

# SHORT CUTS

#### Time to request your absentee ballot No need to stand in line at

the polls on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 3. Request your absentee ballot today.

Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson on Aug. 20 reminded voters that the application period to request an absentee voter ballot has begun.

All registered voters can apply for an absent voter ballot and may do so by filling out an online form at Michigan.gov/ Vote and providing information including their driver's license or state ID card number and the last four digits of their Social Security number.

Alternatively, voters may print out an application form from the site and send it, or a written, signed request for a ballot, to their clerk. They can mail their request, email a scan or photo of it or deliver it in person. Voters can find their clerk's contact information at Michigan.gov/Vote.

"With a record-breaking number of absentee ballots cast in our August primary, Michigan voters have made their desire to vote from home abundantly clear," said Benson. "They recognize and trust that it is a safe, secure and convenient way to participate in our democracy, and we will continue doing all we can to ensure voters understand their rights and how to exercise them ahead of November."

Local clerks will begin mailing out regular absent voter ballots on Sept. 24. The ballots will be available for early, in-person voting in clerks' offices on that date as well.

Voters applying for absent voter ballots online or through



MORE THAN 1,300 tons of steel have been placed this year at the Lansing Board of Water and Light's Delta Energy Park, and the 250-megawatt power plant's structure was topped out on Aug. 6. Photo credit:Barton Malow video capture

# The iron is up at Delta Energy Park

#### **By Marty Mulcahy** Editor

LANSING – The Lansing Power Constructors Team, Redinger Steel and members of Iron Workers Local 25 and Operating Engineers Local 324 celebrated the topping out of the Delta Energy Park while honoring five engineering contractors who died in a plane crash last fall en route to visiting the site.

The topping out of the final structural beam was held Aug. 6, marking the installation of the last of some 1,330 tons of steel at the site of the new 250-megawatt power plant. Barton Malow and Clark Construction are a joint venture comprising the Lansing Power Constructors and are the Lansing Board of Water and Light's lead contractors on the project.

Five stars affixed to the final beam commemorated the five occupants of a downed plane leased by The Engineering Collaborative, a mechanical contracting consulting firm in Indianapolis working with the





# **Ten building trades** unions have endorsed **Biden. Here's why.**

He 'will protect our ability to fight for fair wages and benefits, while helping us win more work'

#### By Marty Mulcahy Editor

Donald Trump vs. Joe Biden. Once again this year on the first Tuesday in November, America goes to the polls to pick a president, and once again building trades union leaders and the rest of organized labor recommend a candidate for president who will work in the best interests of union members.

The AFL-CIO, comprised of 55 unions representing 12.5 million members, endorsed Democrat Biden in May. And throughout this year, Biden has also been endorsed by all the building trades unions that have issued endorsements, including the Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers, Cement Masons, Iron Workers, Heat and Frost Insulators, IBEW, Painters and Allied Trades, Sheet Metal Workers, and the United Association of Plumbers, Pipe Fitters,

**AFL-CIO's Trumka:** 

Dems' plan 'is the most

pro-union platform I've

seen in my 50 years'

And presi-

dential nomi-

nee Joe Biden,

Sprinkler Fitters and Teamsters.

Compared to the other unions, the United Association on Aug. 17 issued the most extensive defense we've seen justifying its decision to endorse Biden, rather than Trump or remaining neutral. And issues that effect the UA nearly universally line up with those of other building trades unions.

UA General President Mark McManus said the UA's general officers and Political Engagement Committee (PEC) - comprised of business managers, business agents, journeymen and journeywomen and apprentices from across the country - met frequently over the past two years and began discussions for a possible presidential endorsement earlier this year

He said the PEC established four main policy areas to evaluate the candidates "on the most important issues facing UA (Continued on Page 3)

the mail should do as soon as possible. After Oct. 19, voters are advised to go to their clerk's office in person if possible, where they can receive their ballot and vote it while they are there.

#### With COVID. NLRB nods to employers

The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), all appointees of President Trump, recently released a series of decisions regarding COVID-19, the first guidance that the board has given since the pandemic started in March.

In a series of five memos to their regional directors the NLRB instructed them to dismiss various cases regarding COVID-19related charges against employers. The board concluded that an employer is not obligated to engage in midterm bargaining regarding union proposals for paid sick leave and hazard pay because of the ongoing pandemic. They also said that an employer does not have to bargain about a temporary closure.

In regards to workers speaking up about a dangerous situation on the job, the board has decided that an individual speaking out about a company's COVID safety procedure is not protected speech. This means that they can be fired by their employer. This guidance came after a case was filed by a nurse who was fired after for refusing to work at a nursing home that was requiring workers to share isolation gowns.

This decision gives employers much more freedom into unilaterally creating work standards during COVID-19, and gives employers significantly more latitude for forcing workers into possibly dangerous workplace situations.

Brian Young, UComm Blog

### Quotable

"Someone struggled for your right to vote. Use it.' -Susan B. Anthony, 1820-1906

BWL on the project. Five of the **REDINGER STEEL iron workers set up the final beam for place** (Continued on Page 11) ment at the Delta Energy Park project. Photo credit: Marc Crance

# **Michigan construction starts** to succumb to COVID's weight

Michigan is holding its own, but the burden of COVID-19 is likely becoming too heavy to retain its momentum.

Since Gov. Gretchen Whitmer reopened the state's construction industry last spring after a sixweek shutdown in response to the pandemic, Michigan has enjoyed a too-good-to-be-true resurgence in building activity. In May and June, the state was among the leaders in U.S. construction activity, with many Michigan localities ranking among the top spots in terms of building employment.

But July's numbers, released Aug. 21 by the Associated General Contractors of America, show the employment gears are slip-

sists.

rience).

The union advantage per-

A report issued Aug. 25 by

the labor-backed Economic

Policy Institute finds that union-

ized workers earn on average 11.2

percent more in wages than their

nonunion peers (workers in the

same industry and occupation

with similar education and expe-

Construction employment in ping a bit in Michigan and elsewhere, as our state joins the slogging construction economy that's plaguing just about the entire nation. It is widely believed that much of Michigan's busy spring and summer have been brought about by pent-up demand, plus the ongoing construction of new



power plants in St. Clair and Ingham counties and automotive work in the Detroit area.

