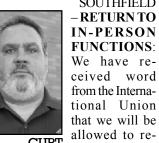
WE ASKED THIS GROUP of electricians working at the Graphics Packaging plant in Kalamazoo to pause what they were doing to have their photo taken. They include (I-r) Chris Anderson (IBEW Local 46, Aurora, Ill.) Joseph Bryer (IBEW Local 131, Kalamazoo) and Randy Shurrager (Local 238, Nashville, North Carolina). They're employed by Van Ert Electric/ KEI Electrical.



Insulators

Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25 SOUTHFIELD

Heat and Frost



CURT McGLONE

FUNCTIONS: We have received word from the International Union that we will be allowed to resume in-person functions be-

ginning 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.

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 the 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 CEL-EBRATION 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 hivis hoodies. Apparel can be viewed on the Facebook page.

M.U.S.T. SAFETY MOD-**ULES**: 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.

(Continued next column)



Local 47 **Heat and Frost**

Insulators

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

LANSING - 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

Contracts are available at the Union Office.

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.

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. To purchase any tickets please call the Union Office.

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 (Please make sure to check the "Friends and Family" box to avoid any fees. To send money via Venmo

you can scan the QR code below or call the Local Union office and we can text the QR code to you. We will be making changes

to the Rules of Procedure this year. 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.

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.

Pension and Health Welfare: Joshua Kroell (989) 385-2671, Allied Workers' Local 47 Fringe Benefit Funds, 6525 Centurion Dr., Lansing, MI 48917-

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

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

To all active members, if you have not sent in your Coordination of Benefits Form, your Spousal Form, 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 abovementioned 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, log onto their Website: www.heatfrostlocal47benefits.org

Please complete and return the working spousal forms to

JATC Coordinator Phil Wilson (616-466-8736). Applications are open for the Apprenticeship Program. Call the Union

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 10 days from the end of the current work week."

Local 25, continued

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 LIMITA-**TION**: 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

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.

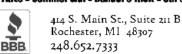
In order to make sure the correct information is provided, it helps to have a name so the Union Office can call Benesys, correct the person providing incorrect information and find out why they are providing our members with incorrect information.

SICKAND INJURED: Please keep all our sick and injured members in your thoughts and prayers.



Robert P. Matouka Insurance Agency

Auto → Commercial → Builders Risk → Surety Bonds → Life Insurance Products



248.652.7333 RMATOUKA@FARMERSAGENT.COM

OFFERING HAGERTY.

Worked with construction trades for over 30 years and a Vietnam veteran



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, 2th 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!!! 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 De**posit:** 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 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.must bsafe.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 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.

(Continued next column)



Elevator Constructors

Elevator Constructors 36 DETROIT-ALLMEMBERS 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 a meeting in the parking lot only, we are seeking alternate ways to communicate if the weather does not cooperate or a venue to accommodate us. Keep watching your email for possible changes!

Attention All Apprentices, monthly OJT forms are now online at NEIEP which must be completed before the 9th 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 interested in Reviewing and Continuing Education.

Attention All Members: Refund checks are available at Hall! These checks will be mailed out June 15th if not picked up.

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, Lansing and the EIWPF are holding outreaches sessions on Monday nights, 6-8 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. Maintenance Control Programs (MCP) reference the Codes, are you being Code compliant?

Know what the MCP is referencing for you the Licensed Journeyperson. 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.

Get well wishes are extended to all our Brothers and Sisters who are on our sick list. Be Safe and Be Healthy!

Laborers 1191, continued

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 & Certifi**cations 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 train-

(Continued on Page 12)



GRINDING CLIPS at the Graphics Packing project in Kalamazoo is Josh Nietling of Iron Workers Local 25. He's employed by Barton Malow.

