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SHORT CUTS

Jobless gains likely just a mirage

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Two months of huge payroll employment gains does not equate to a healthy economy.

The federal Bureau of Labor Statistics released its latest monthly employment numbers on July 2, and they show a record 4.8 million job gains in June alone, on top of a 2.7 million hike in jobs in May. But few economists expressed excitement over the numbers.

For one, they didn't reflect the business shutdowns and "re-shutdowns" that came later in June in various states, including Michigan, as the virus surged to record levels in some places.

Said the Economic Policy Institute: "Because so many jobs were lost in March and April, we are still 14.7 million jobs below where we were in February, before the pandemic."

And, ominously, the EPI said in the last week of June, 2.3 million U.S. workers applied for unemployment benefits – the 15th week in a row that jobless claims have been more than twice the worst week of the Great Recession a decade ago.

"Unfortunately, deepening pain is on the horizon," the EPI said. "Given the increase in coronavirus over the last couple of weeks along with re-shuttering of businesses ... June's labor market – as weak as it is – is the best we can expect for a while."

U.S. is Third World for worker rights

All the statewide right-to-work laws, an OSHA and NLRB apathetic to workers and the general decline in unions are having an effect on the United States.

Those and other factors have been noted by the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), which ranked the United States on June 18 among the worst countries for workers' rights in its 2020 Global Rights Index for "systemic violations of rights."

The U.S. earned a No. 4 ranking, which has the category "systemic violations of rights." That puts the U.S. on par with countries like Haiti, Jordan, Uganda and Venezuela, to name a few. The ranking puts the U.S. closer to nations like China, Iran and Egypt (all bottom-ranked No. 5, "no guarantee of rights") than it does to No. 2 Canada (repeated violation of rights) or the best, No. 1 ranked countries like Germany, Iceland, and Sweden ("sporadic violation of rights").

The COVID-19 pandemic is being used by some countries to further restrict workers' rights, the ITUC said.

"If the findings of the Rights Index are not shocking enough, we are already seeing some countries take things further," said Sharan Burron, general secretary of the ITUC. "Under the cover of measures to tackle the coronavirus pandemic, they are advancing their anti-workers'-rights agenda. This has got to stop and be reversed."

"The Global Rights Index exposes a breakdown in the social contract that governments and employers have with working people. There's a trend to restrict working rights through violations of collective bargaining, withholding the right to strike and excluding workers from unions."

Quotable

"In these days of difficulty, we Americans everywhere must and shall choose the path of social justice...the path of faith, the path of hope, and the path of love toward our fellow man."

– Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1882-1945



A TUBE STEEL CANOPY is erected last month at Henry Ford Allegiance Hospital in Jackson by members of Iron Workers Local 25, employed by Douglas Steel. Photo credits: Marc Crance

New way to welcome patients going up at Henry Ford Allegiance

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

JACKSON – Welcome to Henry Ford Allegiance Hospital.

A nicer, more efficient way to greet patients, visitors and staff is on the way to the city's main hospital at Michigan and East avenues.

Henry Ford Allegiance Health said it is in the midst of expanding the front entrance of the hospital to enhance way-finding so that patients, families and visitors can more easily navigate its expanding hospital structure, including its new West Tower of private patient rooms. This renovation will also include a more welcoming environment in the lobby area.

"This is really about ensuring our patients have the best experience we can possibly provide," said Henry Ford Allegiance Health Integration Ad-

visor Karen Chaprka. "From the moment patients approach the hospital, we want them to feel welcome by creating a calm, healing environment that reflects the

high quality of care and service we offer. One way to achieve this is to create an entrance with an inviting look and atmosphere. (Continued on Page 13)



UNDERNEATH the new steel tube canopy at Henry Ford Allegiance-Jackson, Iron Workers Local 25 members employed by Douglas Steel weld joints for the new entrance. Leading the project are Local 25 foreman Dennis Douglas and steward Larry Lambaria.

Vote Tuesday, Aug. 4
in the Michigan Primary
For Endorsements: See Page 4

Michigan regions, for now, enjoy top U.S. rankings in survey of construction jobs

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

We're sizzling, Michigan. And it's not because of the 90-degree temperatures much of the Lower Peninsula has experienced in recent weeks. But we're headed for uncertain, maybe chillier times.

Construction activity in Michigan, relative to the rest of the country, zoomed to the top of the employment charts that are updated every month by the Associated General Contractors of America, based on federal job statistics. Michigan's building trades workforce has been extremely busy since Gov. Whitmer on May 7 ended the six-week COVID-19 construction lockdown on building in the state. But there's a caveat, which we will get

to shortly.

In our last issue, we explained how Michigan's construction employment was up 24 percent from March 1 (pre-COVID) compared to May 31 (three weeks post-COVID) – the second-highest percentage increase in the nation during that time.

But now, in a report released by the AGC on June 30, a further breakdown of the numbers shows how widespread the jumps in construction are in Michigan. We've never seen anything close to this: among 329 geographical "metropolitan" jurisdictions in the U.S., eight of the nation's top 10 communities for construction employment increases are right here in Michigan.

"Yes we're busy, there's a (Continued on Page 3)

NLRB shift weakens union position prior to bargaining process

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The National Labor Relations Board on June 23 overturned precedent, yet again, and now "allows employers to impose serious discipline on an employee ahead of reaching a collective bargaining agreement with a newly formed union," according to *Bloomberg Law*.

The decision means that management at newly unionized businesses can carry out discipline against employees during the pre-contract phase without having to notify or bargain with

the union.

Overtaken was an Obama-era NLRB rule that "required employers to provide notice and an opportunity to bargain to a newly-certified union on 'serious' disciplinary action against unit employees, even before a collective bargaining agreement is in place, says the *National Law Review*."

The *Review* added: "The National Labor Relations Board continues to overrule Obama-Board precedent at a rapid pace." Employers weren't required to reach an agreement with the union "before actually taking action under the previous precedent, and could impose discipline unilaterally in certain exigent circumstances," says *Labor 411*.

The NLRB, which in comprised of a 3-0 majority of appointees of President Trump, said in a statement that the precedent was overturned because the existing rule that called for employers to

House adopts \$1.5 trillion infrastructure bill

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C. – It took an economic crisis bought on by an historic pandemic, but the Democrat-led House of Representatives on July 1 adopted a long-awaited, wide-ranging infrastructure bill with a \$1.5 trillion

price tag that probably has something for everybody.

Adopted was House Resolution 2, which passed by a 233-188 vote, mostly along party lines with Democrats in support. Paperwise and content-wise, it's a very thick bill, and in many ways tries to play catch-up with the nation's

decades-long refusal to address our aging infrastructure.

"The Moving Forward Act is a \$1.5-trillion, 2,300-page bill," says *Forbes*, "that would touch almost every aspect of American life, from the roads we drive on to the way rural communities get broadband internet, from improv-

ing ports and train networks to investing in schools and child care. There's even talk in there about electric or hybrid airplanes."

Peter DeFazio, the Democrat who chairs the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, said the legislation "deals (Continued on Page 3)

Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) NOTICE TO VISITORS Your health and safety matters

Summer's heat brings special risks for facemask use

By Nick Fox
Laborers Health and Safety Fund of North America

Across the U.S. and Canada, the summer months bring widespread risk for heat illness to millions of workers who spend most of their days outdoors. According to the most recent data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 11 construction workers died from heat exposure in 2018, and an-

other 370 required days away from work to recover from heat illness.

"LIUNA members working on road jobs to repair our aging highway system, on pipelines and other critical infrastructure projects and on other projects in the construction industry are at high risk for heat illness," says Laborers International Union of



North America General President Terry O'Sullivan. "These jobs can require tough, physical labor, and when that physical exertion is combined with high temperatures,

heat exhaustion and heat stroke can happen quickly."

Construction employers and other businesses have implemented social distancing policies, stepped up cleaning and disinfecting protocols and taken other measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 on jobsites. Part of the safety measures

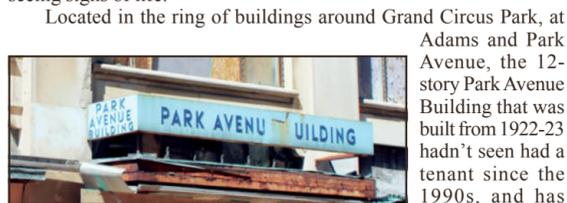
that many construction employers have implemented is the mandatory use of cloth face coverings on the job. Face coverings are especially important when workers are working close together in enclosed spaces and when it's not feasible to practice physical distancing during a task. However, a policy that mandates cloth face coverings (or N95

(Continued on Page 2)

Park Avenue Building finally gets some love

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

DETROIT – A prominent, historic building that has heretofore resisted redevelopment – and a date with the wrecking ball – is again seeing signs of life.



Located in the ring of buildings around Grand Circus Park, at Adams and Park Avenue, the 12-story Park Avenue Building that was built from 1922-23 hadn't seen had a tenant since the 1990s, and has largely been vacant since the 1980s. Two years ago, brick and other masonry had fallen 11 stories to the sidewalk in front of the building, leading to a "dangerous" designation from the City of Detroit and the erection of a barricade around the building.

About a week before the masonry fell in April 2018, the Beaux-Arts classic was purchased for \$4.9 million by a Novi developer, Rino (Continued on Page 2)



POWER-WASHING the 98-year-old brick and limestone exterior of the Park Avenue Building in Detroit are Laborer Rudy Leon and mason Tyler Tabor of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2. They're employed by Grunwell Cashero. The derelict building is getting readied for renovation after being empty since the 1990s.

Viewpoints



Seeking a safe, solvent state

The labor movement has always led the charge in protecting working people from workplace injury, illness and death. We've all seen heroic workers on the news during the COVID-19 outbreak, working in jobs from health care to food service, risking their health and the health of their families in the process.

The AFL-CIO has been working to advance protections in Michigan and federally to ensure we reopen the economy in a way that's appropriately cautious and importantly, avoids a second wave of this awful virus. I'm grateful to Gov. Gretchen Whitmer for all the actions she's taken to protect Michigan's working families. Her efforts have truly saved lives. Now the Republican majorities in the Legislature need to step up and do right by working people and work with Democrats to pass laws that make sure that these protections stay in place for the future, because this crisis isn't over yet.

Working with the Michigan Legislative Labor Caucus, we've outlined legislation that would do just that. Our priorities include keeping front-line workers safe and secure. Rep. Jim Haadsma has introduced a bill to create a presumption within workers compensation for first responder heroes who have post-traumatic stress disorder.

We also want to ensure that we keep workers employed. Rep. Tenisha Yancey's bill would restore the 2018 Paid Sick Leave initiative that was gutted by Republicans in the Legislature, and ensure that all workers who get sick are able to stay home and receive earned paid sick leave so they aren't forced to go into work when they're sick and risk infecting others.

We must keep Michigan healthy. Rep. Alex Garza has introduced a bill to codify best practices based on worker safety and sound science, provide personal protective equipment to workers, conduct screenings, and identify and protect people who work in high-risk areas.

Another priority is that we keep state and local governments, our public schools, and the U.S. Postal Service solvent and working. We need Republicans in Washington and Lansing to step up to make sure budgets stay balanced and public workers stay on the job. In Washington, Republicans should get to work on another round of funding and protections to continue aiding the economy in this time of crisis.

President Donald Trump said he would support additional stimulus. It's my hope that they get this done soon. In Lansing, Republicans haven't so much as proposed a budget in 2020. This work needs to happen now, so that schools and local towns and counties have the financial information they need to plan for what looks like an uncertain economy.

We also need to keep Michigan and our country competitive by hiring people to finally get to work on our infrastructure. The governor's bonding plan is already fixing roads and bridges, and we are rebuilding from the terrible floods that affected folks in the Midland and Gladwin area.

Whitmer is doing everything she can, but we need continued support from the federal government, both in aid to states, and in direct spending on rebuilding our country's crumbling infrastructure.

Incredibly, some folks believe that we should be leveraging this opportunity to undermine workers and the unions who protect them. Just last Friday the Michigan Civil Service Commission announced proposed plans to attack the collective bargaining rights of the very workers who kept us healthy, safe and fed during this coronavirus crisis. This shameful political attack must end now.

The Civil Service Commission must do the right thing by these heroes and immediately cease their ill thought-out plan and show these workers, who had our back when we needed it most, that we will have theirs.

Especially right now, leaders at all levels should be doing everything they can to protect those workers who keep us safe and healthy.

Michigan AFL-CIO President Ron Bieber
from the Detroit News Labor Voices, June 9, 2020

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

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Hot weather brings special risks for facemask use

(Continued from Page 1)

respirators) to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 should be re-examined during high-heat conditions.

Using face coverings makes it more difficult to breathe because the body has to work harder with each breath to pull the same amount of air into the lungs. Breathing may become more difficult as the cloth becomes soaked with sweat. When the body has to work harder than normal, our heart rate increases. The combination of strenuous physical activity, high-heat conditions and difficulty breathing has the potential to put workers at serious risk for heat illness, heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

Federal OSHA's position. OSHA briefly addresses this issue in their COVID-19 FAQ on cloth face coverings, a portion of which is included below:

"Where cloth face coverings are not appropriate ... during certain job tasks (e.g., because they could become contaminated or exacerbate heat illness), employers can provide PPE, such as face shields and/or surgical masks, instead of encouraging workers to wear cloth face coverings. Like cloth face coverings, surgical masks and face shields can help contain the wearer's potentially infectious respiratory droplets and can help limit spread of COVID-19 to others."

Surgical masks are easier to breathe through than cloth face coverings, which are usually made using at least one layer of cotton. Face shields provide a barrier without requiring a worker to inhale air through any type of material.

Reducing risk for heat illnesses. In addition to these options, employers can also reduce risk for heat illness by providing additional rest breaks, changing shift times to cooler parts of the day and/or rotating work crews more frequently during strenuous tasks. Employers should perform a risk assessment of each job task to determine conditions when using a mask may be hazardous or not required because of other controls. Depending on the task, possible controls may include increasing ventilation, installing physical barriers, staggering shifts, working alone, increasing physical distancing and increasing hand hygiene protocols.

Providing water, rest and shade, and allowing workers time to acclimate to high-heat conditions, are the most effective methods to reduce and prevent heat illness. Workers should be trained to recognize the signs of heat illness, including the signs of heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

Employers should encourage workers who experience trouble breathing, feel dizzy or feel their heart racing to do the following:

- Move at least six feet away from their fellow workers, then remove their mask
- Find shade if it's available to let the body cool down, then rest while drinking some cool water
- Seek medical attention if symptoms don't improve within a few minutes

Facial coverings not a replacement for respirators. It's important for both employers and workers to remember that cloth face coverings, surgical masks and face shields used to limit the spread of COVID-19 cannot be used in place of respirators when a respirator would otherwise be required. For example, if a worker is required to wear at least an N95 respirator due to exposure to respirable crystalline silica, a face covering does not meet that requirement. Remember: surgical masks and cloth face coverings are not respirators.

"Be not extravagantly high in expression of thy commendations of men thou likest, it may make the hearer's stomach rise."
—Thomas Fuller (1608 - 1661)

"A full cup must be carried steadily."
—English Proverb



OPENED IN 1923 to house business offices and retailers, the Park Avenue Building in Detroit followed the path of other downtown businesses and started emptying out in the 1980s.

Park Avenue Building finally gets some love

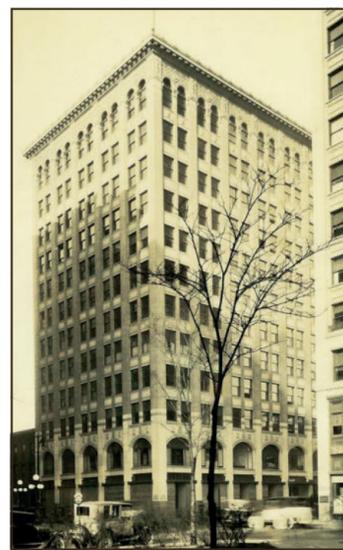
(Continued from Page 1)

Sauve. He plans \$22 million in renovations and a transformed 104,500-square-foot building with 75-100 apartments and first floor retail. The apartments will consist of one-, two- and three-bedroom units. Preliminary work on the masonry began June 1, with a small cleaning crew of laborers and Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2 masons from Grunwell-Cashero.

"We're planning on doing brick repair, caulking, stone replacement and general restoration of the exterior of the whole building," said Grunwell Cashero Supt. Jeff Cusin. "But the first thing we're doing is powerwashing it with hot water, so we can get an idea of what it looks like cleaned up, and we can match the mortar."

Designed by famed architect Albert Kahn, the Park Avenue Building had housed offices and retail, according to the City of Detroit. It was once known as the General Necessities Building.

A 2014 citizens' petition drive sought to save the building from demolition, even though the city called its state of disrepair "the very definition of irreparable harm to the public."



THE PARK AVENUE building, circa 1920s. Photo credit: Indiana Limestone Photographic Collection

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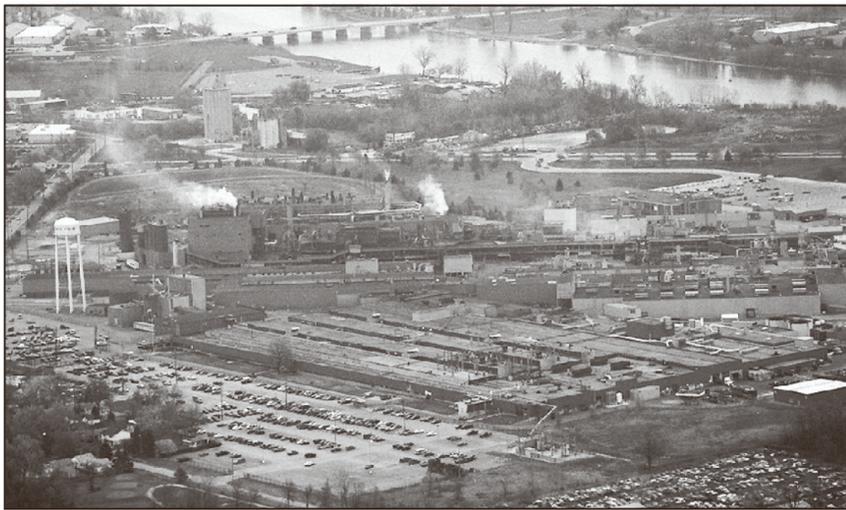
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BUILDING MICHIGAN!

Saginaw Steering Gear

HISTORY IN THE MAKING By Marty Mulcahy



GENERAL MOTORS' Saginaw Steering Gear Plant No. 2, shown in the 1980s. Closed in July 2001 and demolished a year later, the plant was part of group of GM facilities that made the Saginaw area renowned for the manufacture of steering gear – a key component in the design – and driving – of automobiles. This plant opened in 1941, in time to help prepare the nation for war by becoming “the gun plant,” primarily manufacturing M1919 machine guns and M1 Carbines that were produced in great numbers and in excellent quality in Plant No. 2. Various other plants were built in the area, too.

Let's steer our attention to Saginaw, and the community's enormous contributions to the success of General Motors and military production.

If you owned or drove a GM product made in the 20th Century, chances are you (unknowingly) steered the vehicle with components manufactured at Saginaw Steering Gear.

But that anonymity never stopped the thousands of GM employees who made steering gear products in Saginaw over the course of the past century from thinking of your vehicle – they made more than 200 million steering columns from 1907 until the Saginaw works was closed in July 2001. During that time, Saginaw's manufacture of steering gear created a niche in the automotive world – like Toledo making glass or Flint making AC spark plugs – that contributed enormously to the automotive economy and to creating a union-backed middle class in the nation.

The original steering gear plant in Saginaw emerged from the Jackson-Church-Wilcox Co., which was organized in 1906 as a producer of automobile parts, primarily for the Buick Motor Co.

“It's most successful product was a steering gear marketed under the name ‘Jacox.’ Buick's demand for the Jacox steering gear far exceeded the plant's capacity, but the owners refused to make the substantial level of investment required to make the necessary expansion,” says *The Changing U.S. Auto Industry: A Geographical Analysis*. “Consequently, Buick decided to purchase Jackson-Church-Wilcox in 1910. General Motors placed Jacox under common management with its other Saginaw plants in 1919.”