"Renewed outbreaks of coronavirus in numerous states likely caused many project owners and investors to pull back on planned construction," said Ken (Continued on Page 3)



**By Mark Gruenberg** 

**Rich Trumka** 

who was formally approved by the party's virtual convention roll call on Au-

gust 18 "gets it," Trumka declares.

"He's always been a bluecollar guy and he's still a bluecollar guy," the union federation chief added. Trumka gave that analysis, and a critique of what 2016 nominee Hillary Clinton didn't do, in a 35-minute interview with Jonathan Capehart of the Washington Post before the rollcall that evening at the Democratic National Convention. The interview is one of a series the paper has run for weeks with analysts, newsmakers and politicians both before and during the conclave

Trumka was the sole union leader in the week's 20-person convention-oriented lineup. The wrap-up on Aug. 20, before Biden's convention acceptance speech that night, featured House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and Biden's last presidential primary foe, Sen. Bernie Sanders, Ind.-Vt., who has enthusiastically endorsed the former vice president

Going into the rollcall, Biden has advantages Clinton lacked. Public opinion polls show a (Continued on Page 13)

Union members continue to enjoy wage premium century-old trend that shows union workers consistently outearning nonunion workers. However, another persistent trend is flat and falling union representation over the past several decades: in 2019, only one in nine U.S. workers were covered by a union contract, even as 48 percent of all nonunion workers who say they would vote for a union The findings reflect a nearly if given the opportunity

"Now, more than ever, we need strong labor laws to protect working people from the health and economic impacts of the coronavirus pandemic," said Lynn Rhinehart, EPI Senior Fellow and one of the report's authors. "We need policymakers to use their power to halt and reverse the four-decades-old trend of rising inequality, while also creating meaningful reforms that

help workers organize unions." And in this era of increased

spotlight of racial injustice, the EPI's research shows that unionized black workers (+13.7 percent) and Hispanic workers (+20.1 percent) both enjoy a greater wage advantage over their nonunion peers.

Additionally, 94 percent of workers covered by a union contract have access to employer-(Continued on Page 2)

No 'fail jail' this time

DETROIT - On the rise along I-75 in Detroit, is Wayne County's new Criminal Justice Center - which includes two modern jails and much more.

Under project manager Barton Malow, five structures are going up at the site north of Warren, comprising more than 1 million square feet. Included are the Adult Detention Center (504,406 square feet); the Juvenile Detention Center (128,681 square feet); courthouse (253,178 square feet); central utility plant (32,888 square feet) and administrative building (119,623 square feet).

Construction began in 2018 on the new \$533 million criminal justice complex, and the project is expected to be complete in 2022. The entire development includes an agreement with Rock Ventures (Continued on Page 2)



LOOKING EAST along I-75 is the new Wayne County Criminal Justic Center, Three of the five buildings at the site that are furthest along in construction are (l-r) the adult detention facility, the courthouse and the administration building.

# Trumka says.

AFL-CIO President

crats "have to pay attention to working

# Viewpoints

# **GOP's anti-worker platform**

The Republican Party's 2020 "platform" has almost nothing for workers. Because, technically, there's not a platform at all.

Instead, there's a two-page 355-word statement issued by President Donald Trump. In simple phrases of few words each, he describes what he would push if voters return him to the White House on Nov. 3.

And for the rest, the GOP Convention's Executive Committee decided, voters should consult the document adopted in the party convention in Cleveland four years ago. That platform had few worker-oriented provisions, too - and most of them were negative.

The contrast between the two parties is terrific. The detailed 2020 Democratic platform, unveiled about two weeks before, is the strongest pro-worker platform in 50 years, says AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka, a drafting committee member.

It strongly endorses the Protect The Right To Organize (Pro) Act, the deepest pro-worker labor law since the original 1935 National Labor Relations Act. The Democratic platform also backs first responders' right to organize and bargain in all states. Several, notably Texas and especially North Carolina, now ban such bargaining.

Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden goes farther. The Pro Act would increase fines for labor-law breaking, enact cardcheck recognition and mandate arbitration when the two sides can't agree on first contracts, among other pro-worker provisions. Biden advocates "perp walks"- jail - for chronic labor law-breaking corporate honchos, too.

And Biden would use the billions of dollars the government hands out in private-sector contracts yearly to enforce worker rights. Break that proposed law, which mandates bidders must obey federal labor, environmental and tax laws, Biden and his platform say, and you can't chase federal dollars, either.

Without a platform, the GOP's 336 delegates opened their meeting in Charlotte, N.C., on Aug. 24 by re-nominating Trump. More than 2,100 other delegates and speakers participated by zoom, but not Trump. He strode on stage midway through the rollcall and delivered an unscripted 60-minute diatribe against the Democrats, Biden and other targets.

His document, entitled in boldface "President Trump-Fighting for You!", was issued the day before the convention opened. It had few specifics and many gauzy promises. For instance, Trump promised to create 10 million new jobs in the U.S. in the first 10 months of 2021. He didn't say how. Ditto for creating one million new small businesses.

And Trump pledged to "Cut Taxes to Boost Take-Home Pay and Keep Jobs in America, Enact Fair Trade Deals that Protect American Jobs" and enact "'Made in America' Tax Credits." The capitalization is his. So is the lack of detail.

Trump did not say who would benefit from his next tax cut. He made a similar promise for the 2017 Trump-GOP \$1.7 trillion tax cut. Non-partisan analysts found at least 83 percent went to corporations and the 1 percent, leaving many big firms with little to nothing to pay. Millions of middle-class and working-class people got hit with tax hikes, especially in "blue" states.

And Trump's two-page paper included slams at China. He proposed "Banning Federal Contracts For Companies Who Outsource To China," and promised he would "Bring Back One Million Manufacturing Jobs From China." This time he said how: Giving the companies both tax credits and 100 percent expensing deductions for buying new equipment.

Trump's paper also embraced some key points affecting workers:

•"We should reduce the occupational licensing laws that shut untold millions of potential workers out of entrepreneurial careers. We must overturn the regulatory nightmare, created by the Dodd-Frank law," enacted after financiers caused the 2008 Great Recession, that 2016 platform says.

•Trump's two-pager actually goes even farther than that. He would "End Government Bullying Of U.S. Citizens And Small Businesses" and "Continue Deregulatory Agenda For Energy Independence."

# No 'fail jail' this time for Wayne County

(Continued from Page 1) to build a new mixed-use technical and research development on the site of the defunct Gratiot Street "fail jail" near Greektown, which was plagued by county mismanagement and cost overruns before being abandoned after significant construction took place several years ago.