Local 25

Iron Workers

FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE:

ters is: Iron Workers Local 25

Fringe Benefit Funds, PO Box

99219, Troy MI 48099-9219. Blue

Cross Health Claims and Cus-

tomer Service 877-790-2583. Delta

Dental Claims and Customer Ser-

CHILD: Any member who has a

newborn child, or a new depen-

dent child through marriage

MUST NOTIFY the Fringe Ben-

efit Office of your new dependent

within 31 days; otherwise wait

until the next open-enrollment

period (April 1-April30). A birth

CHANGE: Any member experi-

encing a divorce or a new spouse

MUST NOTIFY the Fringe Ben-

efit Office within 31 days; other-

wise wait until the next open-

enrollment period (April 1-

April30). A Marriage certificate

Meetings cancelled until further

ard Report forms is found in the

upper right-hand corner of our

website www.ironworkers25 .org.

follow once you click the link that

reads "Electronic Steward Re-

ports." These forms are much

easier than the paper forms, we

encourage you to give it a try if

dues for members and boomers

too. AND BE SURE ALL

BOOMERS HAVE SIGNED BOTH

THE RECIPROCAL AND THE

sure to keep your Union dues paid

up to date as it is criteria for work-

ing. You can be asked to leave

the jobsite if your dues are not

APP. Download from the APP

store or google play. Search key

tions 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-

monthlies online at the website

or mobile app located under the

apprenticeship tab "Monthly

Report Sign-In" this gives you

the ability to electronically sub-

mit your monthlies. Also located

under the apprenticeship tab you

will find "Evaluation Form" Jour-

neyman/Supervision can use this

to submit apprentice evaluations

using computer/cell phone and

check your email on a regular

basis; we now email your annual

MUST drug screen paperwork

25 Apprenticeship School, please

go the ironworkers25.org to view

the block schedule; we are prac-

ticing 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 make up days... **Do not just show**

up and expect to be allowed to stay.

be Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at 10:00

am. The Novi retirees Board of

Directors will meet on Tuesday,

July 6, 2021 in Novi at 9 am.

Watch for updates at

(www.ironworkers25.org) or the

Local 25 app that you can down-

The Novi retiree meeting will

and your pay raise slips.

Please also note, you must

To view classes at the Local

submit electronically.

Apprentices: Fill out your

word "MUST SAFETY."

ASSESSMENT-TARGETING

3) PLEASE be sure to check

4) All members please be

MUST Safety now has an

New Apprentice Applica-

you have not yet done so.

Stewards' Notes: 1) STW

2) The link for Online Stew-

LOG-IN DIRECTIONS will

will be required.

BENEFIT FOR LIFE

certificate will be required.

BENEFIT FOR NEW

vice 800-482-8915.



(313) 600-8242 MANDATORY TO WEAR A

NOVI - Vacation checks: Anyone on Direct Deposit your FACE MASK IF YOU VISITANY OF THE UNION OFFICES OR Vacation check will be in your account Friday morning, June 4, UNION HALLS. 2021. All other Vacation checks not scheduled for pick-up have 800-572-8553 or 248-347-3100 and been mailed at the end of busi**follow the prompts**. Hours 7:30am ness day Tuesday June 1, 2021 to 4:30pm. The mailing address and all checks are dated June 5. for member BENEFIT-related mat-

June's ZOOM Union meeting will be Monday, June 26th, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

ZOOM: If you have not yet signed up for Notifications please sign up as Notification 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 are leaning toward communication through the PUSH NOTIFI-**CATIONS** – Please download the APP if you haven't done so yet!! Again, via our website!

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.ironworkers 25.org and cell phone **APP**. The NEW phone number effective 5/ 10/2021 is 866-635-2826. A letter was mailed on 4/20/2021 which explains all you need to know. If you have questions, please call the Union Hall or your Business Agent.

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 outdoordues-collection box.

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 August 13-15, 2021 at Mackinaw City MI. 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 this year on Saturday Aug. 28, 2021 at the Training Center 50490 W. Pontiac Trail, Wixom MI 48393. More details to follow; Mark your calendar!

"I hate Unions!", an unrepresented Ironworker snapped at me last year. He was seriously anti-union, and ready to fight about it. I tried asking him to explain his view, but he was looking for any reason to swing at me. This is my favorite type of Ironworker to meet in the field because they are not afraid to talk about what they believe in. If I can get them to see the truth about collective bargaining, chances are good they'll be more fired up to be pro-union than they were anti-union.