Perhaps only a gearhead would appreciate what set the Jacox steering gear apart from the competition, thus solidifying Saginaw's place as a steering systems powerhouse. The Jan. 4, 1913 edition of *Michigan Manufacturer and Financial Record* included a glowing report on what they called “probably the largest steering gear manufacturers in the world.”

The article said that since the Jacox company was founded, it steadily devoted more and more of its energies away from other types of machine work in favor of perfecting their steering gear design – which the *Record* said was “better than anything heretofore manufactured.”

“The Jacox gear is of the screw and half nut construction, having a single adjustment which takes up any and all wear which occurs, no matter where that this wear may be. There is absolutely no possibility of backlash in a Jacox Gear. Furthermore on account of the enormous bearing surfaces and due to the fact that any wear which takes place in the gear is distributed evenly over all the parts, this gear is more powerful and is considerably stronger than any other Steering Gear on the market.”

The Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University said “the gear, unlike other gears of the day, prevented automobile drivers from being hurled from their vehicles when driving on rutted or rough roads, which were very common in those days.”

Located on Monroe Street near Hamilton in Saginaw, the Jacox firm's “magnificent plant of concrete and steel construction,” the *Record* noted, consist-

THE GEAR THAT STEERS YOU RIGHT

Jacox STEERING GEAR

A true surface contact area of from 3.888 square inches in the smallest Jacox gear, to 5.498 square inches in the largest, is the chief secret of our success in the manufacture of efficient steering gears.

The Jacox Steering Gear is of the screw and half nut type—both half nuts pass completely over the ends of the screw on each extremity of travel insuring a maximum uniformity in wear—there are no high or low spots—there are no tight or loose places.

The screw is case hardened and ground—in all other types of gears imperfections are only lapped out.

Compare the larger, even and true contact area of the Jacox Gear with the mere straight line type of other makes.

Again, look at the adjusting nut—it takes up the wear, and is so constructed that it receives the most jacket—the uniform superiority of Jacox construction is at once apparent.

DEPARTMENT “C”
JACKSON-CHURCH-WILCOX CO., SAGINAW, MICHIGAN

AN ADVERTISEMENT for the Jacox Steering Gear, from *The Horseless Age*, magazine, 1911. The history of GM's Saginaw Steering Gear Division can't be told without including the Jackson-Church-Wilcox Co.

ing of 100,000 square feet of floor space. It had machine shops, and its own brass and aluminum foundries, as well as pattern shops, heat treating, enameling and plating works. It was so busy in 1913 that it was turning away work orders.

During World War I, the expanded plant did split duty, assembling steering gear while taking on the task of producing trench mortar shells.

“The plant became recognized as one of the most modern manufacturing facilities in the world due to its high output,” wrote Jeffrey Liker in *Becoming Lean: Inside Stories of U.S. Manufacturers*, with a strong rate of growth that continued after World War I. “In 1926, a completely new steering gear, the ‘Worm and Wheel Gear,’ was developed. In 1934 Saginaw Steering Gear was producing over a million gears per year” after GM standardized the hardware on all its cars.

Like most Michigan factories, the Saginaw Steering Gear plant did its part in the Arsenal of Democracy during World War II, when GM manufactured 30-caliber M1919 Browning machine guns, (at right), armor-piercing projectiles, rapid-fire M-1 carbines (below right) and gear units for the U.S. military. They even built an additional plant at their site to satisfy the high demand. “The company received virtually every



A POSTCARD VIEW of the Jacox Steering Gear Co. in Saginaw, the forerunner of GM's Steering Gear Division, circa 1906.

award the U.S. government could bestow as a result of its impressive volume of output,” Liker wrote.

Post war, the Saginaw works began production of the first power steering system in 1950. “The 1950s and 1960s were characterized by a series of successful innovations by Saginaw engineers such as the adjustable steering wheel and the energy absorbing column,” Liker wrote. “They constructed five additional plants during this period.”

Hemmings Motor News said it was a great era for the plant's products. “Few mechanical parts have enjoyed a production life longer than the Saginaw power steering gearbox,” *Hemmings* said. “First introduced in the early Sixties on full-size Oldsmobiles, the Saginaw gearbox has gone through many internal updates; however, it remained virtually the same and was the basis for General Motors power steering systems until the advent of rack and pinion steering.”

GM reclassified Saginaw Steering Gear to its “Saginaw Division” in 1984. In the early 1990s, more innovations resulted in the introduction of power-assist and variable-effort steering systems. In 1995 GM organized its Automotive Components Group into Delphi Automotive Systems, and Saginaw Division changed its name to Delphi Steering Systems.

The CMU Clarke Historical Library said by the late 20th Century the Saginaw works consisted of seven manufacturing plants and the divisional offices, all located in Saginaw. At one point, the Saginaw division employed more than 10,000.

Over the years they produced a wide range of products including: manual and power steering gears; rack and pinion steering; power steering hydraulic pumps and hoses; energy-absorbing steering columns; tilt-wheel and tilt and telescoping driver adjustable steering; front-wheel drive axles; exhaust emission control air pumps; propeller shafts and universal joints; steering linkages and components; high efficiency, low friction recirculating ball bearing screws and splines.

This century, following spinoffs to suppliers and economic downturns, the sites of the former GM properties have been demolished, taken over by other companies, or the products have been moved to other plants.

While the Saginaw Metal Casting Operations plant is still open in the city, the final steering facility that operated in Saginaw was Plant 2 on Holmes Street. Built to accommodate demand during World War II, it was closed in 2001 and demolished a year later.

Many of the plant's operations have been moved to a plant currently held by Tier I GM supplier Nexteer in nearby Buena Vista Twp.

Michigan regions, for now, enjoy top U.S. rankings

(Continued from Page 1) tremendous amount of activity right now in Michigan, but we think a significant amount of that is simply pent-up demand and catching-up following the shutdown,” said Mike Haller, CEO of Detroit-based contractor Walbridge. “The bigger question is, what kind of demand are we going to see once this initial boom is over? What are we looking at later in the year, and next year?”

The U.S. construction industry has always been one of the leading market indicators of where the U.S. economy is headed. The fortunes of the construction industry are closely tied to the financial position of owners and their financiers, as well as government agencies and their taxpayers. Now COVID-19 has not only cast a massive shadow on the health of the entire planet, it has thrown a wrench into all the interconnected financial dealings that make economies move.

Walter Wriston, a banker and former chairman and CEO of Citicorp, once said that “capital goes where it is welcome and stays where it is well treated.” But with COVID raging again now in

different parts of the country, economists have little practical guidance for owners on where their money should be spent next, if at all.

In Michigan, the latest employment numbers, released June 30, show that No. 1 region in our state and in the nation for construction employment increases is the Warren-Troy-Farmington Hills area, which saw construction jobs nearly double (+90 percent) from 23,200 in April 2020 to 44,100 jobs a month later when the economy reopened. No. 2 in the nation was Lansing-East Lansing region (+80 percent, to 5,800 jobs in May), and tied for No. 3 was the Ann Arbor region (+78 percent, +4,800 jobs) and Saginaw area (+78 percent, +3,200 jobs).

Rounding out the top Michigan-based geographic jurisdictions for percentage U.S. construction employment jumps from April to May are No. 6 Battle Creek (+67 percent, +2,100 jobs); No. 7. Grand Rapids- Wyoming (+67 percent, +10,600 jobs); No. 8 Monroe (+62 percent, +800 jobs); No. 9 Detroit-Dearborn-Livonia (+60 percent, +6,500

jobs); No. 12 Jackson (+54 percent, +700 jobs), and No. 13 Flint (+53 percent, +2,100 jobs).

Lower, but not much lower on the list were No. 22 Bay City, No. 36 Niles-Benton Harbor and No. 63, the Muskegon area. The Upper Peninsula's lower population leaves it off the list.

Michigan joined 45 other states in seeing a rise in employment, after the U.S. construction industry lost more than 1 million jobs after the COVID crisis struck.

The construction industry employment drop, and then hikes across Michigan have been jaw-dropping, but they happening in the midst of a pandemic that has brought on the greatest interruption to the U.S. construction industry in our lifetimes. Whitmer's closure of most construction in our state led to a stoppage of 81 percent in Michigan, according to technology company OxBlue. And the subsequent comeback during the course of a month's time may be only a snapshot of an extremely volatile period of the construction industry, going forward.

Even with the meteoric job gains in the past several weeks, Michigan's construction workforce of 154,000 is still 28,200 construction jobs short of where we were in February, and 18,800 less than it was in June 2019.

The AGC cautioned that “the gains may be short-lived.”

“The widespread uptick in construction employment in May is welcome news following a month in which industry employment shrank in all but one state,” said Ken Simonson, the association's chief economist, on June 19. “Our association's latest survey shows many firms have been recalling or adding employees in recent weeks, thanks in part to rapid receipt of Paycheck Protection Program loans. But only about one-fifth of firms report winning new or expanded projects, while almost one-third of firms say an upcoming project has been canceled.”

Dodge Data and Analytics was similarly cautious. “While May's (3 percent nationwide) increase in construction starts is certainly good news, the influence of several large projects undermines the notion that the construction sector has fully entered recovery,” said Richard Branch, Dodge's chief economist. “Even as state and local areas reopen and bans on construction activity in Boston, New York City and other areas are lifted, the sector will have to contend with digging itself out from a deep economic recession. While the overall economy most likely hit bottom in May, the recovery will be slow since nearly 20 million jobs have been lost since February. The second half of 2020 will be a slog and gains will be modest over the short term.”

NLRB shift weakens union position prior to bargaining process

(Continued from Page 1)

hold pre-discipline bargaining conflicts with U.S. Supreme Court interpretations of labor law and “imposed a complicated and burdensome bargaining scheme that was irreconcilable with the general body of law governing.”

“This decision is a clear ‘win’ for employers, as the Board relieved management of an onerous and confusing bargaining obligation,” wrote management attorneys Peter Conrad and Joshua Fox in an article for the *National Law Review*. “In practice, it had been challenging, to say the least, for employers to distinguish ‘serious’ discipline from garden-variety action not requiring notice and bargaining.”

“The reversal,” write Greg Brown and Hilary Detmold for the labor and employment law firm Littler, “comes as part of a continued shift in Board precedent, overturning Obama-era decisions the current Board views as wrongly decided.”

Trump has made it a point to overturn numerous Obama-era statutes and regulations, from the Affordable Care Act to environmental regulations to workplace laws. While the NLRB should have five members (according to tradition, but not by law) – three from the ruling administration's party and two from the party out of power – there has been no movement from Trump or the Republican-held Senate to appoint two Democrats to positions to fill out the NLRB.

“Under the Trump administration, the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) has systematically rolled back workers' rights to form unions and engage in collective bargaining with their employers, to the detriment of workers, their communities, and the economy,” says the Economic Policy Institute. “The Trump board has issued a series of significant decisions weakening worker protections under the National Labor Relations Act. Further, the board has engaged in an unprecedented number of rulemakings aimed at overturning existing worker protections. Finally, the Trump NLRB general counsel has advanced policies that leave fewer workers protected by the NLRA and has advocated for changes in the law that roll back workers' rights.”

“The Trump board and general counsel have elevated corporate interests above those of working men and women and have routinely betrayed the statute they are responsible for administering and enforcing.”

\$1.5 trillion infrastructure bill

(Continued from Page 1)

with the incredibly deteriorated infrastructure in this country” and addresses the threat of climate change.

At present, the measure is expected to be dead on arrival in the Senate. GOP Sen. John Barrasso, who chairs the Environment and Public Works committee, called the bill a “dead end” and a “road to nowhere,” and initially the White House has expressed its opposition to the bill. But it's in an election year, and President Trump has held three events during his term in office touting his commitment to improving the nation's infrastructure – perhaps he would embrace this legislation as a political lifeline. He should, said North America's Building Trades Unions President Sean McGarvey.

“For years, McGarvey said, “NABTU, its affiliated unions and its members have urged both Congress and the Administration to pass a broad-scoped, robustly funded infrastructure package

with strong labor standards to ensure that as we rebuild American infrastructure, we rebuild American communities by providing job and training opportunities to workers and their families. The Moving Forward Act meets these goals aggressively.”

McGarvey lauded a bipartisan group of members who resoundingly defeated an amendment that would have stripped Davis-Bacon (prevailing wage) protections from the bill.

“NABTU applauds Speaker Pelosi for moving forward this long-awaited, and desperately-needed infrastructure agenda,” McGarvey said. “We commend the commitment to local prevailing wage rates and those who demonstrated that infrastructure is not a partisan issue or political issue, but an American issue with broad support, and a policy we should advance to strengthen us globally. In a time of economic uncertainty brought on by COVID-19, an effort to reduce the wages and benefits of those who

literally build our nation is simply cruel.”

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi called on Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell to support the legislation.

“H.R. 2 takes bold, broad and transformational action to rebuild our infrastructure, while addressing key injustices in America, which have been laid bare by the COVID-19 crisis,” Pelosi said. “H.R. 2 makes a strong down payment in a clean energy future and solving the climate crisis, as we create millions of good-paying jobs and rebuild our highways, bridges, transit, rail, airports, ports and harbors to improve safety, reduce gridlock and put America on a path to zero pollution.”

In a likely swipe at “special interests” that saw to the insertion of the prevailing wage provisions in the bill, Associated General Contractors of America CEO Stephen E. Sandherr said the bill needs bipartisan support. “House Democratic leaders rightly understand the scope of the nation's infrastructure challenges and the suggested funding levels in their infrastructure measure could lead to significant, and much-needed, improvements,” he said. “Unfortunately, today's vote makes it clear that this measure does not have the same widespread support as its predecessors. One reason is that many of the measure's provisions do more to accommodate the wishes of special interests than solve infrastructure needs. This could undermine the bill's ability to boost employment and needed economic growth.”

Just joking

A young guy met a 60-year-old woman at a bar and he thought she looked pretty good for her age.

The two drank a couple of beers and talked.

She asked if he'd ever experienced a Sportsman's Double?

“Huh, what's that?” he asked.

“Let's just call it a romantic encounter with a

mother and daughter,” she replied.

“Oh, really!” he said, as his mind began to embrace the idea. He began to wonder about her daughter.

They drank another beer, and she said with a wink, “c'mon, tonight's your lucky night!”

They went back to her place, and walked in. She turned on the hall light and shouted upstairs: “Mom...you still awake?”



Endorsement list

for the Aug. 4 statewide primary

Below are candidates endorsed for the Tuesday, Aug. 4, statewide primary by the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council and its local affiliate councils. Some councils did not endorse or had limited endorsements, and some only endorse if they get a request from candidates to do so. Wherever you are, please take the time to vote for candidates who support the health, safety and incomes of working people.

U.S. Senator
Gary Peters

U.S. Congress
District 1 (Negaunee): Dana Ferguson
District 14 (Southfield): Brenda Lawrence



State Representative
District 2 (Detroit): Joe Tate
District 4 (Hamtramck): Abraham Aiyash
District 8 (Detroit): George Etheridge
District 10 (Detroit): Kevin Harris
District 19 (Livonia): Laurie Pohutsky
District 20 (Plymouth): Matt Koleszar
District 21 (Canton): Ranjeev Puri
District 22 (Roseville): Michael Anderson
District 27 (Hazel Park): Kevin Kresch
District 29 (Pontiac): Brenda Carter
District 31 (Clinton Twp.): Bill Sowerby
District 37 (Farmington Hills): Samantha Steckloff
District 38 (Novi): Kelly Breen
District 39 (Commerce): Julia Pulver
District 43 (Clarkston): Nicole Breadon
District 44 (Milford): Denise Forrest
District 45 (Rochester): Brendan Johnson
District 46 (Oxford): Jody Lamacchia
District 52 (Ann Arbor) Donna Lasinski
District 54 (Ypsilanti): Ronnie Dean Peterson
District 55 (Ann Arbor) Felicia Brabec
District 60 (Kalamazoo): Julie Rogers
District 61 (Kalamazoo): Christine Morse
District 78 (Niles): Dan VendenHeede
District 95 (Saginaw): Amos O'Neal
District 104 (Traverse City): Dan O'Neil
District 108 (Escañaba): Renee Richer
District 109 (Marquette): Sara Cambensy

Macomb County
Prosecutor: Jodi Switalski
Clerk/Register of Deeds: Fred Miller
Treasurer: Lorie Barnwell

Board of Commissioners
District 1: (Warren): Andrey Duzyj
District 2: (Centerline): Marv Sauger
District 3: (Eastpointe): Veronica Klinefelt
District 5 (Sterling Hts.): Robert Mijac
District 10 (Harrison Twp.): Robert Leonetti
District 11 (Roseville): Harold Haugh

Clinton Twp.
Treasurer: Paul Gielegem
Clerk: Bob Smith
Trustee: Laura Cardamone, Mike Keys, Tammy Payton

Wayne County
Prosecutor: Kym Worthy
Treasurer: Eric Sabree

Board of Commissioners
District 4 (Lincoln Park): Ilona Varga
District 5 (Detroit): Irma Clark-Coleman
District 10 (Plymouth): Melissa Daub
District 11 (Wayne): Al Haidous
District 12 (Westland): Glenn Anderson
District 15 (Grosse Ile): Joseph Palamara

Wayne County Circuit Court Judge: Nicholas John Hathaway, Frank Simone
3rd Circuit Judge: Edward Joseph

District Court Judge
District 28 (Southgate): John Graziani
District 31 (Hamtramck): Alexis Krot
District 32A (Harper Woods): Daniel S. Palmer
District 34 (Van Buren Twp.): Lisa Martin
District 38: (Eastpointe): Michael Klinefelt
District 45 (Oak Park): Jaimie Powell Horowitz

Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees: Brian Broderick, Joan Gephardt, Terry Gilligan

Canton Twp.
Supervisor: Ann Marie Graham-Hudak
Treasurer: Dian Slavens
City Clerk: Michael Siegrist
Trustee: Sommer Foster, Steve Sneiderman

Redford Twp.
Supervisor: Pat McRae
Treasurer: Lily Cavanagh
Trustee: Elizabeth Kangas

Van Buren Twp.
Trustee: Kevin Martin

Oakland County
Prosecutor: Karen McDonald
Sheriff: Michael Bouchard
Treasurer: Robert Wittenberg
6th Circuit Judge (non-incumbent): Lorie Savin

Board of Commissioners
District 5 (Waterford Twp.): Kristen Nelson
District 6 (White Lake Twp.): Jeffrey Long
District 7 (Commerce): Karen Adams
District 9 (Novi): Gwen Markham
District 12 (Birmingham): Kelly Dillaha
District 13 (Farmington Hills): Marcia Gershenson
District 14 (Farmington): William Miller
District 16 (Clawson): Penny Luebs
District 17 (Lathrup Village): Mykale Garrett
District 18 (Ferndale): Charlie Cavell
Milford Twp. Supervisor: Don Green



Local 149
Roofers & Waterproofers

Roofers Local 149
DETROIT – Main Office – Southeastern Lower Michigan – United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers and Allied Workers Local 149 Detroit, is officially on strike as of July 2, 2020. From the outset, Local 149 has been committed to an agreement that is fair and worthy of our members' support. We will continue to work with our contractors to reach a tentative agreement.

Some Maintenance Agreement projects shall have no strikes, work stoppages, picketing, or slow-downs. If a contractor tells you that a project falls under a maintenance agreement, please contact the Hall immediately, at 313.961.6093.

The next regular membership meeting is scheduled for Tues., Aug. 4, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., July 28, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

Follow us on Facebook for announcement updates @ United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers, and Allied Workers Local 149

Detroit Training Center Information

The next term for all Detroit Apprentices will be as follows:

- Apprentice 2 & Single Ply 1 - Monday, July 20
- Apprentice 1 & Single Ply 2 - Tuesday, July 21
- BUR 1 & Steep Slope 1 - Wednesday July 22
- BUR 2 & Steep Slope 2 - Thursday, July 23
- Apprentice 7 & 8 Safety & Health - Thursday, July 23

All classes begin at 6:30pm
Journeyworkers upgrade classes to improve your skills, your worth, and our Brotherhood/Sisterhood is available at no cost to all Detroit LU 149 members.

Dues must be current in order to enter the Training Center. If you are interested in any of these classes, contact Thomas Jaranowski at the Training Center, 248-543-3847, or T.Jaranowski@DetroitRoofers.org to make arrangements.

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

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.