The new jails and criminal justice center will replace an aging and outmoded Frank Murphy Hall of Justice, also near Detroit's Greektown.

Also at the site, DTE Energy Services will construct and operate a central utility plant for the new criminal justice center on East Warren Ave. The plant will distribute hot and cold water for heating and cooling and also to distribute electricity and gas throughout the criminal justice center.



LABORER Reginald Miller of Local 1191 works traffic guidance on the Russell Street entrance to the Wayne County Detention Center, under construction in Detroit.

# Union members continue to enjoy wage premium

(Continued from Page 1)

sponsored health benefits, compared to just 68 percent of nonunion workers. The researchers found that 91 percent of workers covered by a union contract have access to paid sick days, compared with 73 percent of nonunion workers.

"The right to a union is a racial justice issue, as well as an economic justice issue," said Celine McNicholas, EPI's Director of Government Affairs and one of the report's authors. "Unions help shrink the blackwhite wage gap, due to the dual facts that black workers are more

"Have more than thou showest; Speak less than thou knowest.

-William Shakespeare (1564 -1616)

"The only thing you take with you when you're gone is what you leave behind." –John Allston

"Adam and Eve had many advantages, but the principle one was that they escaped teething."

-Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)

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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mailing offices.

likely than white workers to be represented by a union, and black workers who are in unions get a larger boost to wages from being in a union than white workers do. Unions also provide a crucial voice to workers in which they can address issues of discrimination and inequities at their workplace.'

The report's authors explain that a badly broken system governing collective bargaining has eroded unions and worker power more broadly, contributing to both the suffering during the pandemic and the extreme economic inequality exacerbated by the pandemic. Despite efforts to push policy reforms, the U.S. entered the COVID-19 pandemic with a weak system of labor protections.

As a result, working people, particularly low-wage workerswho are disproportionately women and workers of colorhave largely borne the costs of the pandemic. While providing the "essential" services our economy relies on, many of these workers, the EPI study said, have been forced to work without protective gear, have no access to paid sick leave, and when workers have spoken up about health and safety concerns they have been fired.

"When union density is high, nonunion workers benefit, because unions effectively set broader standards - including higher wages," the study said, "that nonunion employers must meet in order to attract and retain the workers they need (and to avoid facing a union organizing drive themselves). The combination of the direct effect of unions on union members and this

'spillover' effect to nonunion workers means unions are crucial in raising wages for working people and reducing income inequality.'

The authors - who also include EPI's Director of Policy Heidi Shierholz, Policy Associate Margaret Poydock, and Research Assistant Daniel Perez - recommend a slate of federal and state policy reforms to promote workers' collective power and grow union density.

The Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act is a comprehensive set of reforms that would close loopholes in the nation's labor law and strengthen workers' rights to organize. Additionally, their recommendations include passing the Public Sector Freedom to Negotiate Act and the Public Safety Employer-Employee Cooperation Act, which would give all public sector workers the right to collectively bargain and amending the National Labor Relations Act to give workers more power at every stage of the organizing process.

The EPI study found that the highest shares of workers covered by a union contract are public-sector workers (37.8 percent) and private-sector workers in the transportation and utilities (19.4 percent), construction (14.1 percent), information (10.4 percent), manufacturing (9.8 percent), and educational and health services (9.4 percent) industries.



• The GOP's 2016 platform also promised to "challenge the anachronistic labor laws that limit workers' freedom and lock them into the workplace rules of their great-grandfathers." That again was code for enacting so-called right to work laws and weakening federal labor law protections.

"Instead of facilitating change, the current administration and its agents at the National Labor Relations Board are determined to reverse it," that GOP platform said. "They are wielding provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act from the 1930s, designed to fit a manufacturing workplace, to deny flexibility to both employers and employees.'

Reversing labor law protections, at least, is one 2016 platform promise the solely Trump-named three all-GOP NLRB is carrying out.

That incorporated 2016 platform also advocated enacting socalled "merit pay," which bosses control, and banning Project Labor Agreements on federally funded construction. It demanded cuts in federal workers' pay, pensions and other benefits. "A Republican administration should streamline personnel procedures to expedite the firing of bad workers, tax cheats, and scammers," it said. And it demanded congressional labor committees "review"code word for "outlaw"-federal worker unions.

> Mark Gruenberg **Press Associates International Staff Writer** Washington, D.C.

# No shock absorbers

#### **By Jim Hightower**

In this horrible time of economic collapse, it is truly touching to see so many corporate chieftains reaching out in solidarity with the hard-hit working class.

We know they're doing this because they keep telling us they are - practically every brand-name giant has been spending millions of dollars on PR campaigns in recent weeks asserting that they're standing with us, declaring over and over: "We're all in this together."

Except, of course, they're really not standing anywhere near us.



While we're waiting in endless lines at food banks and unemployment offices, the elites are still getting fat paychecks and platinum-level health care. The severity and gross disparity of our country's present economic collapse is not simply caused by a sudden viral outbreak, but by a decadeslong plutocratic policy of intentionally maximizing profits for the rich and minimizing everyone else's wellbeing. As the eminent economist Joseph Stiglitz rightly put it, "We built an economy

with no shock absorbers.'

Jobs, once the measure of a family's economic security, have steadily been shriveled to low-wage unreliable work, untethered to a fair share (or any share) of the new wealth that workers create. In a relentless push for exorbitant, short-term profits, today's executives have abandoned any pretense that a corporation is a community of interdependent interests striving to advance the common good. Instead, while the honchos are richly covered, they're washing their hands of any responsibility for the health, retirement, and other essential needs of their workforce. "Rely on food stamps, Obamacare, and other publicly-funded programs," they say, even as their lobbyists and for-sale lawmakers slash the public safety nets so rich shareholders and speculators can take evermore profit.

These forces of American greed have shoved millions of working families to the economic precipice – and all it takes is a virus to push them over.

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# BUILDING MICHIGAN: The Michigan Central Railroad HISTORY IN THE MAKING By Marty Mulcahy



The introduction of the automobile in Michigan changed everything – not only the way goods and people were moved, but where and when they could go, and the route they would take to get there.

But for decades before automotive giants like Ford and **General Motors put Michigan** and the rest of the nation on wheels - it's important to remember that we were already on wheels. The steel kind that rolled along a pair of steel tracks, held together by oak log ties and iron spikes. In the 19th Century, railroads in Michigan opened up the nation to towns and cities along the tracks, providing people who had been hemmed in by swamps and dirt roads a reliable, allweather path to other cities in the United States and Canada.