That first communication is difficult, uncomfortable, and often seems pointless, but it is necessary if we want to win back nonunion jobs in Michigan. It takes patience, and persistence, but I've seen people come around 180 degrees. After all, who doesn't want higher wages, better benefits, and a safer work environment? "It is difficult to get a man to understand something when his salary depends upon his not understanding it." -Upton Sinclair. In Solidarity, Your Organizer Hank Kiluk,

load 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, 9:00 am. Located 2691 Fort St, Trenton, MI 48183. All are welcome!

The Retiree Club Scholarship Fund Golf Outing is Thursday, July 15, 2021 at Green Hills Golf Course, Pinconning MI. For information on participating and/ or supporting please contact Dallas Compeau 989-737-5518.

In Memory: Harold Gross #916260 passed away May 13, 2021 at the age of 71. He was a 27-year member. He is survived by his wife Delores (they had just celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary) and his son-in-law Matt Fultz#1308207. He also had many other friends and family in the Ironworking and Rigging industry.

Ignatz Mamayek #341731 of Waterford, MI, passed away May 17, 2021 at the age of 98. He held membership for over 75 years in the Trade.

Joseph C. Masiarczyk passed away May 18, 2021 at the age of 86. He was an inside lineman with Local 58 for 60 years. He was the father of Richard Masiarczyk #1160944. John Bradley Jr. #675224 passed away Saturday May 22, 2021 at the age of 78. He held membership for approximately 53 years. He is survived by his sons

John Bradley III #1239833. Rich Bradley #1146795, Jeff L Bradley #1254333, and a grandson John Bradley IV #1424898.

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

To all Union Members: Please be safe in this pandemic! This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (05/28/ 2021 9:30 am E.S.T.).



Local 8 Iron Workers

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

MARQUETTE - WELD CERTIFICATIONS: Weld certifications are being held on an asneeded 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 June 23rd, 2021, at 5:00 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.iwl8.org on the afternoon of the meeting.

MINE SAFETY TRAINING: The next MSHA Refresher Class will be held on June 19th, 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 \$30.00 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 iwl8.org.

INTERNATIONAL IRON WORKER FESTIVAL – 37TH **ANNIVERSARY:** The International Iron Worker Festival will be held on August 13th, August 14th, and August 15th, 2021, in Mackinaw City, Michigan.

Events on Friday, August 13th, 2021: 3:00 p.m. – Walk of Iron Ceremony, North Huron Avenue - Noon - 5:00 p.m. - Registration and Booth Set-up. 6:00 p.m. -Live Band/Dancing. Events on Saturday, August 14th, 2021: 10:00 a.m. – Parade, 11:00 a.m. – Kid's Events – 12:00 Noon – Registration closes. 12:00 Noon -Skilled Events – 6:00 p.m. – Live Band/Dancing. Events on Sunday, August 15th, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. - Old Timer's Events - Followed by World Champion Column Climb – Awards Ceremony – Approximately 2:00 p.m.

"You create your opportunities by asking for them. -Patty Hansen

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 themself 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

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

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

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

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Local 7 **Sheet Metal Workers**

Sheet Metal Workers 7

LANSING - NOTICE. This Newspaper Article shall serve as Official Notice of ALL meetings for Local 7!

The next Statewide Meeting will be, June 10, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

*Zone 1- July 8th -6:00 p.m. *Zone 2 –July 20th -6:00 p.m.

*Zone 3- (Saginaw) July 7th -6:00 p.m.

*Zone 3- (Traverse City) June 17th - 6:00 p.m.

*Zone 4- July 13th - 6:00 p.m. *Zone 5 – August 5^{th} - 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, **SAM** which means more money and work for you. Make FULLER sure that you are scanning labels in order to equalize

pay and eliminate the incentive to subcontract outside of your area. For more information visit the official website at www.labelitscanitreport.com and download the official app by texting "SMART" to 90975.