Retirees' Association. If you are a retired 149 member and are interested in joining the Roofers & Waterproofers Local 149 Retirees' Association, please contact Business Manager Brian Gregg at 313-961-6093.

MID-MICHIGAN AREA – Clio Office. The next Mid-Michigan regular membership meeting is scheduled for Tue, July 14, 2020 at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420.

Raise Notice. The Mid-Michigan members have spoken loud and clear by voting for proposal 1. \$1.05 on the check, \$0.40 to the Pension, and \$0.40 to the Health & Welfare.

Mid-Michigan Training Center Information.

The Mid-Michigan Apprentices will be as follows:

- Apprentice 1, thru 3- are on Mondays
- Apprentice 4, thru 8- are on Wednesdays

All classes begin at 6:00pm
Journeyworkers upgrade classes to improve your skills, your worth, and our Brotherhood/Sisterhood is available at no cost to all Mid-Michigan LU 149 members.

Dues must be current in order to enter the Training Center.

If you are interested in any of these classes, contact Rick Baird at the Training Center, 810-687-1368, or rickbaird81@gmail.com to make arrangements.

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.

"Hold a true friend with both hands."
–Nigerian Proverb

Local 1191
Laborers

Laborers Local 1191
DETROIT – Due to COVID-19, Laborers' 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.

The Office is now Open.
Thanking you in advance for complying with the above conditions and please follow the COVID-19 recommendations to stay safe and healthy.

Members can now Pay Dues on line 24/7 on our website!!! Upper right-hand corner Pay Dues tab, and follow the instructions...

Check out our website at www.laborerslocal1191.org. Important information about your Local Union ... Also, on Facebook!!!

Dues: Beginning Jan. 1, 2020 regular monthly dues are \$35.00 for active members. Retiree monthly dues will remain the same \$ 8.00.

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.

We urge members to make their payments timely to avoid additional costs!

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.

MUST Safety Awareness Training: Please check the MUST website at www.mustonline.org to see how many modules you have. **Members are reminded to get your 18 modules and keep them up to date also a current Drug Test.** You can schedule an appointment to take your modules at our training school by calling (734) 729-7005 or 517-625-4919 website www.mltai.org. You can also contact the Local 313-894-2241.

Also, check out the training classes available to you at no cost. **Note: classes & certifications contractors have been asking for are, OSHA 30, Asbestos & Lead Awareness, Hoisting & Rigging, Pipeline Safety, Class A Cdl License, Asbestos Removal Supervisors Licence, Confined Space Permit Required, Grade Checking Blueprint Reading & Measuring Tools, Gps Location,** all are available at the training center. It could mean the difference of being sent to work or not!

FYI: By taking the OSHA 30 your 18 MUST Safety modules are updated as well. If you are not able to go to the Training Center for MUST Safety Modules contact the Local, we will help make arrangements for you 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 this Local Union. (Be sure to Check & Update your Skills.)

Also please be advised: Per the out of work list rules, all members on the list must re-register your availability for work every quarter and do so within the first five days of the following months March, June, September and December (Roll Call). 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.

Save Time & Money: no more checks or money orders to mail no more worry if it gets here on time, **monthly dues can be deducted from your vacation check** and sent direct to the Local. Please stop by the office to get one of the forms or you may call the office (313-894-2241) to have one mailed to you. **Members who signup for Vacation deduction and pay 6 months at a time will receive a 1-month rebate!!!**
Also, be sure to keep your current address and phone numbers up to date with Local. Current E-mail address is also very important! Also, we are now accepting CREDIT & DEBIT payments.
(Continued next column)

Local 36
Elevator Constructors

Elevator Constructors Local 36
DETROIT – ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED that our next regular Membership Meeting was planned for Monday, July 27, 2020, will not be held due to lack of venue to maintain restrictions on social distancing for gatherings of multiple people. We are working on a venue for our Aug. 24, 2020 meeting. Any changes in this schedule or venue will be included in future Building Tradesman articles and emails. The Local requests your email so we may inform you on any last-minute changes or the possibility of virtual meetings.

Attention All Apprentices, we are waiting the results of your final exams. When results are posted, we will be setting the next semester up. We have not gotten confirmation from NEIEP if classes will be virtual or in the classroom. **Monthly OJT Forms** are still required of ALL APPRENTICES! You can drop these forms at the hall. **This is a requirement of the Department of Labor.** Do not put your apprenticeship in jeopardy by failing to fulfill this responsibility. This will also result in your appearance before the Local JAC Committee.

Attention All Apprentices, Temporary Mechanic Agreements are through the Hall. This agreement is between You, Your Company and the Hall and is to be renewed monthly. With the current MOU expiring your Company will still have to provide proof of your eligibility. Do not put yourself at risk of possible charges.

All Members, Local 36 is working with Local 85, Lansing and the EIWPFF holding classes on Monday nights, 6:00 – 8:00 pm. Reviewing and answering any questions pertaining to Michigan and Detroit Elevator Codes. Contact the Hall if you are interested. The link will be sent to you for either online or phone participation.

Brothers and Sisters, due to recent conditions, ALL are requested to follow guidelines put out by the CDC, building's and your companies. Common sense and personal health practices should always be followed. ALL safety policies must always be followed.

The Local picnic was scheduled for Saturday, July 25, 2020. Currently the Picnic Committee and the Local Officers agree that for the safety and health of all members, retirees and families we have canceled our picnic for July 2020.

The 2020 IUEC Local 36 Golf Outing has also been canceled.

The City of Detroit is opening for license renewal on the 29th of June, be advised they would like it done online. Send emails to kurtj@detroitmi.gov with photos of current driver license and current city of Detroit Elevator license and your phone number attached. They have said all licenses expiration dates have been extended during the shutdown. The Coleman Young building is opening but only by appointment. These instructions have been sent to you through email.

We are STILL requesting your email addresses. If you are not receiving emails, please confirm your address with the Hall. During our recent situation we have received updates daily and we want this information at your disposal as soon as possible.

All members are reminded that your company is responsible to deliver material to the jobsite. Use of personal vehicles for delivery of material is for only emergency situations. There are no emergencies in modernization or construction. All construction, modernization and cab work is **TEAMWORK**. This is according to our agreement and follows your company's safety policy. A licensed journeyman must also be onsite while any work is performed. If you are asked or told differently call the hall immediately. Also, all jobs are to be reported to the HALL, this does include all unloads, crane picks and cab modernizations. This is our work and **SHALL** be performed by **ELEVATOR CONSTRUCTORS!**

We regret to inform all members on the fatality in Local 2, Chicago, IL. On June 30, 2020 Brother Bill Rogers passed away due to injuries sustained on the job. We will collect the Death Assessment on his behalf with our next quarter cards.

Get well wishes are extended to all our Brothers and Sisters who are on our sick list. Keep safe and healthy. Be a Brother to a Brother, regardless of what Local they might belong too. We are all in this and will get through this, together!

"Rather than love, than money, than fame, give me truth."
–Henry David Thoreau (1817 - 1862)

"Arithmetic is being able to count up to twenty without taking off your shoes."
–Mickey Mouse (1928 -)

"My idea of an agreeable person is a person who agrees with me."
–Benjamin Disraeli (1804 - 1881)

"People have a hard time letting go of their suffering. Out of a fear of the unknown, they prefer suffering that is familiar."
–Thich Nhat Hanh

"A conference is a gathering of important people who singly can do nothing, but together can decide that nothing can be done."
–Fred Allen (1894 - 1956)

"It's delightful to have ambitions. I'm so glad I have such a lot. And there never seems to be any end to them—that's the best of it. Just as soon as you attain to one ambition you see another one glittering higher up still. It does make life so interesting."
–L. M. Montgomery (1874 - 1942)

"Under certain circumstances, profanity provides a relief denied even to prayer."
–Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)

Apprentices Needed!
Free Training for Bricklayers – New Work and Restoration Tile and Cement Masons
12 Week Pre-Apprentice Class
Based on Skill Level and Demand
In preparation for the re-opening our training centers, we are encouraging anyone interested in a Trowel Trades Apprenticeship and able to meet the physical demands of the work to complete the application process.

If you live in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Monroe or St. Clair County, go to detroittroweltrades.org to download the application. If you live outside the above-mentioned counties (outstate), go to michiganbricklayers.org to apply online. Read and follow instructions carefully and completely.

Veterans are given highest priority as a thank you for their service.

Metro Detroit and the Outstate programs differ slightly, below are common minimum requirements for both programs. You will find the complete list of instructions online.

Applicants Must:

- Remain drug and marijuana free, applicants must pass initial and random testing if accepted into program.
- Shall be physically capable of performing the essential functions of the Apprenticeship program without posing a direct threat to the health or safety of the individual or others.
- Have a valid Michigan driver's license.
- Pass physical evaluation.
- High School Graduate or GED, higher education a plus.



Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

BAC Local 2

WARREN-LANSING – We take the COVID-19 outbreak seriously and recognize the importance of minimizing the spread of the virus. So, while we continue to provide services to our members, any visits to our offices should be scheduled by appointment. If you have any questions, please contact either the Warren office at (586) 754-0888 or the Lansing office at (517) 886-9781.

The health and well-being of our members and their families and continuity of service to our members is our highest priority. Please visit our website for updates: www.bricklayers.org

JULY 2020 CHAPTER MEETINGS

HOUGHTON CHAPTER: Thursday, July 16, 2020 at 7:30 PM, 37737 Highway 26, Toivola, MI 49965

LANSING CHAPTER: Monday, July 13, 2020 at 6:00 PM, 3321 Remy Drive, Lansing, MI 48906

MARQUETTE CHAPTER: Monday, July 20, 2020 at 7:00 PM, 119 S Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

SAGINAW CHAPTER: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 at 7:00 PM, 1300 W. Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706

TRAVERSE CITY CHAPTER: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 at 7:00 PM at the American Legion Post #35, 1231 Hastings Street, Traverse City, MI 49686

CRAFTWORKERS NEEDED: If you are available for work, it is important to contact your Field Representative on their cell phone. We are looking for experienced Craftworkers in all of our trades: Bricklayers, Caulkers, Masonry Restoration Workers, Cement Masons, Tile, Marble and Terrazzo Workers. Those who are interested should contact either the Warren office (586) 754-0888 or the Lansing office (517) 886-9781. Tell anyone who is doing our work, that we are looking for craftworkers!

SIGNING BONUS FOR SKILLED CRAFTWORKERS: Local 2 will pay up to \$2,000 as a **Signing Bonus** for skilled craftworkers who come to work for one of our Union Contractors for at least a month. Also, Local 2 members working with the tools and non-supervisory members can get a **Finders Referral Bonus** for each new skilled craftworker who they refer, if they work for at least a month for our Union Contractors. For more details and information, call your Field Representative or either the Warren office (586) 754-0888 or the Lansing office (517) 886-9781, or go to <https://bit.ly/BAC-2-MI-2000-Signing-Bonus>.

DEATHS REPORTED: Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Brother Floyd McCracken Jr** (Stone Mason) who passed away on June 09, 2020. Brother McCracken had been a member for 62 years.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Brother Timothy Sitarz** (Bricklayer) who passed away on June 13, 2020. Brother Sitarz had been a member for 32 years.

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

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

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

UPDATE - BAC LOCAL 2'S TRAINING CENTERS. Both Local 2 Training Centers have re-opened 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 make your appointment for your annual RESPIRATOR FIT TEST or for other scheduled appointments at the Metro Detroit Training Center, please contact Tom Ward directly at (734) 552-7066.

TMT RELATED TRAINING CLASSES. STAY TUNED FOR THE SOON TO BE RELEASED SCHEDULE FOR TMT RTI CLASSES.

METRO DETROIT APPRENTICE WORKSHEETS AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD: Turning in monthly worksheets is a requirement of your apprenticeship. Metro Detroit Apprentice Worksheets are available for download at http://bit.ly/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: detroittradeltrades.org

LANSING TRAINING CENTER: To make your appointment for your annual RESPIRATOR FIT TEST or for other scheduled appointments at the Lansing Training Center, please contact Howard Hipes directly at (517) 749-1102.

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

MEMBERSHIP ASSISTANCE: During this COVID-19 pandemic, the IUBAC Member Assistance Program has a number of services available for free or at a discounted rate to BAC members and their families.

These confidential services can be seen at <http://bit.ly/MAP-BAC> and are also available via telephone at (888) 880-8222 and ask for membership assistance Monday - Friday 8 am-8 pm. 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-MAIL ADDRESS: Local #2 wants to use every means possible to communicate with you. Sometimes we have time sensitive information (such as job openings, picket lines, funeral arrangements and other such communications) that would be most efficiently done via e-mail. In an effort to accomplish this 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 e-mail address in the body of the communication. We appreciate your time and effort in helping us accomplish this task.

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 (dvtv.org) MI BAC Health & Welfare and MI BAC Pension (800) 531-2244 (outstate funds, michiganbac.org) Cement Pension Fund (248) 645-6550 (detroitcementmasons.org) CALL-A-DOC (800) 835-2362 (D&V Health Fund) International Pension/Annuity Fund (Brick, Cement and TMT) (888) 880-8222 or (202) 638-1996 (dvtv.org)

\$2,000 Signing Bonus for Skilled BAC Craftworkers!

Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2 MI is offering up to a \$2,000 Signing Bonus for Skilled Craftworkers. Our Members who refer them will get the same bonus if they stay working for our contractors!

Our Contractors have immediate opening for Skilled Bricklayers, Masonry Restoration Workers, Caulkers, Cement Finishers, Tile, Marble and Terrazzo Workers!

For more information about our Signing Bonus Program and our need for Skilled Craftworkers, go to: www.bricklayers.org and click on the Signing Bonus page!



Local 514 Cement Masons & Plasterers

Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' Local 514

DETROIT – The next membership meeting will be July 21, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the Local. Please feel free to call the office (248) 548-0800 or any agent with your questions or concerns. Stay safe!

Lance Ryan is now the new Plasterer Business Agent, if you have any questions for him please call (586) 615-1564.

2020 is a very important election year! We are encouraging every member who has not registered to vote to do so. You can register at any Secretary of State office.

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 new Apprenticeship Coordinator; he can be reached at (313) 350-0389.

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

Effective Sept. 2018 every member in Good Standing will only be allowed to use the Hall twice per year, also effective January, 2019 there will be a \$100 refundable deposit required for any cleaning and/or damages that may incur.

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

The Local's new website is now up and running!! Please go to 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, (517) 719-2316, or the Business Manager Henry Williams at (313) 215-5063.

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

PLASTERERS AND CEMENT MASONS: It is your responsibility to fill out reciprocity forms if you plan on working out of the local 514 area. This will insure that your hours are sent back to your home fund. 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 MASONS** can call: (248) 645-6550 for pension and annuity, and Toll Free 1-877-876-9357. All **Plasterers and Cement Masons** can contact (517) 321-7502 for health & welfare information now through Outstate Michigan Trowel Trades Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan. For the **INTERNATIONAL PENSION** Call 1-888-880-8222 Toll Free or (202) 638-1996.



Michigan Painters District Council No. 1M



Painters DC IM

WARREN – Dear Members, As our great state of Michigan reopens and our Members return to work, please use best practices to stay safe on the job.

Wear your masks, maintain social distancing whenever possible, wash your hands, most of all use common sense while on the job. Please take care of yourself and each other. DCIM WEBSITE: www.iupatdclmichigan.org

DCIM FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/iupat1m

DC IM UNION CARDS* Any questions regarding a lost, damaged Union cards, or have dues inquiries or have not received a card please contact the DCIM offices at:

Warren Office: (586) 552-4474 extension 100
Freeland Office: (989) 695-6888

ALL LOCAL UNION AND DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETINGS RESUME IN JULY. All Local Union Meetings and the District Council 1M meeting will resume in July 2020. Any questions regarding these meeting call your Business Representative.

FIT OF THE GREAT LAKES MICHIGAN APPRENTICESHIP RESUMES. The Apprenticeship will resume classes starting Monday June 8. The Apprenticeship School has sent letters to all Apprentices regarding their schedule.

Painter, Drywall Finisher and Glazier Apprentices should you have any questions, please contact Director of Training Shawn O'Neill at (517) 304-4425 or by email dot@iupatdc1m.org.

PAINTERS DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M SMART PHONE APP

Painters District Council 1M is pleased to announce its' all new APP.

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

Search for "Painters and Allied Trades" download APP
Username: your member id#
Password: painters

With this APP you can access training classes, Local Union meeting times and dates, receive alerts, and communications from your Union, etc.

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

Warren office# is 586-552-4474 or Freeland office# is 810-232-0005.

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

Get involved. Work smart. Work safe.

Sign, Pictorial & Display Local 591

WARREN – The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Aug. 4, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. Trustees and union stewards meet at 6:20 p.m.

Anyone possessing a union membership and willingly works at a nonunion shop doing union work can have charges preferred against them under Sec. 16.4, and 19.8 of the District Council By-laws.

Any questions on local union issues, please call John Sape at 586-899-8082, 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 going back to work: When laid off or going back to work, call the office. 586-552-4474.



Glaziers & Glassworkers 357

WARREN – Our next regular scheduled union meeting will be Monday, August 3rd at 6pm.

Hopefully all 357 members, and your families had a terrific 4th of July holiday weekend. We had terrific weather again this year for the holiday.

Unfortunately, brother Dan Diehl passed away on May 26th in a fatal car accident.

Dan was a member of local 357 since 1999 and was a father to three young girls.

Please keep Dan and his family in your thoughts and prayers. He was our brother, and our friend. Mike Pheny is gathering donations currently for Dan's family. If you wish to contribute something please get the money to Mike, or you can send the money to the union hall, attention Dan Diehl, or Don Stepp and we will get the money into Mike's hands. We are going to take contributions thru to the August 3rd union meeting.

The Governor has let construction resume. This being said please follow the specific guidelines required on each project. It will take some get used to, the new ppe required, but it is necessary to keep each other safe, and our families safe.

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 meeting.

-Business Rep- Don Stepp

District Council 1M

Business Manager: Robert Gonzalez

Meeting date: 2nd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m., with the Executive Board meeting at 6 p.m.

Place: 14587 Barber Ave, Warren MI 48088 & 419 S. Washington Ave, Lansing MI 48933

Local Union 312

Business Rep: Tim Schwerin
Meeting date: 2nd Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

Place: 1473 N. 30th St., Galesburg, MI 49053

Local Union 514

Business Rep: Scott Mikulen
Meeting dates: 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m.

Place: 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI.
Web site: www.iupat-local514.org.

Local Union 826

Business Rep: Rocky Ackerman
Meeting date: 2nd Thursday of every month at 5:30 p.m.

Place: 3115 Joyce St. Burton, MI 48529

Local Union 845

Business Rep - Fred Frederickson
Meeting date: 1st Thursday of every month at 7 p.m.

Place: 419 S. Washington Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933

Local Union 1052

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

Place: 3115 Joyce St., Burton MI 48529

Local Union 1803

Business Rep: Josh Ovalle
Meeting date: 4th Tuesday of every month at 5:30 p.m.

Place: 7677 Midland Road, Freeland, MI 48623.

Local Union 2352

Business Rep: John Sape
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.

"The most merciful thing in the world, I think, is the inability of the human mind to correlate all its contents."

-H. P. Lovecraft (1890 - 1937)

"Indecision may or may not be my problem."

-Jimmy Buffett

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY

REPRESENTING BUILDING TRADES BROTHERS & SISTERS OVER 25 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 42 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear themselves at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced attorneys to your case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and only fly the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.

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

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

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

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

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

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

www.ssdfighter.com



IBEW Local 445

IBEW Local 445

BATTLE CREEK – The **General Membership Meeting** is the second Monday of each month and starts at 5:00 p.m. at the Hall.

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

The **Retiree** breakfast is the third Thursday at 9:00 a.m. and is held at the: Lux Cafe, 2587 Capital Ave SW, Battle Creek. No reservations are needed to attend.

PLEASE HELP!! – Please make sure you have updated the Hall with your current address and phone number. Also, if you have had any life changes such as a marriage/divorce/new child, please contact the Hall to ensure your benefits are correct.

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

Local Food Pantry – Donations to help fund the Local 445 Food Pantry are still being accepted.



IBEW LOCAL 557

IBEW Local 557

SAGINAW – **MONTHLY MEETINGS:** The first monthly meeting since March was held on July 7th. The meeting was held at the Pulaski Hall to ensure that proper social distancing could be utilized.