If there has been a iconic railroad in the state, it would have to be the Michigan Central. It's founders were the first with the vision to cross the Lower Peninsula from Detroit to St. Joseph, with sights on connecting track to the lucrative Chicago market and then the rest of the Midwest. And the operators of the Michigan Central Railroad understood their role in the communities they served, erecting well-designed, and in some cases opulent train depots to serve little villages and medium- and large-sized cities that were often sources of hometown pride.

"Of all the roads serving the Detroit to Chicago market, the Michigan Central was the pre-

Photo credit: Michigan Department of Transportation



MICHIGAN CENTRAL Railroad passengers at Battle Creek's station stopped at this beautiful station, built in 1888 also in the Richardsonian Romanesque style with red Lake Superior sandstone. The building is among many rail depots along the line that are listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Now a restaurant, Amtrak rail stops in the city are made at a more modern facility nearby.

dug trenches along both sides of the track location to shed water from the rail bed, and then the dirt was used to built up the rail bed itself. Sherman bought timbered land, then built a saw mill to cut the oak rail ties. Large logs, partially squared, were placed on the raised road bed. Atop these logs a notch was made at each end to receive oak "sleeper" rails. The rail was set inside the notches and a wooden wedge was driven along side the iron rail to fasten it in place.

In 1846, the railroad was sold by the state to a group of investors that included John W. Brooks of Massachusetts and Detroit attorney James F. Joy who incorporated the railroad as the Michigan Central Railroad Co.

the tallest depot in the world. Spier and Rohns were the architects for several depots along the line.

"Even before the dawn of the 20th Century, railroad stations were a source of company and community pride," Mrozek wrote. "In cases where a town was served by more than one railroad, companies often tried to 'one-up' the competition across town by building a more elaborate station building. Communities likewise lobbied railroad officials for more attractive stations, since the depot was considered the gateway to their cities. The railroad station was frequently the first building an outof-town guest would see, and would influence that all-important first impression of the com-

# Ten building trades unions have endorsed Biden. Here's why.

#### (Continued from Page 1) families": union rights, infrastruc-

ture, energy, and retirement security and benefits.

After extensive discussion and consideration," McManus said, "the UA PEC and general officers have made the decision to endorse Vice President Joe Biden for President in 2020.'

Here's why Biden, according to the UA, which we have condensed for space.

Union Rights. When it comes to protecting the fundamental abilities of unions to organize and fight for fair wages and benefits, the contrast could not be starker. Vice President Biden has committed to signing the Protecting the Right to Organize Act (PRO Act), which would make it easier for the UA and other unions to organize new contractors, strengthen the rights of workers, and enhance the National Labor Relations Board's power to punish employers who violate labor laws.

Biden will also impose a national ban on state so-called right-to-work laws, which weaken our ability to fight for fair wages and benefits. President Trump has refused to sign the PRO Act and is in favor of right-to-work laws. Both of those positions would do irreparable harm to UA families

President Trump's Labor Department has led the fight against union apprenticeships by instituting Industry-Recognized Apprenticeship Programs, or IRAPs. These programs essentially allow employers to skirt our high standards for apprenticeships – meaning they can hire nonunion labor on the cheap.

Vice President Biden will defend registered union apprenticeships from IRAPs, helping us maintain our status as the gold standard of the construction industry.

If elected President, Vice President Biden will protect our ability to organize and win more work with fair wages and benefits. Perhaps more importantly: Biden would appoint pro-labor judges to the federal bench to defend against anti-labor attacks, as well as appointing as proworker Secretary of Labor.

On infrastructure. The bottom line on infrastructure is simple: do the candidates keep their promises? President Trump promised a trillion-dollar infrastructure package that would put UA members to work. Almost four

Biden is proposing a \$1.3 trillion infrastructure plan that will, among other things, double federal investments in clean drinking water and water infrastructure – especially in communities at high risk of lead or other contamination. Biden has a history of delivering on his promises on infrastructure, too. In 2009, he led the execution of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act that saved our country from the brink of depression. Biden's infrastructure plans will ensure that prevailing wage and project labor agreements (PLAs) are used on all projects and strictly enforced.

On Energy. Truth be told, the Trump Administration has done some good things for us.

However, while President Trump has relaxed some regulatory standards and allowed pipeline projects to proceed, his Administration has been haphazard in their approach. As a result, it has actually resulted in more litigation and lengthy delays that mean instability for our members.

Biden has committed to securing federal investments in nuclear energy and an all-of-theabove energy approach, even in the face of staunch opposition from environmental activists. Biden also supports concentrated solar power and hydropower and has committed to making strong investments in those technologies. In addition, a Biden Administration will work with us on common sense reforms to the permitting and regulatory processes that govern energy projects and avoid frivolous lawsuits that keep our members from working.

And let's set the record straight here, no matter what you might have heard: Vice President Biden has publicly declared there will not be a ban on fracking.

The reality here is that both candidates are not perfect on energy, but Biden has shown a genuine pledge to ensuring new investments in nuclear and a modernization of the permitting and regulatory processes that have held up our projects for years – which is enough to earn our support on energy.

On retirement security and **benefits.** It's no secret that many union pension plans are in danger of insolvency. Sadly, the Trump Administration has done nothing to fix multiemployer plans and protect the hardearned retirement of UA members. Instead of addressing this looming crisis, the Trump Administration chose to put other retirement assets at risk by undoing a Labor Department rule implemented during the Obama-Biden Administration that protected the retirement investments of union members by requiring financial advisers to put their clients' interests ahead of their own. Trump effectively let Wall Street benefit on the backs of working families.

Biden has also committed to forming a working group with labor leaders to address such issues as the current health of multiemployer pension plans. We need an immediate fix, and under a Biden Administration we will take concrete steps towards protecting our retirement security.

A steady hand. We're at a critical point in our nation's history: from defeating COVID-19, to rebuilding our economy and infrastructure, the next president will not have an easy job. With Vice President Biden, we know we'll have a steady hand in the Oval Office to help us come out of this pandemic stronger than before.

When Biden was a young senator, he didn't just stand with the UA in Washington - he stood with us on the line. Biden joined striking members on the jobsite in Delaware and helped stop management from breaking up the project, even when they called in the state troopers. Compare that with Trump, who actively fights against unions on his own projects and even refuses to pay contractors for work they already completed. We know who's really on our side.