ZONE 1 Info: Congratulations to Dan and Janelle McLeod on the birth of their son. Conrad Wesley James was born May 5th at 7lbs 8oz and 20 inches long. Please remember to inform James or Eric of your employment status in the case of a layoff. Apprentices please remember to also inform Kevin at the Zone 1 Training Center of your employment status. If you are experiencing any problems with unemployment, please contact your Business Agent for additional assistance. Any Journey-person interested in upgrade classes, please contact Kevin at the Training Center (269) 781-7183. Please note that class availability depends on the level of interest. **In** Solidarity, James Callahan and Eric Farrington.

ZONE 2 Info: Work in Zone 2 is picking up, let me know if your work status changes or your looking for a job if you been off. Next meeting is July 20, 2021 in the Grand Rapids hall 6pm at this time. The hall is up for sale by the owner and we may be moving before then, will let you know if this changes our meeting location. 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. The next retiree meeting will be June 22 at 12:30 at the Ponderosa in Bay City. Also, a reminder on June 5th there is a fundraiser for Bob Vargas's 6 yr. old daughter who recently had a heart transplant. You can get more information on Facebook at #TrinityStrong or contact me for details on how to help. 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 3 Info: (Traverse City) I would like to congratulate the Membership of Zone 3 on ratifying a new agreement! It would not of been possible without the membership standing together strong! Work outlook for this summer looks great. We will be reaching out to other areas first when additional manpower is needed then working on weakening our non-union competition. The next Traverse City Retirement Breakfast will be Friday, June 4th at Willies Restaurant. Thank You, Travis Eastman

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 James Wheeler and Micah Johnson on passing their final exam and will be Journeymen June 1, 2021. Work in the area is steadily picking up and looks to be a very busy summer. Everyone should have received the special call notice for disbursements Saturday May 22, 2021 at 10 am EST. Respectfully

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 ben-

efits from the International may be available. CONTACT US: 4931 Contec Drive, Lansing, MI 48910–517-

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

Laborers 1191, continued from Pg. 11

ing 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-register every quarter within the first (1st) five (5) 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 5th your name will be removed from the list.



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 June 15, 2021 at 5:00 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2nd Floor, Southfield, MI

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

RETIREE MEETING SCHEDULE: The June 21, 2021 meeting is CANCELLED. We will be go-MULLIGAN ing month to month for 2021. Please keep an eye on the paper for an updated schedule. Any ques-

tions 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 17! 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 AYEAR IN ADVANCE: Brian Haynes, Sean Mulligan, Ryan Cousino, George Dluge, William Lovell, Robert Abramczyk, Michael VanSickle, Mark Boyd, Kevin McGowan, Samuel Velez, Gary Miller, Connie Johnson & Merritt E. Engberg.

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 1st 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. 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 member's 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

LAY-OFFS: 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

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 <u>member's responsibility</u> 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 1-20 and Sept. 1-20. 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.LifeAdvisor EAP.com. Make sure you mention Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 when calling and not the contractor you are working for.

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 (Continued next column)



Local 292 **Sheet Metal Workers**

Sheet Metal Workers' Local 292

TROY-MEETING NOTICE: The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 9, 2021.

Member meetings are held every 2nd Wednesday of the month at The Knights of Columbus in Clawson. Check out

the calendar tab at 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

2021 ANNUAL GOLF OUTING: At this time, Local 292 is planning to have our annual charity golf PAUL outing. The outing will be held at Fox Hills in Ply-**GUALDONI** mouth on Sunday, August 22, 2021. Mark the date on your calendar. More details will follow.

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

These changes are for active members and pre-65 retired mem-

RETIREES 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_e1@yahoo.com if you would like to be added to the retiree email list.

CONSTITUTION AND RITUAL: The Constitution and Ritual of the 2nd SMART General Convention is now available online. Go to www.sheetmetal292.com, click on the Constitution/Ritual tab located at the top of the home page. The Union Hall will also has hard copies for members who want one.

SAFETY MODS AND DRUG TESTS: To access your MUST account, please go to www.mustonline.org or access it through the "links" tab at www.sheetmetal292.com. 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 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).

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; 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 5, 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.