The next regularly scheduled monthly meeting is set for August 4th. This meeting will be held if the current guidelines from the State are still in place to allow for meetings to occur. Policies are ever-changing these days in regards to COVID-19, so we will wait to see what the future holds. Please continue to do your part to slow the spread of the virus by practicing proper social distancing and wearing a mask in public to protect you and those around you. Proper PPE should be worn on job sites and safety policies should be followed as well.

UNION HALL OPERATIONS – The Union Hall continues to be open for in-person transactions. I urge all that come in for in-person transactions to adhere to social distancing and the utilization of the service window in the main entry way. Please try to take care of business remotely as much as possible to cut down on visitors to the Hall. James Lamb is continuing organizing duties during at this time as well and if you have any useful information for him regarding work please feel free to pass it along. He can be reached at 989-529-5943.

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.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING – The Local 557 Executive Board met on June 16th. With continued guidance from the International Office, the E Board has the power to take any action that would normally be approved at a Local membership meeting. All operations are still on track at the Hall and they have done a great job helping to guide the Local through these difficult times while we are unable to have Monthly meetings.

Dan Alcock has taken part ownership of Leddy Electric. By virtue of this position, Brother Dan has stepped down from his position on the Executive Board. We thank him for his long term service in this position. Additionally, Dewey Weiss was appointed to fill this position. We congratulate Brother Dewey for stepping up to serve the Local.

NEW WEBSITE – Local 557's website recently received a refresh but is still under construction. There are still some bugs to be worked out, so please be patient as we work to make improvements to the Local.

2020 ELECTION – The overwhelming majority of Local 557 is registered to vote. If you are not registered you should do so immediately. The 2020 Election will impact us in so many aspects of our lives. As informed IBEW members we cannot afford to sit out this election. I strongly encourage all members to apply to vote via ABSENTEE BALLOT. Skip the long lines at the precinct in what is expected to be a record year for voter turnout.

If you are working on the road or the possibility exists you may be working on the road in November, this is a great way to ensure you get your votes in. Information for this is available at the Union Hall as well as online under the Secretary of State at www.michigan.gov/sos.

We will no doubt need a great many volunteers to help out with various election-related events this year. If you are interested in helping out please reach out and offer up your services. We can-not afford to be inactive during the election season this year.

HEALTH CARE – The Michigan Electrical Employee's Health Plan has taken steps recently 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 plan continues to meet regularly via teleconferences to stay on top of the pandemic and update coverage as necessary.

As you know, the Michigan no-fault insurance law changed effective July 1. Notifications were sent to each member from the Michigan Electrical Employee's Health Plan. This letter encouraged members to purchase unlimited PIP to ensure proper protection for themselves and their family. The Health Plan will not offer Qualified Health Coverage and therefore members must purchase PIP coverage. You should discuss PIP coverage and other auto coverage with your auto carrier or agent.

Help keep the cost of Health Care down. Schedule your annual physical with your doctor today if you have not done so recently. 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 p.m. 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. The credit card service can accept payments for dues, merchandise, apprentice book payments and other purchases. There is a convenience fee to use this service. Credit card payments to pay dues can also be accepted through the phone to ensure you stay current on your dues.

CONTACT NUMBERS – Michigan Electrical Employee Pension fund and Michigan Health Plan (517) 321-7502 or (855) 633-4584. Fax (517) 321-7508, website mielelectricalhealth.org.

**Evans Aldryce,
Business Manager**



IBEW Local 131

Serving Southwest Michigan
Since 1916

IBEW Local 131

KALAMAZOO – The next **Executive Board** meeting will be July 20th, 2020. The next **Women in the Trades** meeting will be July 21st, 2020.

The work outlook is strong we expect to have a busier than normal summer continuing into the winter. If you are aware of interested electricians, working in our jurisdiction, please have them visit www.poweringkalamazoo.com or call the office.

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

The new website is live; we are continuing to work some through minor issues; we hope those will all be resolved shortly. To login to the member's only section, please use your last name and card number.

If you believe we do not have your email address or correct cell phone number, please email Christine at cbohms@ibew131.com

Dues pricing – The price of dues for 2019 is \$39/month. The price for dues in 2020 will increase to \$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, April 2020 your dues are not current; please call the Hall.

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 forms.

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.

Condolences: With a heavy heart, Local 131 would like to announce the following members passing, Brother Dale Bothwell passed away on April 23, 2020. Brother Charles Krull passed away on May 3, 2020. Brother John Ingram passed May 2020.

All Memorials and full obituaries can be viewed on the website under the Memorials Tab.

FROM THE APPRENTICE-SHIP:

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.

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.

The Local LMCC is working towards holding a Virtual Job Fair, on the HOPIN application. There may be potential volunteer opportunities running up to the job fair for members to participate. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Scott Bryer or Fritz Tull.

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

"Returning violence for violence multiplies violence, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars... Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that."

– Martin Luther King Jr. (1929 - 1968)



IBEW Local 948

FLINT – Our July Union Meeting will be held on Monday, July 13th, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall.

Our July Executive Board Meeting will be held on Monday, July 27th, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. at the Union Hall.

The August Retiree Club Meeting will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 4 at 9 a.m. at the Union Hall.

Don't forget to check our website for new content. Be sure to log in to see all the new content. www.local948.org.

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. **Don't wait till you owe a reinstatement fee (4 months behind).**

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

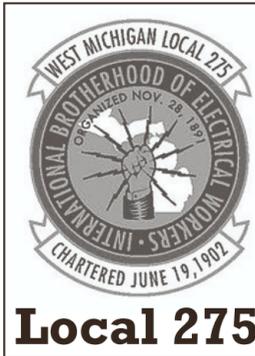
2019 – Monthly Dues – Journeyman \$42.70 a month – Apprentices, CE, Sound Tech \$39.70 a month

If you are unfamiliar with our referral procedure please refer to our website @ http://local948.org/job_referrals/

Don't forget after 3 turn-downs on the out of work list you must come down to the Union Hall to resign.

**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.



IBEW 275

COOPERSVILLE: Dear Brothers and Sisters: As some of us are slowly returning to work, please make sure the contractor is supplying you with all the PPE that is required. This may now include facemasks, face shields and hand sanitizer along with other safety precautions spelled out by the State. As each job site is unique, each situation and requirement may be as well. So please take extra precautions so that you may stay safe on the job and keep your families safe at home.

EWMC is having a can drive. You can drop off your empty cans here at the Union Hall. Also, EWMC is gearing up for our summer picnic, August 1. Contact Geoff Yonkers for volunteering for this year's event. Please make sure that you RSVP and remember to bring lots of cash.

For now on, all re-sign request will be sent to gyonkers@ibew275.org. The procedures are still the same.

At the time of this writing, the following Members are three or more months behind in dues: **Vern Brink, Ruben Cortez, Shelly Cummings, Robert DeJonge, Michael Demond, Joshua Erb, Josh Giddings, Christopher Gilbert, Chris Hanson, Nicandro Iannuccilli, James Keech, Tony Kilgo, Avanti Lopez, Steven Mutschler, Eddie Quillen, Eric Quinn, Joshua Spofford and Jeffrey Stark.** If you are on this list, please make any and all attempts to get your membership in good standing.

Regular meetings for the EWMC and RENEW committees are every month on the 4th Tuesday @ 6:00pm (except April 2020) at the Union Hall in Coopersville. Both of these are great ways to get involved with the local as well as the community.

Dues increase for the year 2020 will be \$1.00 per month to \$42.90 per month. Please make adjustments when making payments through mail and automatic bank payments.



IBEW LOCAL 58

IBEW Local 58

DETROIT – The next **Regular Membership Meeting** will be **August 18, 2020 at 6:30 PM** at the Union Hall. Social Distancing and Masks will be required.

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

Local 58 Dues Information: You can now pay your dues with an APP. Go to Apple/Google Play and download the IBEW 58 APP. You can also pay by phone with credit/debit or mail a check. At this time we are not taking cash transactions. Dues for the quarter are \$124.50 without PAC and \$128.50 with PAC.

Local No. 58 Benevolent Fund: The next Benevolent Fund meeting will be Tuesday, August 4, 2020 5:00 pm.

The Jerry Gaudi Memorial Golf Outing: Due to the current environment, we have made the decision to *cancel* the Benevolent Fund Poker Run and Gaudi Memorial Golf Outing due to Covid-19. The health and well-being of our brothers, sisters, and participants are of utmost importance to us. We appreciate all the support every year and hope to get continued support next year. A "Cooler of Cheer" Raffle will be scheduled with details to follow at a later date. Thank you for your understanding.

Members of the Community Service Committee: The next meeting will be Tuesday, July 14, 2020 at 5:00 PM. Every member is invited to attend and to bring their ideas about our Local's involvement in our communities.

Members of the Entertainment Committee: The Entertainment Committee has decided to cancel the Annual Family Picnic for 2020 based on health concerns caused by the COVID 19 pandemic. This decision was not made lightly but based on several conversations and meetings with concerned individuals of our Local, our Vendors, and Camp Dearborn's manager and supervisor. Camp Dearborn is asking us to follow the recommendations of Gov. Whitmer concerning COVID 19 pandemic. We feel that it would be impossible to ask of our Brotherhood, Sisterhood and their Families to keep social distance and wear facemasks at an event meant to be fun for them to attend and visit with Brothers and Sisters they have not seen during the rest of the year.

When one thinks of social distancing to prevent passing the virus on, keeping the Bounce Houses clean in between each use would be difficult. Because of the size of the Kids Train social distancing on the train is impossible Face Painting for the kids would also be unable to happen because of the close proximity required to face paint.

Another major concern is bringing Brothers, Sisters and their families together from all areas of our jurisdiction for the Picnic and then having them go home unknowing if they had been exposed to someone who had the virus or not. Hopefully, the Annual 58 Family Picnic will be held next year on August 7, 2021.

EWMC of Southeastern MI – The next meeting of the chapter will be on Monday, July 20, 2020 at 5:30pm. 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. As we enter this election season we will be participating where needed to try to get candidates who have our best interests as their agenda elected to office. Also, please submit your census data and encourage others to do the same. We do not want our community to be underrepresented for the next TEN YEARS. Please continue to stay safe at work, home, and in the community. #ibewstrong

The RENEW Committee meeting will be on Tuesday, July 28, 2020 at 5:00 PM.

The Safety Committee meeting will be on Monday, July 13, 2020 at 5:30 PM.

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

The **Political Action Committee (PAC)** meetings are held at 5:00 PM on the 1st Wednesday of each month.

Local 58's Women's Committee – With the union hall being closed all in-person meetings have been postponed. We will continue having our regular monthly meetings on ZOOM as needed. Please watch for emails with further updates and hopefully we will be meeting in person soon.

ARC AWARDS – ASPIRING REAL CHANGE. The IBEW Local 58 ARC-Aspiring Real Change awards have been created by the Women's Committee to recognize the outstanding efforts of Local 58 members who inspire, engage and advance growth of the local union. It takes a strong group of individuals to keep the vision and the mission of Local 58 moving forward and positively impact our membership, the community and the greater good for all working men and women.

The ARC Awards seek to recognize outstanding contributions by our members dedicated to embracing the mission of the Women's Committee. All ARC Award recipients are nominated by their peers and have positively impacted both the union and the Brothers & Sisters they work and serve with throughout many areas of our Local. The Women's Committee at IBEW Local 58 shares a commitment with our members to equality, diversity and personal growth and is proud to establish the ARC Awards as a tradition of recognizing outstanding achievements for decades to come.

The ARC Awards has been *postponed* until further notice. When everything clears up and we can get back to normal we will be scheduling a new date. We will be choosing the scholarship winners as scheduled and will notify the winners.

Help Wanted – The Women's Committee will be keeping the bid process open for caterers, photographers, band/deejay and other vendors for the ARC Awards until we have a new date. If you know of vendors interested you can contact Angela Panicucci @ 586-291-8014 or Diana Wright @ 734-934-9029 for further information. We are also looking for a few good sisters to continue on with our newsletter and articles. If you have any experience or affinity for writing please reach out. If there are any retirees that need help with getting groceries or other essentials during this pandemic, please reach out, we are here for you. You can email us. Email us at: 58Womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org. Follow us on Instagram @ibewomens58; Check us out on Facebook.

IBEW Local 58 Retirees Association: It is essential for anyone attending any of our activities & luncheons to notify Ray Owen (248) 348-3626 ahead of time. Make checks for all activities payable to "The Retirees Association" Ray Owen, 428 Welch Rd., Northville, MI 48167. Board meetings and Luncheons have been cancelled/postponed, until further notice due to Covid-19. Board Meetings convene in the "Bill Rushford Room" in the lower level of the Union Hall, at 10 AM.

Luncheon's: *Price Increase* Due to rising costs, our luncheons will increase from \$15.00, to \$20.00 per person beginning with the June 2020 luncheon. Reservations for luncheons NEED to be confirmed by the Sunday prior to the date of the luncheon please. Please keep your email address updated with the Union hall and the Retiree Association. Send your email address to 58retirees@ibewlocal58.org. This will help communicating within the association and so you don't miss out on events.

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: Stephanie Massey (September 2019).

Members that have Passed Away: Glen K. Bott Jr., pension member, 49 year IBEW membership; Asa Smith, pension member, 53 year IBEW membership; Octa Stutzer, wife to pension member, 62 year IBEW membership James Stutzer. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss.



IBEW Local 665

IBEW 665

LANSING – ELECTION OF OFFICERS – The election of officers for IBEW Local 665 shall take place between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on Monday July 20, 2020 at IBEW Local 665 which is located at 5205 S. Pennsylvania, Lansing, MI 48911.

Absentee ballots shall be available to any member upon written request to the election judge. Such requests will be accepted up to 5 days prior to the date of the election.

Absentee ballots will be picked up at 5:00 pm on July 20, 2020. All officers shall be installed and begin their 3-year terms at the regular meeting of the local union on August 17, 2020.

Members with questions regarding the election can be directed to the election judge. The election judge can be contacted at: local665electionjudge@gmail.com.

OSHA 30 CLASS SCHEDULE – Classes will start in September beginning with: Tuesday September 1, Thursday September 3, Thursday September 10, Tuesday September 15, Thursday September 17, Tuesday September 22, Thursday September 24, Tuesday September 29, Thursday October 1 and Tuesday October 6. Seating availability will be limited. To register, contact Sara at the LEJATC: 517-483-9686.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING – The next General Membership (Union Meeting) will be held on Monday July 20, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

MEMBERS WHO HAVE BEEN REPORTED AS HAVING PASSED AWAY - Bruce Bryan - 01/16/2020 – DB 306; Frederick Pardee - 01/31/202 – DB 307; Richard Hersey – 04/15/2020 – DB 308; Charles Coil – December 11, 2019 – DB 309.

CONTINUE TO STAY SAFE AND STAY HEALTHY!



IBEW Local 498

“Powering Northern Michigan Since 1949”

IBEW Local 498

TRAVERSE CITY – Meetings.

Regular E. Board – will be held on Wednesday, August 12th, 2020 at 5:30 pm in person meeting.

MEETING – The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, August 12th, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

JATC First Aid/CPR – The Traverse City JATC will be providing First Aid/CPR/AED Training on Monday evenings, July 13th, July 27th at 5:30 P.M. These class sizes are limited based on current Covid 19 rules. Call the hall to sign up. Our cards are good for 2 years, so please check your card or call the hall to see if you are due.

Covid 19 office hours – For your information the hall is open to limited walk-in traffic. To follow state guidelines there is a 6-foot distance rule in effect, so if there is more than 1 person at a time in the hallway outside of Caroline’s window the second person should wait outside or in the meeting room until their turn at the window. Masks are available at the hall for personal use as well as hand sanitizer and cleaning supplies to be able to sanitize the restroom after you use it if needed.

So far Local 498 has not seen any confirmed cases with members that I know of and it would be nice to keep it that way. For extended stays or business needs at the hall you will be asked to fill out a health questionnaire and take a temperature reading just like apprentices do for class or applicants do for interviews, again to try and follow State of MI safety guidelines.

Picnic – this summer the picnic will be on the 29th of August 2020. We need some volunteers for the Entertainment Committee. If you are willing and able to help out please get ahold of the hall and get signed up.

PAYPAL – PAY PAL is now up and running!!! Please look into setting up a personal PayPal account. If you need help with this you can email George Shumar at gshumar.ibew@gmail.com Also keep in mind that George is now on a furlough/lay off to address Covid 19 requirements and is NOT drawing a paycheck, so please be mindful of using his time.

Election of Officers – Following are the results of our local union election. Thank you to everyone that participated in the process including **Election Judge**- Shannon McMillan, and **Tellers** William Lee and Shaine Kuczynski. The July 8th meeting will be installation of new officers.

President- George Shumar; **Vice President**- Dylan O’Dwyer; **Recording Secretary**- Ryan Lautner; **Treasurer**- Jesse Barnhart; **Business Manager**- David Fashbaugh; **Executive Board**- Robert Everett, Travis Marks, Eric Miner, Scott Ostlund, Glenn Stein, Todd Wilkinson; **Examining Board**- Jayson Cudney, Matthew Ockert, James Pierce, Miles Sepke, Joseph Zionskowski.; **Alternate to the International Convention**- Scott Ostlund

JB Webb East and West – To date we have about 7 people still off work from the Covid 19 shut down, Tim Ohlert said they are taking it week to week as to when all employees will be returned to the plant to full capacity. Harbor East is still working OT to catch up to the backlog that transpired before and during the Covid break. More work will be available to the West side as these projects on the East side gets caught up.

Election year for state and federal elections – This is an important year for local, state and national elections as well as our local union elections, it is important for your voice to be heard in all of these elections to support organized labor. The State of MI now has absentee voting for everyone that is a registered voter. Please visit the State of MI website or visit your local Secretary of State office to get registered to vote in the upcoming primary elections and general elections in November.

Website – The new website is up and running. Please take a look and let us know what you think. Pay Pal is up and running on the website. There should be no reason for late dues now. Thanks to George for getting this done for the membership!!!!

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 Increase 2020 – The union dues will increase \$1.00 a month. Effective Jan. 2020 the new rate will be \$140.10 per quarter.

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

Meeting Cookouts- cook out and drawings will be suspended until further notice.

Volunteer – We will need people to volunteer for events coming up. Contact the hall and let George know.

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

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

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

(Continued next column)

IBEW LOCAL 692

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS BAY CITY MICHIGAN

IBEW Local 692

BAY CITY – Union Meeting.

The next regular membership meeting will be **Monday, August 3, 2020 at 7pm.**

The annual shareholders meeting for the Electrical Trades Building will be held at 6:30pm on Monday, August 3.

Executive Board Meeting. The next E-board meeting will be **Monday, July 20, 2020 at 6pm.**

Message from the Business Manager. First and foremost, our thoughts and prayers go out to all who were affected by the failure of both the Sanford and Edenville dams. We had many members that were affected in horrific ways. Brother Klele and I saw first-hand the devastation while out trying to lend a helping hand. Words cannot express the impact that the flooding had on the surrounding communities of Sanford and Wixom Lakes.

On the topic of Covid-19, we are seeing some positive progress. With the Stay at Home order cancelled by the Governor, on June 15 the hall re-opened to traffic. Covid-19 is still a serious threat and we must take all steps to mitigate the threat to our members. Masks will be required at all times by anyone coming or going into the union hall. There will also be strict guidelines to adhere to with social distancing. Please do your part brothers and sisters to protect each other.

With regards to the referral procedure, “dings” or “hits” for all calls began again on June 15.

Work Report. Although summer is here, work is slow due to the Covid-19 outbreak. Work continues at both the Pincanna project and the Bay City Meijer’s remodel. The new Consumers Energy Service center in East Tawas has started back up again along with the Wind Farm project (grounding and bonding) located near the Rosebush area.

Clements Electric has returned nearly all the men to work they had out prior to Covid-19 and has picked up a little work at the H Hotel in Midland due to the recent flooding. Work has also begun on Augres Schools and also Midland Schools. Ted’s Electric has work at the Bullock Creek Schools.