Let's be real: Joe Biden is not a perfect candidate. Nobody will be with us on every single issue. But Biden will protect our ability to fight for fair wages and benefits, while helping us win more work. He'll help us streamline and modernize permitting processes and invest in energy like nuclear, and he'll make sure our longoverdue pension relief gets done. He'll protect organized labor at its core and our ability to negotiate fair contracts with prevailing wage. We know we'll have an ally not only in the White House, but on Federal Regulatory Energy Commission and Pipelines and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, too.

If we don't step up to lead, the UA is going to get left behind. We can't let that happen. That's why the UA PEC undertook this extensive process to evaluate the candidates on the issues that matter to us - and

mier carrier, operating the most trains and serving the largest population centers," writes David Mrozek in Railroad Depots of Michigan 1910-1920. "The railroad described its stations as 'buildings of manifest beauty and appropriateness' in an 1890 Summer Tours promotional brochure. Who could argue with that claim? The depots at Ann Arbor, Grass Lake, Battle Creek, Kalamazoo and Niles were all buildings of unique and outstanding design."

Work had begun on railroads in Michigan well before the state became a state in January 1837. In 1833 the first railroad tracks in Michigan were laid by the Erie & Kalamazoo Railroad between Adrian and Toledo.

'On March 20, 1837, legislation providing for work to proceed on three railroads and two canals in Michigan became law," says the University of Michigan's Bentley Historical Library. "One of the railroads the Central-was to connect Detroit and St. Joseph through the second tier of counties. Based upon preliminary work already done by the Detroit and St. Joseph Railroad Company (whose rights and properties were purchased by the state), the railroad was able to begin operation (at least as far as Dearborn) by the end of 1837."

Work had already commenced, beginning in 1836, with rail construction taking place on a line from Detroit, reaching Ypsilanti by February 1838. Rail gangs reached Ann Arbor in October 1839 and Jackson on Dec. 29, 1841.

"Perhaps the most urgent desire for rail travel stemmed from the fact that roads out of Detroit and many areas along the waterway from Toledo to Port Huron were described as 'seas of mud' in nearly every direction, especially in the spring when rivers overflowed their banks," wrote Bill Loomis for *The Detroit News*.

Loomis described the era's early construction method used by entrepreneur Sherman Stevens to lay track for the Detroit-Pontiac railroad. Crews

"By this time," said the Bentley Library, "the central railroad extended as far as Kalamazoo. One of the terms of the sale was that the railroad would reach Lake Michigan within three years. In 1852 the line was extended to Chicago. Over the next half century, the Michigan Central would lease or otherwise gain control of smaller railroad lines serving other parts of the state."

The tiny town of Niles in southwest Michigan just above the Indiana border is a prime example of a community that was fortunate to be along the Michigan Central line - and to get a beautiful rail depot.

"On October 2, 1848, 'an era of prosperity' arrived in Niles when the Michigan Central Railroad (MCRR) became the first railroad to reach the city," says the depot's historic marker. "This Richardsonian Romanesque-style depot was constructed in 1892.... Seeking to create a lasting impression of Michigan for passengers traveling to the 1893 Columbian Exhibition, the company hired the **Detroit firm of Spier and Rohns** to design the station. Built mostly of Ohio sandstone, this depot replaced a ramshackle structure that the Niles Daily Star referred to as "the old cockroach repository."

Cities big and small along the line welcomed the depots. **Detroit's 18-story Michigan** Central Station, opened in 1913, was incredibly opulent and was

A NEW YORK CENTRAL freight train derailed in front of the Ann Arbor train station in 1940, killing one man. A 21-year-old man admitted to putting a spike on the track, causing the derailment. The train station was converted to the Gandy Dancer restaurant in 1970. Photo credit: Ann Arbor News

munity he or she was entering.'

Train stations were often the site where locals met visiting dignitaries, including presidents. Soldiers were honored before going off to war, as were local sports teams, before and after their contests.

The Michigan railroad network reached its peak in 1914, with 9,711 miles of track in service. By the 1920s, cars were becoming king and roads to drive them on were improving. The Michigan Central was absorbed by the New York Central system in 1930, and then in the 1970s, former properties of the MCR were taken up by Conrail and Penn Central.

Much of the former Michigan Central lines are still active, and while some have been demolished, fortunately a number of the historic depots are either still operating under Amtrak or have been re-purposed into restaurants or community centers.

Michael Hodges, who authored Michigan's Historic Railroad Stations, told MLive that it was surprising how quickly the prominence of railway stations faded during the **Great Depression.** 

'Train stations just seem to disappear from newspapers around that time," he said. "The train station was no longer regarded as the center of town life. Automobiles and buses surpassed the train as the preferred way to travel, but the local Greyhound station never achieved the status that train stations once held.'

years later and he has never brought that plan up for a vote. In fact, his only proposal has been to cut federal funding for roads and bridges while also privatizing construction projects. That's unacceptable.

# Just joking

A farmer had five female pigs. Times were hard, so he decided to take them to the county fair and sell them.

At the fair, he met another farmer who

owned five male pigs. After talking a bit, they decided to mate the pigs and if they had babies, split

everything 50/50. The farmers lived 60

miles apart. So they agreed to drive 30 miles each, and find a field in which to let the pigs mate.

The first morning, the farmer with the female pigs got up at 5 a.m., loaded the them all into his pickup, and drove the 30 miles. While the pigs were mating, he asked the other farmer, "How will I know if they're pregnant?"

The other farmer replied, "If they're lying in the grass tomorrow morning, they're pregnant. If they're in the mud, they're not."

The next morning the pigs were rolling in the mud. So he hosed them off, loaded them into the pickup and proceeded to try again. This continued each morning for more than a week. Both farmers became worn out.

The next morning the farmer was too tired to get out of bed. He called to his wife, "honey, please look outside and tell me whether the pigs are in the mud or in the grass.'

"Neither," yelled his wife. "They're in the pickup and one of them is in the cab..." "BEEP!"

"Now, one is honking the horn!"

that's why we're outlining, for you, the candidates' stances and what led to our decision to endorse Joe Biden for President.

# **Michigan construction** succumbing to COVID

(Continued from Page 1)

Simonson, the association's chief economist. "Meanwhile, budget problems in state and local governments, most of which started a new fiscal year in July, led to cancellation or postponement of many infrastructure and public facilities projects.'