Sheetmetal 80, continued

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.

"An investment in knowledge still yields the best returns."

-Benjamin Franklin (1706 - 1790)



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.

Website for announcements, news, and updates.

www.rooferslocal149.com The Detroit ratified contract

is as follows: 3-year contract •\$1.90 1st year, \$1.65 2nd year, \$1.60 3rd year, all raises are across the board.

•Foreman pay is \$3.50 over Journeyworker pay.

•Travel pay increase, Area 1 \$23, Area 1A \$50, Area 2 \$80, Area

·Vacation/Holiday Pay (\$4.45/hr) starts as soon as a member pays off their union card.

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 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.

Members are reminded to call the Hall (313) 961-6093 to put their name on the out of work list.

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.

Union Dues. Make sure you pay your monthly dues before the end of every month to stav in good standing. 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

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 to make arrangements

Follow us on Facebook for announcement updates

@ United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers, and Allied Workers Local 149

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

(Continued next column)

Mid-Michigan Training Center Information. Journey workers upgrade classes to improve your skills, your worth, and our Brotherhood/Sisterhood are 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 Cen-810-687-1368, 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 as 5/28/2021, 1:00p.m.

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



THE NEW COATED Recycled Board mill that will be housed here at the Graphic Packaging Plant in Kalamazoo will make the company the largest and lowest cost manufacturer of that product in the nation. The company is investing \$600 million in the project, and the machine is expected to have an annual capacity of approximately 500,000 tons.



Boilermakers Local 169

ALLEN PARK - The next Union Meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, June 9, 2021, will be held in Area Three at IBEW 692 -1300 West Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706. Please make a note of the new day. Masks are

required for entry.

As we continue to get back to a more normal life, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members for their contin-

BOB HUTSELL ued efforts and support,

regarding the safety protocol related to the pandemic. Your assistance in this matter has directly affected the safety of not only your union brothers and sisters, but their family, as well as our staff here at the union hall. I would also like to thank all of you who have made the decision to get vaccinated. It is no coincidence that as vaccinations go up, new

COVID cases are going down. While the decision to get vaccinated is personal, I encourage you to trust the proven science regarding this vaccine and get vaccinated.

Local 169

Boilermakers

The staff at your union hall and training center have all been vaccinated, not only for their health and safety, but for the safety of the members they continue to come in contact with. The CDC has stated that we can develop herd immunity by reaching a 70% vaccination rate across the country. By developing herd immunity, we can all get back to doing the things we enjoy.

As we continue to round the corner on the virus, I want to remind you all to make safety your priority during this busy outage season. Journeymen, please continue to mentor our apprentices on the job. The future of our local depends on our apprentices, and I am confident that they are rising to the challenge, based on their work reports.

As I learn more about President Biden's Infrastructure plan, I am encouraged by the money proposed for research & development in Carbon Capture &

Storage, and Hydrogen utilization. Both of these industries are heavily dependent on Boilermakers and the skill sets they possess. No one knows what the future holds, but I'm confident that the world will always depend on the unique skills and ability of a Journeyman, Boilermaker.

The Union Hall has resumed "normal" operations with the previous safety measures in place, which include social distancing, mandatory mask use, and limited occupancy. As always, if you do not feel well, do not come to the hall.

The golf outing has been scheduled for Friday, June 18, 2021. See the website or Facebook group for further details.

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.

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 for more information.

Training Center: Journeymen 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: Area 1 – Currently open; Area 2 – July 1, 2021; Area 3 – Following current outages; Area 4 – Following current outages. Your area agent will contact you with your scheduled class time.

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.

Retired member, John Bergman Sr, passed away on May 9, 2021. His son, John Bergman Jr, who was a Boilermaker, as well, passed away on May 17, 2021. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family during this incredibly difficult time.