We were also finally able to wrestle away some work from Thunder Bay Electric in Comins at the Cedar Valley amusement park. Alpine Electric out of Traverse City is now doing the work there. Master Electric has been awarded the new Midland Costco. This was a project that we worked very hard on. Buist Electric out of Grand Rapids was originally the low bidder. Countyline Power has picked up a sizeable project in Midland Hospital, another job at the Michigan State Extension site, work at the old 4D building under the Poseyville bridge, Red Coats ball fields, and Currie stadium due to the severe flooding in the Midland Area.

Please stay safe and look out for your fellow brothers and sisters.

Union Dues. Dues can be paid in person, via phone, by mail or automatic withdrawal from your bank account. We also accept payments via credit/debit card. *Please note to use the credit card machine to process payments, there will be a 2% charge applied.*

Monthly dues can also be paid on-line from the 692 website. Visit ibew692.net and log into the member section.

2020 Dues (Effective January 1, 2020)
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.

Retirees Lunch. All retiree’s lunches have been postponed.

Golf Outings. The Michigan Wireman’s Golf Outing and the IBEW 6th District Golf Outing have been CANCELLED for this year.

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

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

Organizing. Brothers and Sisters, as we slowly open the state back up amid a global pandemic, getting out onto job sites to make contact with unrepresented workers continues to be a struggle. However, we have made some great additions lately to Local 692 through our organizing campaign. Sometimes it just takes one guy to jump from the merit shop for his co-workers to see that they have been lied to for years from contractors. Our members are the biggest tool we have when it comes to organizing.

Talk to that neighbor or family friend that has been working non-union. Tell him or her about the benefits of the IBEW and what we have to offer. You, the membership, is the greatest tool this local has to build those relationships.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me when you see a non-signatory contractor doing work in your neighborhood. Our jurisdiction is huge and impossible for me to try and tackle this task alone. Don’t hesitate to pass my phone number along. Thank you.
Brian Klele (989) 252 9225

Ryan Charney
Business Manager / Financial Secretary

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.michiganelectrical.org

First time logging in, use your Social Security Number in the “ID Box”

NEBF/NEAP: 301-556-4300

IO Pension: 202-833-7000



IBEW Local 498

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

(New address Michigan Pension and Health Plan)

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

NEBF 1-301-556-4300

NEAP 1-301-556-4300

IO Pension 1-202-833-7000

DUES RATES: Jan 1, 2020 - \$1.00/month increase New Rate \$140.10/Quarter

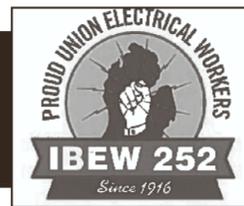
Info Updates – Any member with a new address, phone number, email address, etc. should contact Local 498 with these changes. Please remember it is your responsibility to pay your dues on time. Remember to check the hall recorder at night after 4:00pm for any jobs that might be available.

231-943-4980 ext. 3#

July 10, 2020

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN

7



IBEW LOCAL 252

IBEW Local 252

ANN ARBOR – LOCAL 252 ANNUAL PICNIC: The Local’s Annual Picnic is cancelled this year due to Executive Orders related to the pandemic.

UNION DUES FOR 2020: Effective January 1, 2020 union dues for “A” members will be \$119.25 per quarter. Union dues for “BA” members will be \$61.80 per quarter.

TRAINING CLASSES 2020: ALL CLASSES CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

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.

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.

Local 252 Website & App: The Local’s website www.ibew252.org is up and running. There is also a Local 252 App available to download. Search “IBEW 252” in the app store. You must create a new login and password to access the Members Only section. Your login for the old website is no longer valid.

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.

LOCAL 252 ANNUAL GOLF OUTING: The Local’s Annual George Perros Memorial Golf Outing is scheduled for July 18, 2020 at Calderone Farms, 4490 Willis Rd., Grass Lake, MI 49240. 8 a.m. shotgun start, 7 a.m. registration. Cost is \$35 per person. Retirees and 1st year apprentices are free. Call the hall to sign up. Please call Chad Rodriguez with any questions at (517) 240-6521.

Retirees’ Breakfast: The retirees’ breakfast is cancelled until further notice.

Condolences: The Local sends our sincere condolences to the family of John Smith who passed away on June 18, 2020. John was father to Gary Smith and grandfather to Ryan Carter. The Local sends our sincere condolences to the family of Jim Austin who passed away on June 23, 2020.

NOTICE TO RETIREES: If your 50-year commemorative watch stops working for any reason please contact the Union Hall. Do not attempt to have it serviced yourself.

DUES PAYMENTS – Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 6/2020, your dues are not current. “A” members pay \$119.25 per quarter for 2020. “BA” members pay \$61.80 per quarter for 2020. Please mail your check to 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Your third quarter dues (July through Sept.) are due now. **Payments for third quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Tuesday, September 30, 2020.**

“Faith is taking the first step, even when you don’t see the whole staircase.”

– Martin Luther King Jr. (1929 - 1968)

“Men never do evil so completely and cheerfully as when they do it from a religious conviction.”

– Blaise Pascal (1623 - 1662)

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

– Frank Herbert (1920 - 1986)

“Music has charms to soothe the savage breast,
To soften rocks, or bend a knotted oak.”

– William Congreve (1670 - 1729)

“Cease to ask what the morning will bring forth. And rest down as gain each day that Fortune grants.”

– Horace (65 BC - 8 BC)

“Reality is that which, when you stop believing in it, doesn’t go away.”

– Philip K. Dick (1928 - 1982),

“Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less.”

– Marie Curie (1867 - 1934)

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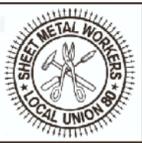
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Local 80 Sheet Metal Workers

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 July 28, 2020 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, 48076.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: The next executive board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday July 21, 2020 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.



TIM MULLIGAN

RETIREE MEETING SCHEDULE: 2020 Meeting Schedule: August 17, October 19, and December 21. The meetings begin at 12:30 pm and are held at the Royal Oak Elks Club located at 2401 E. Fourth St. Royal Oak. Any questions regarding joining the Retirees Association please contact Steve Murzen at 248-652-0593. We also have applications at the Hall if you would like to apply and we will forward it on to Mr. Murzen.

SUBCHANGES: 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.

THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE: Michael Haf, Vincent Vackaro, Katherine Kuczynski, Ed Rowley, Anthony D. Stocker, Ed Zabik, William Lovell, Richard Flood, Matthew O'Rourke, Johnnie Downing, Lee Astruckas, Luke Laroy, Ray Osborne II, Richard Altizer, Faye Zanotti & Nick Delfavero.

CANCELLED EVENTS: Unfortunately the golf outing, picnic and Labor Day parade are cancelled for 2020. We hope to resume back to normal for 2021.

ELECTION RESULTS:

Business Manager: Tim Mulligan

Business Agents: Jason Grunenwald, Bryan McConnell, Chip Herndon & Eric McPherson

President: Frank Livingston

Vice President: Joe Brick

Recording Secretary: Thomas Drost

Conductor: Mike Dupont

Warden: Thomas Wilkos

Executive Board: Jason Constantine, Mike Luedtke, Thomas Brown, Brian Godawa & Scott Lewis

Trustees: Ed Zabik, Tony Stocker & Robert Kelly-McFarland
SMART INTERNATIONAL has announced that they will be endorsing Presidential candidate Joe Biden for the 2020 election.

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.

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. This benefit comes as a dues paying member of SMART International.

WEEKEND WORK ASSIGNMENTS: Saturday and Sunday work assignments. Please remember that when performing work on a Saturday or Sunday the steward must report it to the hall, give each members name and obtain a form for signatures. Each member must sign the form along with the number of hours they worked. The completed form must be sent back to by hall by the end of the day on the following Monday. Weekend work assignments must be called or emailed into the hall **prior to 3:00 pm on Friday.**

WORK ASSIGNMENTS: Everyone must obtain a work assignment prior to starting work. If you fail to do so you could be written up on charges.

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 **member's responsibility** to make sure they get one from the contractor when laid off. Your application cannot be submitted without one. It is the **contractor's responsibility to issue one** in accordance with our contract.

S.U.B. BENEFITS: Report to the hall promptly upon layoff. You must complete a S.U.B. Application within seven days from your layoff date or you will forfeit S.U.B. benefits. Lay-off slips must accompany the application to be eligible. Proof of UIA benefit payments must be submitted within 21 days of when you were paid in order to receive SUB benefits. Do not submit your sub applications directly to the fund office. Your application must be signed by the hall or you will not collect benefits.

OUT-OF-WORK LIST: You must be on the out-of-work list to collect S.U.B. benefits or SASMI. Members must re-register bi-annually: March 1 through March 20 and September 1 through September 20. If you fail to re-register you will be removed from the list.

SHORT WORK WEEK SUB PAY: If you work 16 hours or less in a week or have a short work week due to weather you may collect sub for that week but only if it is at the **beginning or the end of a layoff.** You may NOT collect if you are not laid off. You must complete a sub application at the hall, provide a pay stub for that week and the hall will submit it to the fund office. If you are not laid off and it is due to weather the company MUST provide written documentation that it was weather related.

MEMBERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: If you are experiencing problems in your family, marriage or relationships, stress or emotional difficulties, grief or loss issues or problems with alcohol and drug use please contact our assistance program. **Ulliance** is there to help you with your needs. They can also help you with legal issues, financial concerns, elder care referrals and child care resources. Contact them at 1-800-448-8326 or www.LifeAdvisorEAP.com. **Make sure you mention Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 when calling and not the contractor you are working for.**

NOTARY: We have a notary public available at the hall at no charge. Please call to confirm availability.



Local 292 Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers Local 292

TROY – MEETING NOTICE: The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, **August 12, 2020.**

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 July 28, 2020 at 6:00 pm at the Union Hall.

****Per the CDC guidelines, masks must be worn and social distancing must be followed during all meetings.**

NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS:

Per Article Twelve (12) Section Four (4) of the Constitution and Ritual of the International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers, this is to serve as timely notice that nominations for Local 292 Union officers will be held **July 8, 2020** at the Regular Membership Meeting (Knights of Columbus Hall, 870 N. Main Street Clawson, MI) beginning at 6:00 p.m.

The term of office will run from the Regular Membership Meeting, September 9, 2020, to the first Regular Membership Meeting in June 2023. Candidates may be nominated by any member in good standing. A second is not necessary. No member may be nominated for or elected to more than one (1) office or position in any local union. Any member who is nominated for a Local 292 office and who is not present at the nominations meeting shall be dropped from the list of nominees unless within five days after such nominations (close of office at 4:00 pm on July 13, 2020) he or she notifies the Recording Secretary in writing of his or her willingness to run for such office.

Members who are nominated for a Local 292 office, must comply with the eligibility requirements as described in the Sheet Metal Workers International Association Constitution and Ritual. If you do not have a copy of the Constitution, please request a mailed copy. To be eligible for nominations to Local Union office on July 8, 2020, dues for the month of July must be paid in advance, that is, on or before June 30, 2020.

To be eligible for election on August 21, 2020, dues for the month of August must be paid in advance, that is, on or before July 31, 2020. Please take time to participate in this important process.

2020 ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF OUTING: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions placed by the golf course, the Local 292 Charity committee has decided to cancel the outing for this year. We look forward to 2021 when we can resume this wonderful event.

RETIREES NOTICE: The retirees' luncheon will be held **Thursdays** at Tavern on the Main, 235 S Main, Clawson MI 48017. (248) 588-1696. It is located 3 blocks south of 14 Mile on the east side of the street. Looking forward to seeing all retirees, new and old!! Next meeting: **Aug. 6, 2020** at 12:30 pm

2020 meeting dates are as follows: **Aug. 6th, Oct. 1st and Dec. 3rd.** Please contact Fred Engelman at fred_elh@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 have hard copies when they become available.

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. With the amount of upcoming in-town work, all current Journeymen and Apprentices should ensure they have **18 safety mods completed and drug test should be current.**

*****The NMA addendum for most of the upcoming projects states:** 1) Prior to, but within thirty (30) days of referral for employment to the project site, all craft persons will: A) Attend a Project Specific Orientation facilitated by the Contractor at mutually agreed upon times and locations; B) Before being admitted to the job site, all contractors and subcontractor employees having active involvement in job site construction activity, must be current and maintain a current MUST or equivalent status regarding the Substance Abuse Program. Prior to the start of work on the project the employee must provide confirmation of negative results to a MUST Substance Abuse Test or equivalent test within the last 30 days.

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 class July 11 & 25.

(Continued on Page 9)



Local 7 Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers Local 7

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

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

*Zone 2 -July 21st -6:00 p.m.

*Zone 3- (Saginaw) - September 8th -6:00 p.m.

*Zone 3- (TCity) September 17th- 6:00 p.m.

*Zone 4- July 14th - 6:00 p.m. (Wage Disbursement)

***Zone 5 -August 6, 2020 – 6:00 p.m. Meeting-** There will be a Zone 5 Meeting, August 6th at 6:00 pm. At this time, we are not sure if this will be a Zoom meeting or in person. Will update at a later time.

Please register on our website at sheetmetal7.org for the most up to date information on meeting schedules for 2020. 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.



SAM FULLER

NEWS from the Business Manager, Samuel J. Fuller:

Please register for our website for the most current information. Dues can be paid on the Local 7 website or by mail. Thank you for your patients during these trying times. Please stay safe.

****Attention Certified Welders from Zones 2, 3, 4 and 5**** Starting April 1st, 2020 all welding certification renewals will change to a twice a year schedule. The new renewal deadlines for all Certified Welders will be April 1st and October 1st In order to keep your certification from expiring you will be required to submit a **Welder Maintenance Form** to the Training Center dated **no more than 5 days prior** to April 1st or October 1st. You will no longer be required to submit a **\$10 Filing Fee** with your renewal paperwork. If needed, you can request a maintenance form from the Training Center. ***IF YOU FAIL TO SUBMIT YOUR FORM BY THE DEADLINE YOUR CERTIFICATION WILL EXPIRE.** Feel free to contact Training Coordinator Darek Scarlavai @ (231)288-6325 if you have any questions.

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

ZONE 1 Info: Any Zone 1 Apprentice that is laid off should notify Kevin at the school. Any Zone 1 Journeyman that is out of work should contact your agent. There is travel work available, so if you are interested please contact James or Eric. If you are experiencing any trouble with your insurance, please contact your agent or BeneSys at (866)288-7037. If you are experiencing issues with unemployment, contact your agent. The retiree meetings are currently on hold as the meeting places are shut down until further notice. Apprentices should be in contact with Instructors to make sure you don't fall behind. If you are interested in Fire Life Safety Training and Certification, CAD or Welding, please contact the Zone 1 Training Coordinator Kevin Dowdy at (269) 781-7183 or by email at kdowdysmw7@gmail.com.

"Now that the construction industry has resumed, if you have any questions and/or concerns about returning to work, job-site safety or sanitary conditions please contact James Callahan or Eric Farrington."

In Solidarity, James Callahan and Eric Farrington.
ZONE 2 Info: Work in Zone 2 is picking back up slowly, if you are not working and have not called in you should make sure I have your info. Our next meeting is July 21, 2020 in Grand Rapids at 6pm
Thank you, Dave Rutz
ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw) Zone 3 is slowly returning everyone to work, following all CDC guidelines as close as possible. Looks like the rest of the year is going to be busy, there is a big job that will start this fall in Alpena, and we will be needing man power to go up there to work. Hopefully everyone is recovering well from the pandemic.
Thank you, Wayne Stover
Zone 3 Info: (TCity) Our next meeting will be Thursday, September 17th. As of now, we plan on this being a "normal" in person meeting. We are also planning to start the Retiree Breakfast back up Friday, September 4th. (More info to come) If your employment status changes please let me know. Also please remember to keep your contact info current with the Lansing office.
Thank You, Travis Eastman
ZONE 4 Info Work in the area is good with everyone working, anyone that is not, please call me ASAP. We have a wage disbursement meeting on July 14th please try and be there. I know it feels great to be back to work but please be safe and take the necessary precautions to keep yourself safe and your family.
Your Brother, Larry Kinzie
ZONE 5 Info If you are having issues with your unemployment or the SASMI emergency relief benefit, please give me a call. There is lots of work waiting to start across the UP. To keep up on the latest information as to what is happening, check the Local's website. If you are not signed up on the Local 7 website yet you can do so at Sheetmetal7.org. If your MSHA 5000-23 Safety Training has, or is about to expire, please contact me. MSHA has some new updates on this matter.
Respectfully, Greg Faust

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

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

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

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

CONTACT US: 4931 Contec Drive/Lansing, MI 48910– 517-882-4064
Local 7 Officers:
Samuel 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

"Turbulence is life force. It is opportunity. Let's love turbulence and use it for change."
–Ramsay Clark

"Boys will be boys, and so will a lot of middle-aged men."
–Kin Hubbard (1868 - 1930)



Local 25 Iron Workers

Iron Workers Local 25
NOVI – Work is Available!
We are in need of manpower. If you or someone you know is off, please call Dispatch or a Business Agent. We must fill our jobs in order to protect them!

Dispatch is OPEN. Please call 248-305-9282: Monday through Friday 7 am to 10 am. If you happen to get voicemail, just leave your name, book number and phone number. Local 25 Active Members, Apprentices and Probationary should call each day you are out of work. OR use our website to sign up for the out of work list: www.ironworkers25.org

PLEASE WEAR A FACE MASK IF YOU VISIT ANY OF THE UNION OFFICES OR UNION HALLS.

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

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

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

Union Meeting: We held another "Zoom" union meeting on Monday July 6th at 7:00pm. To participate in the Zoom union meeting is 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 NOTIFICATIONS—Please download the APP if you haven't done so yet!! Again, via our website!

Steward Meetings are still cancelled until further notice as we adhere to Governor Executive Orders.

Classes at the Local 25 Apprenticeship School are starting up again; we are practicing social distancing protocols, etc. New Apprentice Applications will be accepted BUT you MUST (Continued next column)



Iron Workers

Local 8

Iron Workers Local 8

Tim Roman
Business Representative
UPPER PENINSULA – WELD CERTIFICATIONS: Weld certifications are being held on a as needed basis.

Please contact Rich Hanson at the Apprenticeship office for more information, call 414-476-9372.

SAFE START CLASS: A Safe Start Class will be held on Tuesday, July 28th, 2020, 5:00 p.m., at the Marquette Hall, 119 South Front Street. Please contact Rich Hanson to sign up for this class. 414-476-9362.

FORKLIFT/AERIAL LIFT: Forklift/Aerial Lift Recertification Class will be held on Wednesday, July 29th, 2020, 5:00 p.m., at the

Marquette Hall, 119 South Front Street.

Please contact Rich Hanson to sign up for the class. 414-476-9362.

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS: Membership Meetings will soon be broadcasted via Zoom. To participate, please contact the Milwaukee office to submit your email address.

Iron Workers Local 25, continued

phone the school for an appointment; no walk-in foot traffic. The Wixom Training Center – Phone: 248-960-2130–

Night Welding at the Wixom Training Center from 5-10pm will be July 14th, July 16th, July 28th, July 30th.

The following Events are Cancelled: Ironworker Picnic, Dennis O'Dowd Golf Outing, August Pin Award Ceremony, Detroit Labor Day Parade, and the Labor Day Bridge Walk in Mackinaw. We've recently learned that the Annual Ironworker Festival in Mackinaw is CANCELLED.

At this time, the 5th Annual Ironworker Benefit Dinner is being planned for Saturday, Sept. 5, 2020. More information to follow.

Stewards' Notes:
1) The Electronic Steward Reporting forms are online www.ironworkers25.org Log in with your book number, and the password is the last 4 (four) of your social.

2) PLEASE be sure to check dues for members and boomers too AND BE SURE ALL BOOMERS HAVE SIGNED BOTH THE RECIPROCAL AND THE ASSESSMENT-TARGETING.

3) All members please be sure to keep your Union dues paid up to date as it is criteria for working. You can be asked to leave the jobsite if your dues are not current.

Pay union dues with credit-debit card 24/7 by calling 888-386-8173 and follow the prompts. OR PAY at www.ironworkers25.org Any member payment for multiple members, fines, suspensions, withdrawal deposits, SHOULD NOT use this process. Whenever possible we are emailing you, your dues receipt.

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

Pay a year's dues or more (\$429.00 Journeyman) (\$426.00 Apprentice) and you will get a (1) one-month dues paid for by Local 25. (Get the 13th month free). This is intended to encourage members to pay their dues in a timely manner. The one month will be credited in the month AFTER your actual 12-month payment.

Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson announced last month that all REGISTERED voters in

Michigan will receive an application to vote by mail in the August and November elections.

By mailing applications, the Secretary of State will ensure that no "Michigander has to choose between their health and their right to vote," said Benson. "Voting by mail is easy, convenient, safe, and secure, and every voter in Michigan has the right to do it." The application is also available for download at Michigan.gov/Vote. At the same website, voters can also register and join the permanent absent voter list so they always have the option to vote by mail. Check your voter registration at Michigan Voter Information Center Michigan.gov/Vote

"If you do not take an interest in the affairs of your government, then you are doomed to live under the rule of fools."

–PLATO
The International Association (IABSORIW) has endorsed Joe Biden for president of the United States of America.

ATTENTION RETIREES: Novi Retirees regular meeting is "in person" July 21, 2020 at 10:00am. Social distancing, face masks and good hygiene will be observed. There will be no luncheons in the near future, coffee and cake will be provided. The Novi Retirees Board of Directors meets "in person" August 4, 2020.

The Retirees' Scholarship Fund Golf Outing is scheduled for September 10, 2020. The Bay City Retirees meeting for July 16th is cancelled, however a regular meeting for October 15, 2020 is planned.

Watch for updates at (www.ironworkers25.org) or the Local 25 app that you can download by searching "Iron Workers Local 25" to stay informed on union matters.

Diversified Members Credit Union: Located at 25880 Novi Rd. Phone: 248-344-2560 - CALL

Trump's VA starts evictions of union tenants from buildings

By Brian Young
UCOMM Blog

Back in November UCOMM Blog reported that unions at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) received eviction notices.

These notices were ordered by President Trump as part of his anti-union Executive Orders that he signed in 2018. Along with kicking the AFGE out of their union offices within VA buildings, AFGE officials were told they would be losing significant amounts of "union time," which is time that officials are able to do union business like represent a member in a disciplinary hearing, while still being paid.

The plan was to be enacted in January and now six months later, the VA is bragging about the changes that they made. According to a report from the Department, the VA has forced 244 of the 330 bargaining units out of their collectively bargained-for offices. The Department claims

that union time and offices within federal buildings are parts of their collective bargaining agreements with the federal government. By taking these away, Trump and Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert Wilkie are unilaterally violating the CBA. They are hoping to make it harder for the union to defend its members allowing Trump to gain more control over the hiring and firing of non-partisan federal workers.

It is important to remember that union time and offices within federal buildings are parts of their collective bargaining agreements with the federal government. By taking these away, Trump and Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert Wilkie are unilaterally violating the CBA. They are hoping to make it harder for the union to defend its members allowing Trump to gain more control over the hiring and firing of non-partisan federal workers.

The report also says that in the first quarter of the year, which ended in April, union time had been cut in half over the final quarter of 2019.

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Local 169 Boilermakers

Boilermakers Local 169

ALLEN PARK – The union meeting will be held in Area Two on Friday, July 10, 2020 at 8pm at IBEW 275 - 140 64th Ave N, Coopersville, MI 49404

The union hall is now open for in-person business. Masks must be worn at all times, only one person in the lobby at a time, and if you are feeling unwell, do not come to the hall. If you can conduct business remotely, please continue to do so.

The 2020 Boilermakers Local 169 Scholarship application is

now available. If you are interested, please call the union hall (313) 584-8520 to request an application. Applications will be accepted for any son, daughter, legally adopted child, or dependent (during high school years) of a member or retiree in good standing of Boilermakers Local 169. Applicants must be one of the following:

A student who graduated high school in 2020 and who will be entering their first year of a two-year or four-year program of academic study at a degree-granting, accredited college or university within one year of high school graduation

- OR -
A student who has previously graduated high school and is currently enrolled and attending a two-year or four-year program at an accredited college or university who has never applied for the Boilermakers Local 169 Scholarship Contest.

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. Congratulations to our member who are celebrating Years of Service in 2020!

15 Years – Joshua Abalos, Timothy Acocks Jr, Jason Beaudin, Benjamin Burnett, Patrick Card, James Chase, Andy Demars, Jason Dodson, Zane Dole, Donald Fajardo, Justin Howington, Joshua Lauzon, Anthony Marquette, Timothy Millett, Jason Niezurawski, Scott Schuiteman, Kevin Shirkey, Kim Snyder, Dale Weeden II, Ryan Whiteside, Benjamin Young

20 Years – Robert Anderson, James Archer, Kevin Blutsch, Jason Boler, Lawrence Brooks, Brian Cogswell, Marty Dalton Jr, James Dame, Anna Marie Deater, Tim Frazer, Daniel Fyolek, James Glasson, Lonnie Harden, Richard

25 Years – Steven Chase Jr, Richard Cowley, Pete Dodge, Paul Easley, Adam Howard, Kerry W Johnson, Donald Kisielewicz, Christopher Lanzon, Carl Mitchell, Spencer Moorefield, Dennis Nolen, Michael Slomzenski, Brad Smith, Terrance Sullivan, Michael Trousdale

30 Years – John Bergman, Michael Card, Donald Cobb, James Empson, James Gould, Richard Norris, Daniel Southwell

40 Years – Timothy Ayotte, James Howard, Gary Laforest, Timothy Laforest, Lenny Minor, George Payne, James Rokuski, Kevin Schultz, Steven Schultz, Richard St. John, William G. Westphal, Michael Wiles, Howard Wing, Edward Wlodyka Jr

45 Years – Stuart Bass, George Boler, James Burns, Donald Burt, Patrick Carley, William Closser Jr, James Denkins, Douglas Edgar, James Ferebee, Ramond Flowers Jr, Charles Frankhouse, Lewis Harris, Andrew Heugh, Harold Hoagland, George Ivey, James Jedinak, John Kriesel, Dale Lewis, James Loveland, Charles Maciejewski, George Macklam, James

Micheau, Raymond Nadolski, Karl Peckstein, Patrick Pelz, Robert Rose, David Sanderson, Stephen Schwartz, William Senk, Bethel Siegel, Allen Tajak, Frank Temple, Timothy Theodore, Eric Treichel, Richard Woods

50 Years – David Atherall, Marty Dalton, Charles Flaishans, Raymond Gould, John Hubbard, John Ivey, Randy Ivey, John Kent, Ronald Roberson, Gordon Sanders, William Stelzer, Duane Suluk, Bernard Williams

55 Years – Babylas Bourdages, Thomas Founteas, Charles Gould, A. Chris Lanzon, Robert Macleod, Richard Schulte, Michael Usher, Alfred Vanderbrink, David Wilson

60 Years – Edward Rokuski, Richard Wimmer Jr

65 Years – Charles Dunn

Hiam, Scott Ivey, Eric Jones, Dennis Jordan, David Knaf, Derek Legace, Kevin Leaphart, Kevin Mackenzie, Michael Maddock, Mark McKie, Keith Mowrer Jr, Glenn Palmer, Bruce Pederson, Daniel Pelz Jr, Jamie Ratliff, Joseph Rebecca, Michael Robinson, Donald Rugenstein II, Douglas Saez, Murray Sedich, Daniel Smith, Shayne Smith, Christopher Sommerfeld, Jeff Tadlock, Larry Taylor, Timothy Taylor, Matthew Tow, Heath Tyler, Fredrick VanHaaren III, Samantha Whitten, Christopher Wicks, Michael Williamson, Ryan Willoughby, Michael Wright

25 Years – Steven Chase Jr, Richard Cowley, Pete Dodge, Paul Easley, Adam Howard, Kerry W Johnson, Donald Kisielewicz, Christopher Lanzon, Carl Mitchell, Spencer Moorefield, Dennis Nolen, Michael Slomzenski, Brad Smith, Terrance Sullivan, Michael Trousdale

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60 Years – Edward Rokuski, Richard Wimmer Jr

65 Years – Charles Dunn

"Age is mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter."

–Satchel Paige (1906 - 1982)

"The undertaking of a new action brings new strength."

–Eveinus

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Local 292 Sheet Metal Workers

(Continued from Page 8)

These classes would be for members that are ready to try and obtain a 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 scheduled in the class.

APPRENTICE APPLICATION NOTICE SHEET METAL WORKERS LOCAL 292

APPRENTICE TRUST FUND

64 PARK ST. TROY, MI 48083-2752

www.smw1292jatic.org

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The Apprentice Training Program operated by Sheet Metal Workers Local 292 Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee (JATC) admits qualified applicants without discrimination because of race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, age, sex, disability (except to the extent that such disability actually affects the applicant's ability to work at the trade or craft), marital status, or other classification protected by federal, state or local law or ordinance. (You must be 18 years old at the time of application.)

Application must be made in person. No faxes or emailed applications will be accepted!!

Applications for Apprenticeship are accepted all year every business day.

All applications must be filed in person at the Training Center and a copy of your High School diploma, or GED certificate, along with a picture ID must be submitted with the application or it will not be accepted. At the time of filing you will be registered for a written test at Macomb Community College, at a cost of \$60 (Non-Members Only) which you must pay at time of testing. Cash only will be accepted. If you have any questions, call Dave at (313) 623-9390 or visit www.smw1292jatic.org for more information.



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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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Plumbers Local 98

Plumbers 98
DETROIT – **Membership of Plumbers Local 98.** Brothers and Sisters, Your officers and myself are in hope this letter find you and your family well.

***SPECIAL CALLED MEETING:** Thursday, July 16th at 7pm for the purpose of wage allocation and approval will be held at the UFCW 876 (Food Workers next door). It may not look like a normal meeting but we will do our best to supply you with current information. Please keep an eye out for email blasts just in case we have to cancel due to changes in Covid guidelines. You will need to wear masks and keep social distancing to attend.

Apprentices who are unable to vote please stay home, I do not recommend any one with a possible compromised immune system or older members to attempt to attend. All distributed allocations are posted on our 98 Web page and went into effect the first week in June.

The job site return-to-work guidelines are published on the Mi. Department of Labor and Economic opportunity web site for the State of Michigan. Please take some time to review these before returning to work.

Due to our compliance with Mayor Duggan's STEP program, we have been given access to free Covid-19 testing to all Local 98 members at the old State Fair Grounds on Woodward and 8 Mile in Detroit. Prior to going you must call for an appointment at 313-230-0505. No Dr. note is needed, they will ask you for a code and ours is 289488PL. This is free and zero copay.

Our auto plants as well as construction sites are up and running again. If you are asked to do any pre-hire safety of any type prior to entering the plant on your own time that is not acceptable, you must be reimbursed for your time.

If you are not supplied any PPE or feel the job is not addressing these issues you have the right to call your agent and leave the job. We have established an anonymous safety hotline call in number for our locals 98, 636 members and our Contractors to investigate any lack of protection or wrong doing by the owners we all work for, the number is 313-340-7339.

The Union Hall will be open only to essential foot traffic on July 13th please use South entrance until further notice. Masks and gloves are required.

Until further notice E-Board meetings are slowly getting underway, if you need to contact or see the board please call V.P. Jim Cools at 734-307-9841, Retiree meetings are still cancelled.

I repeat, the Union Hall and our Training Center have been shut down to all unnecessary foot traffic, that does not mean the officers cannot be reached or center can't be used.

In the meantime, any pertinent information can be found on our new web page, a whole list of information is now available to you under the member only section. <https://ualocal98.com>

You now can fill out sub apps electronically, this now can be found on the web page.

The new Out of work list available to access there as well, just follow the instructions on the top of the web page.

If you're still having unemployment issues call BA's Gary Glaser or Tom McWilliams.

If your looking to retire or need help with Benesys call Jon DeRoo or myself, the union hall phone # of 248-307-9800 will direct dial our cells, agents Larry Delehant and Wade Kovach are there to help as well.

Any Must/Most, upgrades, continuity's or letters of certifications will still be taken care of by Paul Baker 248-585-1435, or our Officers at 248-307-9800.

It's that time again for your **2020 Plumbing License Renewal**, it can be done **ONLINE ONLY!** For detailed instructions and requirements, please visit www.michigan.gov/bcc. Or call 98's training Center and they will assist you. We have currently frozen taking applications for our apprenticeship classes until further notice.

We are looking for Residential and Service Plumbers at this time, it will be a great chance to expand and grow again as many members are looking to retire. So, if you know anyone working nonunion or is a past member that may be interested in us. Have them call 98's Organizer Rob Moses on his cell phone 248-763-2187.

The new U.A. Union cards are available at the hall when you pay your 2020 Union dues, these cards are good for 2020, 2021 and 2022.

Don't miss out on our agreement with the Detroit Land Bank Authority. Local 98 members can purchase home or building in the Land Banks Holdings for half the list cost. Go to www.buildingdetroit.org to see what this is about or contact the hall for details.

-In Brotherhood, Carlo Castiglione Business Manager Plumbers Local 98

Condolences. To the families of the following members we wish to share our sincerest condolences on the passing of our members. Alfred Story, Frank Styles, William Prytula, James C Phillips.

Hanging Up Their Bibs. Bernnie Kulkka, Mitch Conn, Preston Banks, Don Baloh, Randy Johnson, Dan Chaffin, Tim McCabe, Frank McMahon, Paul Earforth. We thank you for your hard work and commitment to our local, we wish you all the best in your future.

All Retiree Meetings. Cancelled.

Detroit Plumbers Local 98 Scholarship Fund Golf outing will be held Saturday, Aug. 8 at Oakridge/Marsh Oaks Golf Club. For tickets or sponsorship information call Jon DeRoo at the hall.

Workers Assistance Program: I personally can't tell you how lucky we are to have Work life Strategies, LLC, they are available to our members and their families to provide personal counseling services and when needed referrals to professionals in Recovery and Relationship/Divorce Support Groups/Child Custody/Criminal Defense. This program is not only for medical and/or personal issues, they also can steer you thru governmental resources with any consumer rights or child disability and much more. Please don't hesitate and call C.J. Harrison at Work Life Strategies at 313-580-6887 for an appointment.

Out of Work List Changes/ SUB Pay. All working members will be required to complete a SUB application within 48 hours of their lay-off on-line or in person to ensure placement on the Out of Work List. If you are out of work due to Disability or Workers Compensation, please contact Jon DeRoo first at 248-762-9238 than BeneSys at 248-813-9800 to verify your continued Insurance eligibility.

TRAINING CENTER NEWS. Phone # 248-585-1435.

Check out The Training Center's website www.Plumbers98tc.org The Apprenticeship Application process is closed until further notice.

As the COVID-19 restrictions begin to relax the Training Center is open and slowly returning to normal operations. We will begin journey plumber upgrade classes as soon as we are able. Please call Paul Baker at 248-585-1435 ext. 123 if you have any questions.

ASSE Backflow Repairer Certification - ** Prerequisite: Must hold a current ASSE 5110 Backflow Tester Certification. Class begins 8/18/2020. Call Training Center for full schedule. Pre-pay by check only to hold your spot before the deadline 7/31/2020.

ASSE Backflow Tester Re-Certification exams are scheduled quarterly. Please be sure to check your expiration date, it is now required that you complete your update class prior to your expiration. For those who are eligible, please call the Training Center to register and pre-pay by check only before the deadline September 25, 2020. The next scheduled recertification class is **Oct. 27 & 28, 2020.**

If your brazing or welding certs are ready to expire, call to schedule an appointment. The next **WELDING Tests** will be Saturday, September 12, 2020. You must call to schedule your welding tests at least 3 days prior to the class. The next **BRAZING Cert Sessions** will be Friday, September 11, 2020. Please note: All members must be dressed appropriately to be in the shop area.

2020 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 Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2020 to be eligible for the \$80 reimbursement.

(Continued next column)



Sprinkler Fitters

Sprinkler Fitters Local 704
FARMINGTON – The next regular meeting will be September 9, 2020 at the local union hall at 5:30 P.M. The Executive Board will meet the same night 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.

NFPA All Access is available for all 704 members. Please contact the Local 704 Training Center for username and password.

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

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

Congratulations to retired Brother Dave Palmer who received his 60 Year membership with Sprinkler Fitters Local 704. Thank you for your years of service.

Condolences go out to the family and friends of retired Brother John Voodre who passed on June 22nd. Brother Voodre was a 59-year member of Local 704. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Condolences go out to the family and friends of retired Brother John Minard who passed away on June 20th. Brother Minard was a 57 year member with Sprinkler Fitters Local 704. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

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



Local 370 Plumbers & Pipe Fitters

Plumbers & Pipe Fitters Local 370

FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, July 14, 2020** at 7:00 pm and has been designated a **Special called meeting for wage increase allocation. Please note that this meeting will be at the new Training Center/Union Hall, located at 2151 W. Thompson Rd. Fenton MI. This will also be a refreshment meeting.**

The Union Hall will be open for business as usual starting on Monday June 15th. Apprentice day classes will also resume the week of Monday June 15th.

Scholarship Applications for the 2020-2021 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 are available at Local 370 Hall.

Local 370 2020 Golf outing will be held **Saturday, August 22nd** at Flushing Valley Golf course in Flushing. 9:00 am Shotgun Start. The price is \$70 a man. \$280 per team. Price includes 18 holes with cart, lunch at the turn, Refreshments, Door prizes and Dinner. Stop by the hall and get the sign up sheet with all the information. We are limited to 38 teams so sign up early if you want to play

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)

Upcoming Night Classes: TBD
Committee and Board meetings are as follows:

Examining Board – Tuesday, July 14, 2020 at 4:00pm
FMR Committee – Tuesday July 14, 2020 at 4:00pm
PAC committee – Tuesday July 14, 2020 at 5:00pm
Executive Board – Tuesday July 14, 2020 at 5:00pm
Building Committee – Tuesday July 14, 2020 at 6:00pm
Finance Committee - Tuesday July 14, 2020 at 6:15pm
JATC Committee – TBD

Local 370 office hours 7:30am – 4:30pm.
Sub/Sick checks will be processed 8:00am – 11:30 am and 1:30pm – 4:15pm daily.

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

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

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

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

Our web site is up and running. Check it out at ualocal370.org. We are now able to accept Visa, Master Card, Discover and American Express for window dues. If you want to take advantage of this service there will be a \$1.00 per month charge added to the monthly window dues fee and a 3% fee for all other transactions.

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.

Plumbers 98, continued

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 day.



Plumbers, Pipe Fitters, Service Technicians, Gas Distribution

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

GOLF OUTING: Our annual golf outing is cancelled for this year, due to the current COVID-19 pandemic.

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.

OFFICE HOURS: Effective Monday, February 3rd, the Union Hall office hours are as follows: Monday – Friday: 7:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

The office will be closed daily from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

2020 - 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.

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

INFORMATION -FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: VISION PROGRAM – EYEMED – IMPORTANT INFORMATION: EyeMed benefit cards are not necessary to access benefits, however, you may print a card from the EyeMed website. Vision providers should be provided the following information at the time of the appointment; 1) Carrier Name -(EyeMed), 2) Member Name 3) Member Birthdate

EyeMed Customer Service Call: 888-581-3648
In Network Provider Listings Call: 866-804-0982
EyeMed Website: www.eyemed.com

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

REPRESENTATIVE FROM FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: Bernadette will be available by phone call only. 1-888-390-7473

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

TRAINING CENTER IS OPENED BACK UP TO MEMBERS WISHING TO UPDATE ANY CERTIFICATIONS, LICENSES OR QUALIFICATIONS.

PLEASE NOTE: You **must** call the training center before arriving. We are following the State and CDC guidelines. You must wear a face mask inside the building.

Lead/Asbestos/Bloodborne Pathogens Training (4 hours): Monday, October 5th at 5:00 p.m. This is an in-person class, at the Training Center. To register for this class contact Retha at 734-426-3700.

First Aid/CPR Training (4 hours): Monday, July 20th at 5:00 p.m. and Monday, October 19th at 5:00 p.m. This is an in-person class, at the Training Center. To register please contact Retha 734-426-3700.

WELDING LAB: Will start back up by appointment only. It will run Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.. LIMITED TO SEVEN (7) PARTICIPANTS. Call Andy Fielder, at the Training Center to be added to the list on a daily basis 734-426-3700.

ASSE BACKFLOW RE-CERTIFICATION (8 HRS): This class begins, Tuesday, August 4th and Wednesday, August 5th at 5:00 p.m. This is an in-person class at the training center. Reminders are being mailed out for this, so check you mail and RSVP.