The AGC reported that construction employment decreased from June to July in 26 states, "as earlier widespread job gains gave way to more project cancellations." The AGC analysis said construction employment "is likely to continue falling in many parts of the country without new federal recovery measures, including liability reform and new infrastructure funding.<sup>2</sup>

Michigan was among the top half of states that saw monthly construction employment increase in July - our state saw an employment increase of 2,600 jobs, a 1.5 percent jump that ranked us No. 9 among the states. Unfortunately, the vast majority of percentage gains among the states for the month was in that scant 1 percent range. More broadly, over the course of the previous 12 months, Michigan lost 2,400 construction jobs, or 1.4 percent of its entire workforce, ranking our state No. 20.

From July 2019 to July 2020, construction employment declined in 39 states, increased in 10 and held steady in two. California lost the most construction jobs over the year (-55,800 jobs, -6.3 percent), followed by Texas (-39,200 jobs, -5.0 percent).

South Dakota had the largest percentage increase of construction jobs during those 12 months (+10.5 percent, 2,500 jobs), followed by Utah (+7.8 percent, 8,600 jobs).

"Without new federal support, the industry's recovery will be short-lived, risking new industry layoffs and declining investments in equipment and materials," said Stephen E. Sandherr, the AGC's chief executive officer. "Rebuilding infrastructure, protecting businesses that are complying with coronavirus safety protocols and stimulating private-sector demand will help sustain the industry's recovery, protect good-paying jobs and support the economy.'

Meanwhile, the news wasn't much better when it comes to construction starts. Dodge Data and Analytics reported on Aug. 17 that total U.S. construction starts fell 7 percent in July to an adjusted rate of \$631.6 billion.

Richard Branch, chief economist for Dodge, offered a shot of hope along with a dose of reality, given the ongoing grip of rise of COVID cases in many areas. "The July decline in construction starts should not be interpreted as a setback on the sector's road to recovery," Branch said. "The gains in the nonresidential and residential sectors mirror the general overall improvements in the economy. The drop in public works could represent a settling back in activity following a solid spring in which some projects broke ground earlier than expected to take advantage of the fewer cars on the road during the COVID-19 shutdown in March and April.

While the recovery progresses, the Congressional impasse preventing the extension of enhanced unemployment insurance benefits and small business loans included in earlier fiscal support packages casts a pallor over the future trajectory for growth. While one month doesn't constitute a trend, the potential risk to construction from the rising number of COVID cases in these regions is significant."





#### IBEW Local 131

KALAMAZOO – By majority vote a motion was made and passed by the General Membership on Aug. 3, 2020 to move the next General Membership Meeting date to Sept. 14 in observation of Labor Day. The next **General Membership** meeting will be Sept. 14, 2020 at 6 p.m. The next **Executive Board Meeting** will be Sept. 21, at 5 p.m.

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

Work Outlook: The work outlook is strong. We expect to have a busier than usual 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.powering kalamazoo.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 @powering kalamazoo, and LinkedIn @powering kalamazoo. Please feel free to share the wage calculator feature of this site.

#### If you believe we do not have your email address or correct cell phone no., please email Christine at cbohms@ibew 131.com

**Dues pricing** – The price for dues in 2020 is \$40/month. If you're unsure about your balance, please call the Hall for the exact amount or email Christine. If your dues ticket reads paid through, August 2020 your dues are not current; please call the Hall.

We have finalized our automated dues reminders, these reminders will be sent ahead of possible late dues. You may receive a message via text or email if you have not tendered your most current I.O. Dues payments. Dues payments can also be made online, to log in use your Last Name and Card Number.

Life events happen, and we'd always like to make sure you have updated beneficiary forms. If you're questioning whether yours is up to date, stop on down to the Hall to get new forms. If you're interested in receiving updates from the Hall, please email Christine at cbohms@ibew 131.com to add your email address. 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. Brother Josh Batten passed away on July 24, 2020.



### Local 498 "Powering Northern Michigan

Since 1949" IBEW Local 498

TRAVERSE CITY – Meetings.

**Regular E Board-** will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2020 at 5:30 pm in person meeting.

MEETING – The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, Oct. 14th, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

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.

**SWEATSHIRT ORDER**-It was mentioned after the last union meeting about taking orders for sweatshirts. If you would like one please call the hall and we will start a list. They did not appropriate funds for them but if you wanted one and paid ahead of time, we should be able to do that. It will depend on if we have a large enough order to make it feasible.

**Covid 19 office hours** – For your information the hall is open to limited walk in traffic. To follow state guidelines there is a 6foot 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.



IBEW Local 948 FLINT – Our August Union

Meeting was cancelled. Our September Executive

Board Meeting will be held on Monday, Sept. 28, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. at the Union Hall.

The October Retiree Club Meeting will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 6, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. at the Union Hall.

Please make sure you are registered to vote this year. https://mvic.sos.state.mi.us/ RegisterVoter

Please remember to fill out the US Census — https:// 2020census.gov/

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

You can pay over the phone with debit or credit card. You can also stop by the Hall during business hours (7am-noon/ 1-4pm) and pay by cash, check, debit or credit card. **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 turndowns 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.

### Local 498, con't

ing cook outs will be suspended until further notice.

Volunteer – We will need



IBEW 58

DETROIT – Membership Meeting: Please be advised that the General Membership Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 15, 2020 is CANCELLED due to the current environment involving the Coronavirus. This decision is in compliance of Executive Order 2020-160 issued by Governor Gretchen Whitmer Limiting indoor gatherings.

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

Local 58 Dues Information: Dues are due by the first day of the quarter. You can now pay your dues with an APP. Go to Apple/Google Play and download the IBEW 58 APP. In the APP go to My Profile, My Member Tools and that's where you find the information to pay. 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, September 8, 2020 5:00 pm. Join in on the "Cooler of Cheer Raffle." Hosted by the Benevolent Fund, tickets are \$10.00 each. The drawing will be at the Membership meeting held on October 20, 2020 at 6:00 pm. Winner need not be present at the drawing.

Members of the Community Service Committee: The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at 5:00 PM. Our Community Service committee has been involved with a number of projects during the past several months. We distributed food to the health care professionals at Ascension St. John Hospital and to several local food pantries during the Covid-19 pandemic. Our volunteers finished up a re-light-

# IBEW LOCAL 58

were given to help support the wobbly kitchen. Thanks to all who helped: Jason Patterson, George Costigan, Chris Crimmins, Javon Wiseman, Randy Petrie, Derek Lewis, and Barry Ferman.