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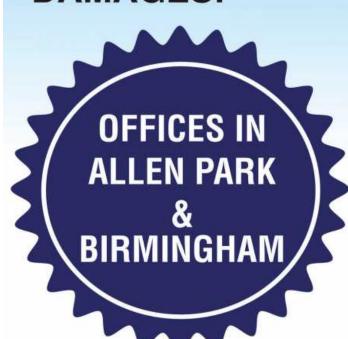
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<u>Outdoors</u>

A fish-friendly dam removal





By Brian Gunderman Michigan Department of **Natural Resources**

In the southwest corner of Michigan, the Dowagiac River, one of the largest cold-water streams in the region, flows into the mighty St. Joseph River, near the City of Niles.

Annual stocking by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources there supports a popular brown trout fishery.

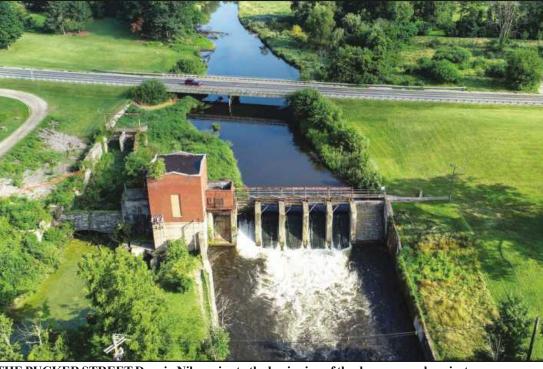
In addition, the construction of fish ladders at the Berrien Springs and Buchanan dams on the St. Joseph River have allowed steelhead (rainbow trout that spend part of their lives in the Great Lakes), Chinook salmon and coho salmon to move into the lower Dowagiac since the early 1990s.

The impassable Pucker Street Dam has confined these migratory fish species to the lower 3 miles of the Dowagiac – until now. Fish are about to have a lot more territory to explore thanks to an ongoing project to remove the dam in Berrien County.

Site preparation and powerhouse removal at the Pucker Street Dam started in fall 2019. The removal of the actual dam structure began in spring 2020. When the removal is completed this summer, steelhead and salmon will have access to an additional 159 miles in the Dowagiac River and its tributary streams.

In addition, fragmented populations of native fish species occurring upstream and downstream of the dam, such as smallmouth bass and suckers, will be reconnected. The dam removal also will restore approximately 1.2 miles of high slope stream habitat in the former reservoir, exposing more gravel bottom for fish spawning and invertebrate (i.e., fish food) production.

Beginnings. To truly appreciate the significance and challenges associated with this dam removal project, it's important to know a little bit about the dam's history. The steep rapids on the Dowagiac River, near the existing Pucker Street bridge, have been a magnet for people looking to har-



THE PUCKER STREET Dam in Niles prior to the beginning of the dam removal project. Jeff Dunlap, City of Niles

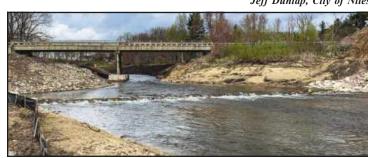
ness the river's power for industrial purposes. In 1828, a wooden dam was constructed at this location to power a mill. The "modern" concrete dam was built a short distance downstream of the wooden dam in 1928 to generate electricity for the City of Niles.

The reservoir behind the dam filled with sediment, was dredged and then filled again until the dam became less profitable to operate. Electrical generation ceased in 1995.

In 1999, the city decided to permanently drop the water elevation in the reservoir by five feet to reduce stress on the aging dam. The amount of sand that moved downstream as a result of the 1999 drawdown exceeded expectations.

The DNR installed a sediment trap on the upstream side of the dam to remove some of this sand. Subsequent monitoring conducted at seven sites downstream of the dam indicated that the river was able to evacuate

most of the sand by July 2000. In 2013, the city concluded that rehabilitating the dam to probe economically viable and began the dam removal planning pro-



SITE OF THE FORMER Pucker Street Dam shown in April. A naturalized river rapids will be constructed at this location in late May-MDNR photo

large as the Pucker Street Dam is a major undertaking, so a diverse team was assembled to help coordinate the project and find funding sources.

Funding for the dam removal has come from a variety of sources. The estimated price tag for the dam removal totals about \$12 million Sediment removal. One of

the key issues that the dam removal team has had to address is managing the huge volume of sediment that has accumulated behind the dam over its long history.