ASSE BACKFLOW TESTER CERTIFICATION (40 HRS): This class starts Tuesday, August 18th and runs for five (5) weeks on Tuesday and Wednesday, from 5:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. This is an in-person class at the training center. CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED TO EIGHT (8). Please contact Retha to register for this class 734-426-3700.

ASSE BACKFLOW RE-CERTIFICATION (8 HRS): This class starts Tuesday, September 22nd and Wednesday, September 23rd at 5:00 p.m. This is an in-person class at the training center. Please check your certifications for the expiration date. A mailing will be sent out. Please contact Retha to register for this class 734-426-3700.

MED GAS INSTALLER AND BRAZER CERTIFICATION (40 HRS): This class starts Tuesday, August 18th and runs for five (5) weeks on Tuesday and Thursday, from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. **This is an online class, ran through ZOOM and BLACKBOARD.** You must have a reliable internet connection and a computer to be in this class. Members wishing to be in this class must notify the training center no later than August 11th, so we can get you enrolled in Blackboard. Brazing practice and the tests for this certification will be at the training center

MED GAS INSTALLER UP-DATE (8 HRS): This class starts Wednesday, September 23rd (online) and Thursday, September 24th (in-person) at 5:00 p.m. **Classwork is done online, via ZOOM and BLACKBOARD on Wednesday and test is in-person at the Training Center on Thursday.** Reminders are being mailed out for those who will be expiring prior to the next up-date class. Please contact Retha to register for this class 734-426-3700

APPRENTICES PLEASE NOTE: Make sure your e-mail and phone number are updated at the training center. Please call and dial EXT. 2

RETIREE MEETINGS – **SPADES and BREAKFAST MEETINGS HAVE BEEN CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. These meetings will resume in August.

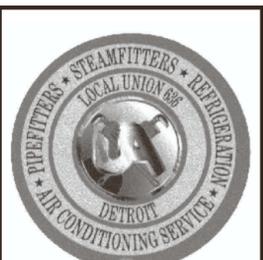
NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE BUILDING TRADESMAN PAPER: Please contact Karen Spearin at the union hall, (734) 424-0962 Ext #210, if you would like to put a special notification in the paper.

"If you smile when no one else is around, you really mean it."
–Andy Rooney (1919 - 2011)

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

Pipe Fitters Local 636

DETROIT – There will be NO July Union Meeting.

The Hall will be Re-Opening on July 13, 2020 to all foot traffic. Masks are REQUIRED. Dues payments or SUB transactions can still be done via email or by phone. SUB email is mapril@pipefitters636.org

The “early start 5 week boot camp” Apprentice class has resumed as of June 1, 2020. They have 2 weeks remaining to complete their 5 week program, then they will be ready to be dispatched to work. **The Training Center will be open for all classes as of June 15th 2020.**

The Leadership of Local 636 is doing their best to balance the concerns of our members in regards to their health with the concerns of the health of our Union, Trust Funds and Industry. We encourage everyone to fill calls as we are receiving for jobs where all the OSHA regulations working safely are being followed. These jobs must be filled.

If the hours are not worked by our members they will be worked by Travelers, which doesn't help our Union or our Trust Funds as the money is sent to the Traveler's Home Local. In situations where a member doesn't have COVID, isn't caring for someone with COVID or eligible under any of the other relaxed rules of the State of MI regarding unemployment benefits; we ask that you to take available work, and it is your choice if you do not, but please understand SUB benefits will not be paid in these instances where Traveler fitters are dispatched.

Also it is your responsibility as a member to report when you return to work, not the contractor's. So please call the Hall and speak to the Business Agent on dispatch to report your return to work date.

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 14th Annual UA Retiree Golf Outing will be held on **Monday July 20, 2020** at Sanctuary Lake Golf Club in Troy, MI. We will begin with an 8:00am shotgun start, 4 man scramble. Still only \$50.00 per person for 18 holes of golf with cart, snack at the turn and buffet dinner. Prizes to be dispersed immediately following dinner. It is limited to 72 players so be aware that it is on a first come first serve basis. To purchase tickets, please contact **Frank Grammatico @ 586-913-7145.**

Due to COVID-19 Pipefitters 636 is sad to announce that the **Pipefitters 47th Annual Golf Outing** has been cancelled. Anyone looking for information regarding a refund please contact Lance Pesci at 248-939-3421.

The Retiree Association meeting for the month of June has been cancelled. The election has been postponed until further notice.

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

New Quarterly ending September 30, 2020 UA Password is: ESSENTIAL

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 (Continued next column)



Local 357 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service

Plumbers, Pipefitters & HVAC Service Local 357

KALAMAZOO – UNION MEETING:

All Union Meetings Are CANCELED Indefinitely. With the cancellation of June's membership meeting, Local 357 conducted its Finance and Executive board meetings via video and conference call. The Finance Committee reviewed and approved May's expenditures. The Executive Board met and discussed the following topics: Governor Whitmer's Executive Orders and Wage Allocation.

WAGE ALLOCATION RESULTS: The wage allocation vote was held on Tuesday, June 16th. The results from that vote are \$0.75 to Health & Welfare; \$0.25 to Pension and the remainder on the check. The new package is effective JULY 1, 2020.

GOLF OUTING: Anyone interested in helping with the Golf Outing – Please call Elliot Wilcox – Ph# (269) 270-8584 – Event will be held on Saturday, July 18th, 2020 at Pine View Golf Club in Three Rivers with the price remaining at \$300 per foursome. Registration with a Hot Breakfast begins at 7:30 am with a Shotgun start at 8:45 am. A Chicken/Steak dinner and Door Prizes will be provided after golf. Call the Union Hall to register and pay by credit card.

POLITICAL ENDORSEMENTS: Local 357 is endorsing the following candidates for the August 4th, 2020 primaries:

Oshemo Township: Dusty Farmer-(I) Township Clerk; Grant Taylor-(I) Treasurer; Zak Ford-(I) Trustee; Cheri Bell-(I) Trustee; Kizzy Bradford-(I) Trustee; Kristin Cole-(I) Trustee; Libby Heiny-Cogswell-(I) Township Supervisor

Kalamazoo County: Zac Bauer, Kalamazoo (I) District 2; Mike Seals, Kalamazoo (I) District

Local 636 cont'd

tion 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 is 7526.

You can now login to your Defined Contribution account on the Local's website. Just click on the “Defined Contribution login here tab” and it will take you to the BeneSys login page. The Defined Contribution website is www.yourplanaccess.com/benesys. All inquiries.

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

Financial Planning: Call Jason May at Morgan Stanley 248-258-1750 for assistance and consultation relating to your Defined Contribution Investments. He will help with a total financial plan if requested. Services are paid for by the Defined Contribution Pension Fund.

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.

4; Chris Pomeroy, Kalamazoo District 5; Jen Aniano, Augusta (I) District 6; Meredith Place Kalamazoo County Clerk / Register of Deeds

State Representatives: Julie Rodgers 60th District Representative; Luke Howell, 63rd District Representative

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

WEBSITE INFORMATION – FRINGES – TIC: Check out the website at www.ualocal357.com and the **FACEBOOK** Page @ www.facebook.com/UALocal357/. You should sign up for access to your fringe reporting done by TIC via the Union website. To gain access, click on the Members Access Your Information Here, then click on TIC International Corporation and then Register. This is where you will type in your Name, Email Address, UA Card # and Create your own password.

Once you have completed all the information – click on the **LARGE REGISTER** button that is surrounded by a Blue Box. Your User Access will be granted the next business day. To access your account, once it is set up, all you need to do is access the Membership Button again – type in your email address and password – and all your information will be presented. As a member via the website, you will be able to keep track of all your hours and receive an e-mail when hours are posted to your account. **This is very important as it is up to you to keep up to date on the hours being paid on your behalf by ANY CONTRACTORS.**

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

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

MISCELLANEOUS: Congratulations to the family of Shane Kline on the addition of a baby girl, Presley.

We would like to extend a **SPEEDY** recovery to Wiley Boulding and Kim Neeb Get Well Soon!

You Are the Missing Piece.



Attend Your Union Meetings!

“Problems are only opportunities in work clothes.”
– Henry J. Kaiser (1882 - 1967)

“I am not concerned that you have fallen; I am concerned that you arise.”
– Abraham Lincoln (1809 - 1865)

“You cannot compile a wit out of two half-wits.”
– Joe Orton (1933 - 1967)



Local 671

Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 671 MONROE – The next Regular Union meeting is scheduled for **Aug. 6th** at 7pm at the Union hall. The next Executive Board meeting is also scheduled for **Aug. 6^{at} 5pm** at the Union hall. I will get out a notice to all members if we feel that it is still unsafe to meet. We are asking that only voting members attend the Union meetings until further notice. Please be prepared to social distance and wear a mask during the meeting. There will be masks available at the door.

Notice: The Local 671 family picnic is cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. I know we all enjoy our picnic but I am not willing to risk anyone's health over it. I know this announcement is disappointing to many, but please understand that we must remain diligent at combatting this disease by social distancing.

Health and Welfare: Recently you may have received a letter in the mail explaining the potential discounts in auto coverage. The first letter sent out by our third-party administrator (TIC) was a letter meant for Local 370 members and referring to their coverage. At this time, you should have been sent a second letter that explains our Local 671 Health and Welfare coverage relating to **auto accidents not being covered** and that you should maintain proper coverage through your auto policy. If you have any questions feel free to call the hall for any explanations.

Congratulations: I would like to congratulate all the 2020 high school graduates. Good luck on all your future endeavors.

Mobile App: Our Mobile App titled “UA Local 671” is available in the App Store for I phone or Android. The Username for Local 671 Members is your last name and your book number (UA Card Number). The Password is your book number. **Please download this app so you can keep up on current information that the hall needs to get out.** Recently, we have used it to send out Covid-19 related news and insurance information; it is a great way to get news out to the Membership fast.

In Closing: As most of you know we are seeing an uptick in Covid-19 cases in almost every state. Please stay diligent in your social distancing and take all necessary precautions to keep you and your loved ones safe. If you need to conduct business at the Hall, we are using the foyer at Detroit Avenue, and masks are mandatory. As always, you can call the Hall, use mail, or we can make other arrangements if that is more comfortable to you. Please take care and be mindful of the safety of yourself and others.

Mike Jewell cell 419-262-8503 email mike@ualocal671.com
Vinnie Fenech cell 734-693-4082 email vinnie@ualocal671.com

“A handful of patience is worth more than a bushel of brains.”
–Dutch Proverb



Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 333 LANSING – July's union meeting is CANCELLED.

With July 1 in the rear-view mirror and auto insurance renewals taking place, we once again want to remind you that the **Local 333 Health Insurance does NOT in any way cover auto-related claims. It is imperative that you do NOT reduce your Auto Insurance Health Care Coverage. If so, it will be at your own risk. Republicans and Democrats who supported and rushed the bill through should be ashamed. This was a gift to the Auto Insurance Companies in an effort to simply get the liability off Auto Insurance Carriers and on to Traditional Health Care Insurance Plans. Local 333 Health and Welfare is doing well at this time but simply not in a position to accept the new risk.**

THE LOCAL 333 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PROCESS FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR WAS DELAYED ONE MONTH THIS YEAR DUE TO THE COVID 19 OUTBREAK.

Applications will be available May 1, 2020. The deadline to apply has been extended. Applications must be postmarked by July 28, 2020 and in the Jackson office by July 31, 2020. Members may request an application by emailing Joni at jthomas@local333.com or calling 517-784-1106 ext. #4 and leave a message. Applications will also be available at all three offices when offices reopen.

LOCAL 333 PLUMBERS & PIPE FITTERS GOLF OUTING HELD IN AUGUST IS CANCELED.

If you're interested in taking any classes please sign up at www.ua333.org or call Trent or Diana at 517-323-0333.

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

Weld Test (Second Tuesday of the Month) Weld Test are scheduled each month. (Unless lack of participants)

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. Med-Gas new certification: Please sign up online on our website or contact the training center.

Adopt-A-Highway. Battle Creek: July 18. Volunteers will meet at 9am, at the Quality Inn, 11081 Michigan Ave. E, Battle Creek. Please contact Todd Scarbrough, (616) 893-5354 to sign up.

Jackson: Road construction will cancel Adopt-A-Highway this summer.

Lansing Adopt-A-Highway: July 18, 2020, Volunteers will meet at 8:00am, at the Crowne Plaza Lansing West, 925 South Creyts Road, Lansing, MI 48917. Please contact Jordon Grove at (517) 896-9434 to sign-up or if you have questions.



Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service Local 111

Plumbers, Pipe Fitters and HVAC Service 111

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

The next possible membership meeting will be announced as soon as possible.

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

Local 111 JATC has cancelled all Apprenticeship classes including open welding at the training center until further notice, with the exception of Med Gas and Backflow, they are on as scheduled. Please contact Training Coordinator, Jesse Harvala with any questions you may have.

Congratulations: To Jake & Jess Fleury on the arrival of baby Emerson!

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.

Important Information: Contact the hall with any changes with any of the following: E-Mail, address, phone number, a new birth, marriage, divorce, or death. For those of you who have an email address that we do not yet have on record, please call and give it to April or Ann.

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.

2020 Upgrade Certification Class Schedule has been posted to Local 111 web-site (lu111.com).

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

2020 BTA Class Schedule has been posted to Local 111 web-site (lu111.com).

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

Safety Training on Local 111 Web Site: When taking the on-line safety training, go to our web site **ua111.com** 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 2020 MSHA schedule is on our web site & our Facebook page. Call Cindy at (906) 228-6450 to register. MSHA expires in one year.

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Call Toll Free **1-800-RON MILAN** Call Toll Free

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Local 174 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & Service Trades

West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters & Service Trades Local 174

COOPERSVILLE – Meeting Notice: THE AUGUST MEETING IS CANCELLED. A recent spike in cases has resulted in our region being moved back to phase three. We need to reach phase five to have a meeting. It is very unlikely that we will reach phase five by Aug. 4. For that reason the Business Manager and Executive Board agreed to cancel the meeting. THE AUGUST RETIREE BREAKFAST IS ALSO CANCELLED.

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

Dave Reynolds Memorial Golf Outing: The golf outing will be Saturday, Aug. 1 at The Falls at Barber Creek Golf Course. Registration starts at 8am with a shotgun start at 8:30. The cost is \$65 a player and MUST be paid by check or cash at the Union Hall by July 27. Each group must have at least two UA members.

Local #174 Golf League: The golf league has begun, but you can still join. The league takes place a Hickory Knoll Golf Course in Whitehall at 5pm on Wednesdays. The format is 2 person teams, if you do not have a partner let us know and we'll pair you up. If you would like to join or have any questions contact Ryan Bennett.

Labor Day Events Cancelled: Unfortunately, as we navigate these uncertain times the LPC has decided to cancel the Wild Game Dinner and the Labor Day Parade for 2020. This was not an easy decision, but with the uncertainty of COVID-19 we as a committee feel it is the responsible thing to do. **Labor Fest in Grand Rapids is also cancelled.**

Family Picnic Cancelled: The Picnic Committee has recommended cancellation of this year's family picnic. It is unlikely that a gathering of that size will be allowed by July. We want to make sure to protect the health of our members and especially our retirees.

Dues: The UA and Local #174 are providing monthly dues relief to those members not working due to COVID-19.

- Beginning in April any member working in the trade who works 40 hours or less in the prior month will be given credit for one month's dues.

- Eligibility will be determined off the previous month's employer contribution list.

- Each month you are eligible, one month's dues credit will be added to your account. There will also be no reinstatement fees assessed.

- This program will continue on a month by month basis as determined by the UA.

- You will still be expelled if you are more than 6 months in arrears.

VOTE: Mail ballots are going out and the campaigning is ramping up. Remember in Michigan you can now vote absentee for no reason. You can apply for an absentee ballot and register to vote at www.mvics.sos.state.mi.us/avapplication

401K Withdrawal: The recently enacted CARES Act allows the 401k Plan to adopt a special in-service distribution for participants who are diagnosed with COVID-19, whose spouse or child is diagnosed with COVID-19, or who are experiencing economic hardship as a result of the pandemic.

This distribution can be up to \$100k, is not subject to the ordinary 10% excise tax, and the income tax from the distribution can be spread out over a 3-year period. Individuals receiving such a distribution may also repay the distribution over 3-year period, in which case they will not be subject to income tax on what they repay. Unlike other hardships, this particular distribution only requires that the member self-certify the need. The Fund is not required to independently corroborate the participant's certification with medical documentation or other types of documentation. The distribution is a one-time event only and must be taken in 2020. This program applies to only the employer contribution 401k and will begin April 20th, 2020. You will receive an official notice in the mail soon.

Sub-Pay: The board of trustees voted to temporarily raise the maximum sub pay credit from \$130 to \$260 from March 23rd until the end of April. To file for sub-pay, fill out a sub-pay form. You can find a form on the mem-

bers only section of the website under the "forms" tab on the left hand side, or you can call the Union office and we'll mail or email you some. Mail or fax the completed form along with verification that you received an unemployment payment to TIC. If you prefer to email the forms, please email them to Cami at cburris@ua174.org and she will submit them to TIC.

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. In order 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.

Save the Dates: Union Picnic, CANCELLED.

Dave Reynolds Memorial Golf Outing: Saturday, Aug. 1, 8:30am Shotgun, Falls at Barber Creek

November Union Meeting: **MONDAY, Nov. 2 at 7pm**

Medicare Retirees: Effective Jan. 1 you are now enrolled in a Humana Medicare Advantage Plan administered by Labor First. If you have any questions about premium payments contact TIC. All other questions should be directed to Labor First.

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.

Local #174 Gear: We have setup an online store with apparel through Trophy House in Muskegon. You can order and pay online and either pick up the merchandise or pay to have it shipped. There is a link on our website, ua174.org. You can also go to www.trophyhousebrands.com/online-stores/local-174 to order. You can also find a link in the members Facebook group. They will print the apparel once they receive twenty orders and contact you once your order is ready.

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 depending on who is on dispatch. The dispatch schedule for the next month will be as follows:

Nathan Phillips (616) 916-0667: 6/29/2020 to 7/12/2020

Jason Finch (231) 670-4482: 7/12/2020 to 7/26/2020

New insurance carriers: Active and NON Medicare Retirees

Aetna: (888)290-7241
Save-Rx: (800)228-3108
Medicare Retirees
Labor First: (616) 345-0788

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

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

Jurisdiction: Remember to always call into the local you are traveling to. Don't rely on anyone else to call in for you. They will not get into trouble. It's 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: The status of the August Retiree Breakfast is CANCELLED. If you are a retiree and in need of assistance please contact the Local Union Office.

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

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

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 are in compliance with 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 Bylaws. Please contact the Union Hall to find out your position on the out of work list.

Union Hall extension numbers: Ryan Bennett Business Manager ext: 12, Nathan Phillips Assistant Business Manager ext. 13, Jason Finch Business Agent ext. 14, Chris Pelton Organizer ext. 15, Lisa Johnson Accounting Manager 11, Cami Burris Administrative Assistant ext. 10, Training Dept: Jeff Rumsey ext. 16, Nicole Shumaker ext. 30.

ANNOUNCEMENT: Congratulations to Zac Prince on fulfilling his apprenticeship obligations and becoming Local 174's most recent journeyman!

We are happy to announce that the Training Center has reopened to daytime as well as nighttime training as of Monday, June 15. If you were enrolled in a night class at the time the Training Center was required to shut down, you will be contacted with information on completing the class you were enrolled in. Additional night classes will be added in to the schedule slowly.

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.

FIRST AID: First Aid/CPR/BBP class will be the second Thursday of the month, from 5:00p-9:00p. The next classes will be held on Thursday, Aug. 13 and Thursday, Sept. 10, 2020.

Due to the current indoor social distancing restrictions, we are unable to start open welding. Please contact Jeff or Nicole to sign up for classes or 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.



PAUSING FOR A PHOTO in front of the Park Avenue Building in Detroit that's under renovation are Project Supt. Jeff Cusin and mason Bob Pugno Jr. Both are Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2 members employed by Grunwell Cashero.

UA LOCAL 85



Plumbers & Steam Fitters

Plumbers and Steamfitters 85

SAGINAW - All Union Meetings are postponed until further notice. Currently we have canceled July Meeting. We will make decisions on all future meetings as we get closer.