**Members of the Entertainment Committee**: The next meeting of the Entertainment Committee will be Tuesday, September 8, 2020 following the Community Service Committee meeting that starts at 5:00 pm.

**EWMC of Southeastern MI** – Thank you to all of those who are attending our Zoom meetings as we continue to navigate through these unprecedented times. The next meeting of the chapter will be on Monday, September 21, 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.

The Electrical Workers Minority Caucus (E.W.M.C) is delighted to invite you to our national webinar series "The War on Workers: Coronavirus Style." This webinar is presented by Mark McDermott, an economic justice and labor educator who has been working for economic, racial, and social justice for many years. Brother McDermott is a long-time ally of the EWMC, and we are incredibly pleased to be working together.

Mark and our EWMC cohost will present an interactive experience by engaging you through various features of Zoom technology. We want to create a dialogue despite the challenges of social distancing and virtual presentations. More information can be found on the website at www.ibew-ewmc.com.

Please continue to stay safe at work, home, and in the community. #ibewstrong

**The RENEW Committee meeting** will be on Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at 5:00 PM.

**The Safety Committee meeting** will be on Monday, September 14, 2020 at 5:30 PM.



IBEW 275

COOPERSVILLE – Dear Brothers and Sisters: The L.M.C.C. had approved the purchase of IBEW 275/West Michigan Chapter NECA facemasks. The masks had been ordered and are now available at the Hall at no cost for all current members.

September 15<sup>th</sup> is the next scheduled general membership meeting. It will be held at the union hall in Coopersville at 6:00 p.m. Once again, we will hold this meeting outdoors, so please try and remember to maintain six feet of social distancing and check the weather forecast to dress appropriately.

We recently mailed notices to all our current members of a proposed bylaw change to be read and voted on at the September 15<sup>th</sup> union meeting. The proposed change concerns adding a \$25.00 processing fee to those members that fall in arrears in their monthly dues. This is meant to motivate those that repeatedly have their names posted in this publication. If the Body votes to approve this change, it will still have to be approved by I.P. Stephenson before coming into effect.

The following members are three or more months behind in their monthly dues: Vern Brink, Shelley Cummings, Timothy Davis, Matthew Dobb, Andrew Holmes, Norm Kaminski, Tony Kilgo, Avanti Lopez, Steven McLellen, John Miller, Steven Mutschler, Eric Quinn, Matt Reiber and Jeremy Rinehart.

EWMC is having a can drive. You can drop off your empty cans or donations here at the Union Hall. All proceeds will go to relieve student lunch debt at local schools.

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

Regular meetings for the EWMC and RENEW committees are every month on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday @ 6:00pm at the Union Hall in Coopersville and/or via zoom. Both of these are great ways to

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

FROMTHE 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 nonunion electricians in our jurisdiction, often, our best resources are you the members. If you see a nonsignatory in the area working at a location, please let the Hall know.

"The basic goal of labor will not change. It is as it has always been, and I am sure always will be — to better the standards of life for all who work for wages and to seek decency and justice and dignity for all Americans." – George Meany Brian O'Donnell Business Manager/ Financial Secretary

**PAYPAL** – PAY PAL is now up and running!!! Please look into setting up a personal PayPal account. The Pay Pal option to use for paying your dues is "pay someone you trust," if a different option is used it will deduct the credit card fees out of what is sent to the local for your dues. This leaves your dues short as we are a not for profit business and have no way to absorb those costs. 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.

JB Webb East and West – Our next Union Management meeting is Scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 24, 2020. We will again have the informational meeting at the Little Traverse Townhall right after work at 3:30 pm. I hope to have more information on work and layoffs.

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

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

Meeting Cookouts – meet-(Continued next column) 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.gtrcf.org/ scholarships/. Local 498 Union members' children get preference to the endowment. A huge thank you in Memory of Bob Dost for his generosity and being a great union member.

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

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

Important numbers for you to write in your address book: MEEHP (Health) 1-855-633-

4584 or 1-517-321-7502 Fax# 1-517-321-7508 MEEPP (MI Pension) 1-517-

321-7502

(New address Michigan Pension and Health Plan)

TIC International Corporation, 6525 Centurion Drive, Lansing, MI 48917 NEBF 1-301-556-4300 NEAP 1-301-556-4300 IO Pension 1-202-833-7000 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.

Remember to check the hall recorder at night after 4:00pm for any jobs that might be available. 231-943-4980 ext. 3# ing project at Antioch Baptist Church in Pontiac as well as new lighting at St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church in Redford.

We have continued working at Forgotten Harvest farm in Deerfield Township installing lighting and power in a barn. Also the Committee has started working at McCrest homeless shelter in downtown Mt. Clemens installing temporary and demo of the old electrical system in the building. The Committee will keep the membership updated as to when volunteers will be needed to continue with this project.

The Wobbly Kitchen is up and running again and we are assisting them every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday with food prep and distribution at Cass Park. We are asking volunteers to show up at the hall at 8:00 am to help with the Wobbly Kitchen program. A large thank you to all the volunteers who donated their time and expertise on these projects: Paul & Lori Castelli; Chris & Mia Cooper; Jim LaBroski, Mike Lyskawa, Norm Jaworski, Mike Melville, Rick Moroni, Tiffany McPherson, Mike Conflitti, Jim Hamlin, Randolph Porzondek, Jeremy Short, Pat Stover, Paul VanOss, Rob Zawadzki, Ray Kujawski, Jacob Sable, Brian Jones, Kody Wright, Brian Engleman.

The Committee also gives a big thank you to Caniff Electric, Hall Engineering, Lake Erie, Centerline Electric, Motor City Electric, and Frazier rentals who graciously donated a man-lift for use at Forgotten Harvest. Big thanks Joyview Market who donated food for the Ascension St. Johns health care workers effort.

To get involved with future community service projects contact Mike Conflitti or Rob Z at the union hall.

Local 58 would like to give a big thank you to our members that donated and participated in the jobsite cookout at Grosse Pointe South High in July. Our members who were employed by Conti Electric supplied food, prepared and cleaned up afterward All trades on the job were asked to donate and all funds raised 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 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month.

Local 58's Women's Committee- With the union hall being closed all in person meetings has 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.