Several measures have been duce electricity was not likely to incorporated into the removal design to reduce and monitor downstream movement of the sediment. cess. Removing a structure as A sediment trap was excavated

between the dam and the Pucker Street bridge before any drawdowns of water occurred.

The lowering of the water level behind the dam has been accomplished through multiple small drawdowns rather than one large event. The sediments behind the dam also are being excavated to create a new pilot channel for the stream through the former reservoir.

Wightman & Associates, Inc. is the lead engineer in charge of the dam removal project. "We are fortunate that land neighboring the dam site became available for sale during the project, allowing us to remove approximately 50 percent of the excavated sediment from

the river valley, reducing mitigation costs and increasing the opportunity for wetlands to reform," Deneau said. The excavation work began at the upper end of the impoundment and is nearly complete.

The pilot channel is anticipated to transform into a more natural and diverse segment of the stream as the water's power and the deposition of large pieces of wood shape the river's form.

Monitoring the downstream sediment movement has consisted of multiple tiers.

To detect sediment movement along the stream bed, the DNR and staffers from the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Department of Natural Resources routinely measure stream bed elevations at two transects downstream of the dam near Losensky Park.

The city also periodically conducts drone flights over the project area to check for stream bank failures. Stream experts from Inter-Fluve use the drone footage and on-site inspections to formulate recommendations on stream channel adjustments and techniques for restoring native streambank vegetation.

Volunteers conduct additional visual monitoring of sediment deposition in the lower Dowagiac River.

Long-term gains. With every dam removal project, there is a tradeoff of a short-term disruption to the river system in exchange for long-term ecological and recreational benefits.

In the case of the Pucker Street Dam, the steelhead and salmon runs attract many anglers to Losensky Park each spring and fall. In September-November 2020, as the project work continued, the City of Niles and their contractors were able to install fencing and keep a portion of the park open to anglers.

If all goes as planned, the dam removal will be complete, and the park will be reopened with a temporary drift boat/canoe launch, for the fall 2021 salmon and steelhead runs.

While reopening Suzannah Deneau with Losensky Park for shore fishing and drift boat access will be an important milestone, there also are new options opening up for anglers this year. "The ability of steelhead and

salmon to move past the former dam location is changing the distribution of fishing effort on the river," said Matt Diana, the DNR Fisheries Biologist that covers the Dowagiac River. "This spring we had reports of steelhead as far upstream as Lake of the Woods in Decatur. Fish also can move up Dowagiac Creek (a tributary of the Dowagiac River) to the city of Dowagiac."

One of the objectives of the DNR is to work with local partners to enhance public access and recreational opportunities on the Dowagiac River system.

Anglers already can access the river at the DNR boating access site off Peavine Street, and Arthur Dodd Memorial County Park is a good site for shore fishing. The park also has a canoe/ kayak launch. However, local fishing guides have reported that large numbers of log jams are hindering boat passage between Peavine Street and the Pucker Street Dam project area.

The Southwest Michigan Planning Commission and the Cass County Parks Department are working to secure grant funding from the Gateway Foundation to hire contractors to selectively remove portions of log jams beginning in July.

In addition, the City of Niles recently purchased 45 acres adjacent to Losensky Park. This land initially is serving as one of the areas for depositing sediment excavated from the Pucker Street Dam reservoir. The long-term vision is to develop this property for outdoor recreation and install a permanent boat ramp at Losensky Park.

"In the long term, this project will yield big dividends for anglers," Diana said. "By creating access to new spawning areas, the Pucker Street Dam removal will lead to increased numbers of steelhead and salmon in the Dowagiac and St. Joseph rivers and contribute to the open-water fishery in Lake Michigan."

Jeff Dunlap is the utilities manager for the City of Niles and has been involved with the project since its inception.

"Removing the Pucker Street Dam will eliminate ongoing liability and maintenance costs for the city," Dunlap said. "The DNR has been a fundamental partner in this project over the last several decades. The guidance and feedback provided by DNR staff has allowed the project to develop from concept to completion.'

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