Annual Local 85 Picnic 2020 is cancelled.

Annual Local 85 Golf Outing 2020 is cancelled.

We encourage members to do as much of their business as they can by phone, email and fax. We will adhere to social distancing practices. SUB checks will continue to be mailed ONLY. We will be available by phone and email anytime for your convenience. Please utilize the phone numbers and email addresses listed below.

ALL NON-CRITICAL INTERACTIONS is cancelled until further notice. Please utilize email and phone calls whenever possible. Below is a list of main contacts for the hall:

Justin Pomerville, Business Manager (989) 799-5261 x 13
jpomerville@ualocal85.org

Jamie Badour, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 15

jbador@ualocal85.org

Tim Danielak, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 14

tdanielak@ualocal85.org

Clint Steele, Business Agent (231) 499-7330

csteele@ualocal85.org

Bobby Anderson, Organizer (989) 799-5261 x 12

rjanderson@ualocal85.org

Kristin Tuthill, Office Professional (989) 799-5261 x 11

ktuthill@ualocal85.org

Feather Reige, Office Professional (989) 799-5261 x 10

freige@ualocal85.org

The next **Northern Meeting** is postponed until further notice.

I hope everyone had a happy and safe Independence Day. Please stay conscious to this pandemic Covid-19, adhere to all social distancing and mask recommendations.

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

The **new website** is up and running. Please check out www.ualocal85.org. Click on Local 85 Members to access members only information. Login information is username: first initial with full last name. Password is 00 with your UA Card Number. If you should have any difficulties logging in, please call Kristin or Feather at (989) 799-5261 ext. 11 or 10.

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.

GODBLESS ORGANIZED LABOR AND THE LABOR MOVEMENT!

Training Center News: JATC interviews will be held the middle of July for the purpose of selecting a new class of apprentices.

The UA Local 85 JATC also held interviews for a new Service Instructor. Congratulations and welcome to Jason Boensch, I am certain you will be an asset to the Service Training Program.

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, P.O. Box 6547, Saginaw, MI 48608 Fax: (989) 791-3468 Email: SUB@ualocal85.org

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

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

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

NOTE TO ALL MEMBERS:

Address & Phone Update: Please call the Union Hall to update any address or phone number changes at (989) 799-5261 ext. 10.

Beneficiary Cards: Please call the Union Hall for any changes in beneficiary information at (989) 799-5261 ext. 10.

Email Addresses: Please email freige@ualocal85.org to update email addresses.

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 retirees' 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 Gerald Walters who passed away on June 25, 2020.

Remember you all are essential to me.

Justin M. Pomerville
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

SMART union endorses Biden, who in turn backs key union causes in video

WASHINGTON (PAI) – The board of SMART, the combined union of the Sheet Metal Workers and the old United Transportation Union of rail workers, formally backed presumptive Democratic nominee Joseph Biden for the U.S. presidency in an unanimous July 1 vote.

In turn, in his thank you video posted on the union's website, the former Vice President strongly supported SMART-specific causes, which are also important to other building trades and railroad unions.

They include Project Labor Agreements and Davis-Bacon wage requirements on all federally funded construction projects, both key building trades goals. And Biden backs two-person crews on all freight and passenger trains. Freight railroads, and the GOP Trump regime, push one-person crews, which workers and unions point out is a large safety hazard. Further, Biden, an Amtrak commuter for 36 years, would triple federal transit dollars.

Biden also said that if elected, he would propose a \$1 trillion plan to rebuild, update and modernize U.S. infrastructure. The same day he spoke, the Democratic-run U.S. House approved a \$1.5 trillion plan. The AFL-CIO Transportation Trades Department endorsed it, but GOP President Donald Trump's advisers want him to veto it. That plan has a big "green" component, which gives construction unions qualms. But Smart had no qualms about Biden.

"SMART engaged with and listened to our members from coast to coast about their views and opinions regarding our union, their jobs and current events that affect their future. This was launched to ensure members have a say in shaping the course of our union as it proceeds to advance needs and viewpoints of the membership," union President Joseph Sellers said.

SMART members also met with hopefuls from both political parties, including Trump, about issues important to the union. Sellers did not discuss the Trump meeting, other than to say SMART members "can no longer wait after four years of empty promises for new infrastructure initiatives from the current administration."

"Biden has a long history of engaging with SMART members and working families in both the sheet metal and transportation industries. The endorsement decision was based on Biden's strong support of the concerns most important to our members, including the need for two-person railroad crews, retirement and pension security, protection of prevailing wages, and a prioritization of workplace safety."

The AFL-CIO, IBEW and Iron Workers, among other building trades unions, have also endorsed Biden.

"It's about time our government fought for you as hard as you've been fighting for our country," an animated Bidensaid in the video, punctuating his three-minute talk with frequent hand gestures. You need to do your jobs without risk or fear. You deserve a safe workplace and an administration that actually enforces workplace safety rules. You deserve a government that not only encourages but protects organizing and collective bargaining and advances workers' rights across the board."



Heat and Frost Insulators Local 25

Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25 SOUTHFIELD—REMINDER: We are still under the direction of the International Union. Pursuant to their directive, the JULY 2020 UNION MEETING has been cancelled. Unfortunately, due to the ongoing directive and the uncertainty of when it will be lifted, Local #25's ANNUAL PICNIC has been cancelled as well. Continue to monitor the Facebook page for updates.



CURT MCGLONE

APRIL PER CAPITA: The required Per Capita payment for any member working less than 32 hours in the month of April 2020 has been waived. Any payments already made to the Union Office will be returned.

APPAREL: New Local 25 apparel is available at the Union Hall. New items include: knit hats and beanies, new hi-vis short and long sleeved t-shirts and hi-vis hoodies. Apparel can be viewed on the Facebook page.

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 is to call the Office—(248) 352-1850.

LAY OFF/HIRE: Please be reminded, all members shall notify the Business Manager within forty-eight hours after accepting a job or upon termination of employment. Failure to report will result in an automatic \$50 fine.

S.U.B. FUND: Please be reminded, in order to receive a S.U.B. Fund check on Friday, all paperwork must be submitted to the Office no later than 2:00 p.m. on Thursday.

SUBFUND TIME LIMITATION: Please be reminded, per the Plan Document: Each time a participant receives a State Unemployment check, he/she must mail or deliver the receipt, check stub, or a copy of the check to the Administrator's office within 30 days of receipt of said State Unemployment check. Any request for a benefit payment past the 30 days will be denied per the Plan Document.

BENESYS: When calling the Fund Office, Benesys, please be sure to get the name of the person providing you information. Lately, we have been experiencing some incorrect information being provided to our members. In order to make sure the correct information is provided, it helps to have a name so the Union Office can call Benesys, correct the person providing incorrect information and find out why they are providing our members with incorrect information.

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

"The mind of a bigot is like the pupil of the eye. The more light you shine on it, the more it will contract."

—Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. (1841 - 1935)

"First learn the meaning of what you say, and then speak."

—Epictetus (55 AD - 135 AD)



Local 47 Heat and Frost Insulators

Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 47 Lansing – Local 47 Lansing Office, 419 S. Washington Square, Suite 301, Lansing, Michigan 48933. Ph.: 517-708-0665.

Local 47 regrets to inform our members that the 2020 Annual Golf Outing has been cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. We look forward to seeing everyone for next year's Annual Golf Outing.

Breath of Life Gun Raffle and Scholarship drawings will still take place on July 24th. More information will be coming.

To combat and limit the spread of Covid-19, Local 47 encourages all members 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. Remember that all Union Meetings have been suspended until further notice.

The International Union is requesting all the names of past and present members that are Veterans of the Armed Forces. This list will be going back to our charter in 1937. We need the name, registration number, military branch and dates served. Please call the office for more information.

All members should have received a letter from our International regarding the Asbestos Exposure Scientific Study. For more information on how to participate in this study, please contact Business Manager Patrick Welch at the main Local 47 Office number: 517-708-0665

Per the Rules and Procedures: Members must notify the office within 24 hours of being laid off or charges may be placed.

Members must notify the office before ANY overtime is worked. Contracts are available at the Union Office or at the Union Meeting upon request.

OSHA 10: Local 47 will be offering OSHA 10 to any Active Member who is not current with the program. The course is done online, so if you wish to take the course please contact the Local Union office with your email address and we will be more than happy to set it up for you. If you do not have a computer at home, you are welcome to come to the Local Union Office to take the course.

To ensure all Active Members and Retirees are receiving their Robo calls please make sure you have not blocked the following number: (804) 441-8365. There are several members who have the number blocked and therefore are not receiving the Robo Calls. These calls are only used for Important Notifications from the Local Union Business Manager and Funeral Notifications. If you are not receiving these calls, please contact the Local Union Office and we will double check to make sure we have the correct number in the system or if you may have blocked the number.

Local 47 has been receiving a lot of returned mail from our members. We ask that if you have a change of address or phone number to please call the Local Union Office right away so we can update your information throughout our system, TIC's, and the with the International. It is very important to make sure your contact information is always update with Local 47.

Anyone interested in joining the newly formed Breath Of Life Committee is asked to please call the Local Union Office.

Pension and Health Welfare: Larry Tolbert (269-345-8944). Allied Workers' Local 47 Fringe Benefit Funds, 6525 Centurion Drive, Lansing, MI 48917-9275. Toll Free Number: (800) 323-8079; Telephone No.: (517) 321-7502; Fax Number: (517) 321-7508

Larry Tolbert will be available via phone to answer any questions regarding Pension, Welfare and Vacation Funds. Larry is the Secretary for the Pension, Welfare, Vacation and Special Benefits and can be reached by phone at (269) 345-8944, or by mail at: P.O. Box 19541, Kalamazoo, MI 49019.

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

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

Members having questions regarding Pension and Welfare Fund please contact TIC International at the numbers below or log onto their Website: www.heatfrostlocal47benefits.org:

Please complete and return the working spousal forms to TIC. JATC Coordinator Phil Wilson (616-466-8736)

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

Good and Welfare: Get well to all our sick or injured members.

State jobless agency says it is making progress on claims backlog

LANSING—The Michigan's Unemployment Insurance Agency has had an awful record in paying the flood of jobless claims during the COVID-19 pandemic, but the agency now says it met its July 4 deadline of making determinations on "all currently eligible, certifying unpaid claims that were filed before May 1."

Since March 15, the agency said in press release on July 6, around 2.1 million eligible claimants have applied for state and federal benefits, with over \$15 billion in benefits paid to more than 2 million workers. In addition, 97.2 percent of potentially eligible, certifying claimants have received or are approved

for benefits.

Of the remaining unpaid claimants, most are flagged for potential intentional fraud. Currently, less than 39,000 unpaid claims have yet to be resolved, the UIA says, and are being held for additional identity verification while only around 20,000 unpaid claims are held pending adjudication for other reasons.

"The UIA remains committed to quickly processing claims. While there is only small percentage of eligible workers who have yet to be paid, we know that is no consolation to the thousands of claimants who are frustrated, desperate and owed the benefits they were promised," said UIA Director Steve Gray. "We will not rest until the claims backlog is eliminated and all eligible Michigan workers get every single dollar they are entitled to."



Regional Local 207 Abatement Workers

Abatement Workers Local 207 TAYLOR—Hope all members enjoyed the 4th of July with their families. The great weather, although extremely warm surely made for a great day.



DAN SOMENUER

Work continues to improve although somewhat slower than last year at this time. When you do return to work, follow all required Covid guidelines that may be in place for certain sites. Remember to call in if you are unemployed

for help with future placement. Updated, working telephone numbers are necessary to help you with work placement. Do not get caught without the necessary current job site credentials, although several state agencies have relaxed renewal requirements due to the pandemic.

The General Office has not yet lifted the ban on Union Meeting and Elections. Our current election process is still on hold until an ok is given to proceed. All members will be notified by mail when the election can resume.

UPCOMING ASBESTOS TRAINING CLASSES:

Asbestos Supervisor Refresher – Saturday, July 11th, 2020

Asbestos Supervisor Refresher > Saturday, August 29th, 2020

Check with the Office to ensure the classes will occur as scheduled.

—All classes will be held at Local 207's office @ 26453 Northline in Taylor.

—Classes begin promptly at 8AM and end at 4PM, followed by a Lead Awareness Update.

If you are due to expire and need one of these refreshers now, please call the Taylor Office (1-800-207-5622) to register.

—Class sizes are being limited due to state guidelines currently in place.

BE SAFE, STAY HEALTHY, & FOLLOW THE SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES!



A RENDERING OF the completed Henry Ford Allegiance Hospital in Jackson.

New way to welcome patients going up at Henry Ford Allegiance

(Continued from Page 1)

"Most importantly, we want to make it as easy as possible for patients and customers to find their way to the services they need. With simpler way-finding, lots of natural light and comfortable surroundings, we hope patients will feel more relaxed before even reaching their destinations."

The project began last year, and the main entrance to the hospital was shut down in early March, with an entrance usually reserved for health care professionals slated to be used by the public through November. The entire project is expected to last 18 months, and when completed will include covered lanes for patient drop off and pick up, a two-story atrium, central relocation of the outpatient pharmacy, private patient registration bays, expansion of the coffee shop and the lobby's gift shop.

The facility was established in 1918 and known for much of the next 90 years as Foote Hospital. In 2008 the name was changed to Allegiance Health, and then renamed Henry Ford Allegiance Health in 2016. Today Henry Ford Allegiance Health is a 475-bed health system with 40 locations throughout Jackson County and beyond.

"The updates to the hospital's entrance will also

knit together our current and brand new patient towers, and allow for expanded space for our cardiovascular services on the first floor," said HFAH President and CEO Georgia Fojtasek. "We are making these important renovations with our patients in mind, and based on the input of our customers, staff and physicians, so that we can be sure we are meeting their needs."

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Outdoors



Michigan's North Country Trail

By Dakota Hewlett
Michigan Department of
Natural Resources

The North Country National Scenic Trail, or North Country Trail for short, is the longest trail in the National Trail System, stretching more than 4,600 miles between North Dakota and New York.

In Michigan, the trail covers 1,150 miles and connects some of our most scenic and beloved destinations, including Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park, Tahquamenon Falls State Park and Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, along with many small towns and communities whose residents embrace the trail and welcome those who hike it.

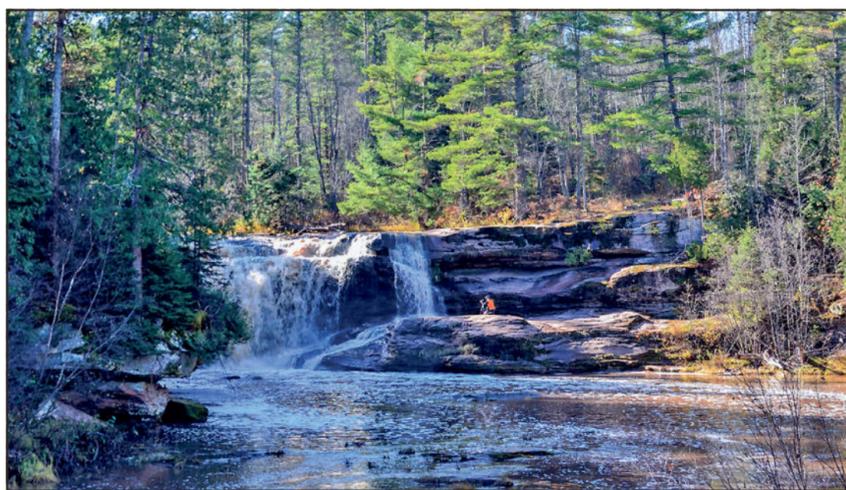
The website for the trail beckons visitors to "Come to the North Country."

"Trek the hills and valleys. Stand on the shores of lakes and streams from glaciers 10,000 years before. Clear-flowing water, red/gold of autumn, a fairyland of snow, open prairies and distant horizons paint the land," the website reads. "Historic sites along the way tell how America settled and grew as a nation. From North Dakota to New York (and soon Vermont), adventure is never far away."

Spawned from the National Trails System Act of 1968, the North Country Trail has grown from a grand idea to a destination for hikers and backpackers looking to experience some of the best small towns and scenic places in the United States.

As a National Scenic Trail, the trail is administered by the National Park Service with assistance from the North Country Trail Association, a nonprofit organization comprised of thousands of members and volunteers who work on building, maintaining, planning and promoting the trail.

The association, headquartered in Lowell in Kent County, has 37 local chapters and affiliates whose members not only help build and maintain the entirety of the trail, but also lead hikes and events promoting the trail.



THE SCENIC O'Kun de Kun Falls on the Baltimore River in Ontonagon County sits along the North Country National Scenic Trail.

Michigan hosts more miles of the North Country Trail than any of the other seven states the trail traverses.

The trail also provides the backbone of the hiking portion of Michigan's signature Iron Belle Trail, which stretches from Ironwood in the far western Upper Peninsula, to Belle Isle in Detroit.

"The North Country Trail is a magnificent asset to the nation, the state of Michigan and the Iron Belle Trail," said Paul Yauk, state trail coordinator for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' Parks and Recreation Division. "Without the North Country Trail, the dream of creating the Iron Belle Trail might never have been realized."

In 2013, then-Gov. Rick Snyder, who declared Michigan "The Trails State," wanted to showcase Michigan by creating a trail from Detroit to Ironwood. The idea later evolved into one trail with two routes – one for hiking and one for bicycling.

The hiking route of the Iron Belle Trail is 1,273 miles long, sharing 1,033 miles with the North Country National Scenic Trail as it travels through 48 of the state's 83 counties, across the Upper and Lower peninsulas.

The Michigan DNR oversees the trail. Today, the Iron Belle

Trail is 71 percent complete, with many projects underway over both the hiking and bicycling routes to connect the gaps remaining along the trail between Michigan's great natural resources, towns and cities, and endless recreational opportunities.

Some hiking highlights along the North Country Trail's Iron Belle Trail sections in the Upper Peninsula include the spectacular Pictured Rocks cliffs east of Munising, hills and ridges, waterfalls and rivers of state-managed forest lands, five state parks and the Hiawatha and Ottawa national forests.

After shuttling across the Mackinac Bridge, the trail continues south along the western side of the Lower Peninsula, where more state parks, the Jordan River Valley, the Manistee National Forest, Yankee Springs State Recreation Area and the North Country Trail Association's headquarters in Lowell await.

Jane Norton, president of the association's Chief Noonday Chapter in southwest Michigan, has been involved with the organization for eight years. She joined the association as a new hiker, but quickly became involved as she made friends with others in the chapter.

"Now I have something to do all the time – hiking is a year-round activity," Norton said. "I've met a lot of great people."

In 2017, she hiked the entire length of the North Country Trail in the Lower Peninsula, a distance rambling more than 500 miles.

"It was section hiking; I'd take three or four days at a time and drive up to hike the next section. The fun part was being in small towns that I had never been to," Norton said.

She completed her hike of the Lower Peninsula in 34 days, an adventure that started out as a way to celebrate her birthday and ended up becoming a trek across the state.

Norton said Michigan has changing terrain and diverse beauty as the North Country Trail traverses the state.

"Southern Michigan has the most beautiful farmland, unique barns and the most wildflowers I've ever seen in my life," she said.

Recently, as the president of her local NCTA chapter, Norton has seen a very large increase in hiking due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"It is great to see so many people of all ages outside, so many new people. I hope they continue hiking and become members and volunteers," she said.

Thousands of volunteers along the North Country Trail plan workdays, conduct regular maintenance and, like Norton, devote their own time to the trail they love.

"I'm impressed by the volunteers who come out to work, building bridges, puncheon (boardwalk), trimming brush and trees," Norton said. "I greatly appreciate the time that they put in."

Whether you are hiking all the way through from Vermont to North Dakota, walking the length of Michigan, or just out for a short stroll, the North Country National

Scenic Trail will connect you to Michigan's natural resources and provide a premier recreation experience.

With so many unique and scenic destinations to offer hikers along the way, and with its hundreds of volunteers and supporters, the North Country National Scenic Trail – and by association, the Iron Belle Trail – is just one of the many great reasons why Michigan is likely to maintain its status as "The Trails State."

For more information, visit Michigan.gov/DNRTrails.



A COUPLE ENJOYS an autumn stroll along a stretch of the Iron Belle Trail in Bridgeport in Saginaw County.



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