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: <u>58Womenscommittee@</u> <u>ibewlocal58.org</u>, Follow us on Instagram@ibewomen58; Check us out on Facebook.

**IBEW Local 58 Retirees Association:** Board meeting and luncheons have been cancelled until further notice. Please keep your contact information up to date with our Group and with the Union Hall. Send those email addresses to <u>58retirees@ibew</u> <u>local58.org</u>. If you haven't paid your 2020 dues, please send them to Ray Owen, 428 Welch Road, Northville MI 48167. Dues are \$8 per person, per year.

We are certainly looking forward to resuming all the social functions that we Retirees enjoy, but until then, why not drop a note to some of our fellow retirees or perhaps take a few min-

(Continued next column)

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.

#### You Are the Missing Piece.



utes and give someone a call. Sharing news and checking up on one another will help pass the time, and keep us up to date on the things our friends are doing. Stay safe and healthy!!

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: Richard Aquiline, Ralph Giordano, Sheila Hogan, Andrew Marsh, James Stefanowicz, & Robert M. Thomas.

Members that have Passed Away: Mary Dewitte, wife to pension member Donald Dewitte; Scott D. Hess, pension member; Edward, Richter, JIW 30 year IBEW membership; Charles Wunderlich, pension member, 53 year IBEW membership. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss.



# **IBEW LOCAL 252**

IBEW Local 252

ANNARBOR-**MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS:** We will continue to hold membership meetings for as long as possible outdoors. Please bring a lawn chair if attending.

**RETIREE'S NIGHT:** This year's Retirees' Night has been cancelled due to safety concerns related to the pandemic.

Members receiving their 50 year pins this year are: Earl Coffey, Edward Colone, Frederick Coontz, Robert Cummings, Russell Hough, Richard Jabkiewicz, Paul Ketola, Ronald Page, Thomas Pahl, David Sisk, Jack Strieter, and Robert Vedder.

Members receiving their 55 year pins are: John Campbell, Brian Goss, Harold Hite, Neil Moffitt, and David Wheeler. Members receiving their 60 year pins are: Robert Koeble and Gerald Swartout.

Members receiving their 65 year pins are: Gerald Hopkins, Orville Koepp, Richard Smith, and Richard Straith.

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

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. Union dues will remain at this rate for 2021.

TRAINING CLASSES 2020: ALL CLASSES CAN-CELLEDUNTIL FURTHERNO-TICE.

**CREDIT CARDS:** The Local is now accepting credit cards



INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD BAY CITY OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS MICHIGAN

#### IBEW Local 692

BAY CITY – Union Meeting. Due to the Labor Day holiday, the next regular membership meeting will be Monday, Sept. 14, 2020 at 7pm. We have some Labor Day t-shirts available at the Hall (Large and

XL). Cost is \$10.

**Executive Board Meeting.** The next E-board meeting will be **Monday, Sept. 21, 2020 at 6pm.** 

Message from the Business Manager. Following the governor's orders, monthly membership meetings will continue to be held outside, weather permitting. 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. If we all do our own little part life will hopefully return to normal sooner than later.

After careful consideration, I have decided that it is time to add another organizer to assist Brother Klele in his duties. Brother Brendon Baranek will come on staff in the middle of September. These two will not only be organizing new members, but also working to secure work for our unemployed brothers and sisters. We have a jurisdiction of 17 counties and adding another body will definitely help to make sure we are covering all areas equally.

With regards to the referral procedure, "dings" or "hits" for all calls began again on June 15. We continue to have calls for manpower that have kept the out of work list moving. With that being said, make sure to continue to call the job line in the evening. The out of work list has been turning over regularly.

Work Report. Both the Pincanna project and the Bay City Meijer's remodel are in their final days. The new Consumers Energy Service center in East Tawas is beginning to slow down. The Wind Farm project (grounding and bonding) located near the Rosebush area continues to have calls for manpower shared between us and 275 as the project is taking place in both jurisdictions. Clements Electric has picked up work at the H Hotel due to the May flooding. Work also continues on Augres and Midland Schools. Ted's Electric has work at the Bullock Creek Schools. Nelson has Sanford Meridian schools along with Akron Fairgrove Schools. Conti Electric along with Newkirk have work on the Consumers Energy dams along the Ausable River. Newkirk Electric has also just begun their project at Bay City Powertrain. John's Electric out of Alpena has been awarded the Alpena Library Project. Hardies Electric has a nice project at the Atlanta Schools. Master Electric and the Costco project are really starting to hit their stride. We have had a few calls for this project already. Countyline Power continues work on 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. These projects are beginning to wind down. We anticipate more work at GM Powertrain beginning in the near future. Work around the state continues to be very hot in Ann Arbor, Lansing and Detroit.

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 infor-

mation 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.

**CONDOLENCES:** The Local send our sincere condolences to the family of Brother Robert Mayne who passed away on August 4, 2020. Robert was father to Thomas Mayne.

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

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.

**IBEW** 

**LOCAL 557** 



September 4, 2020

#### 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. Please make sure to wear your masks.

Local 445 Picnic – If you would like Binder Park Zoo tickets, please contact the Hall ASAP at (269) 964-4545. The tickets are good for September 11-13, 2020. The 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Dues are

coming up by the end of September. Just a Friendly Reminder!

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

**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 557, con't

on the Job Line after 4:30 p.m. IF YOUARE 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 over the phone to ensure you are current. CONTACT NUMBERS-

Michigan Electrical Employee Pension fund and Michigan Health Plan (517) 321-7502 or (855) 633-4584 Fax (517) 321-7508, website mielectrical health.org. **Evan Allardyce**, **Business Manager** 



5

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN

IBEW Local 906 UPPER PENINSULA—

906

MEETINGS MARQUETTE UNIT—First

Tuesday IRON MOUNTAIN UNIT— Second Tuesday

ESCANABA UNIT—Second Wednesday

PLEASE PROTECT YOUR-SELF AND OTHERS BY KEEP-ING 6 FEET OF PHYSICAL DIS-TANCE. FOLLOW THE GUIDE-LINES ON HAND WASHING AND WIPING DOWN SUR-FACES. BE SMART, BE SAFE.

IBEW 906 will not have any meetings in the month of September except for the E-Board meeting. All Unit meetings are canceled.

A reminder to all that the Health Plan will no longer cover car accidents. This change was necessary because the Plan could become the primary coverage under new insurance regulations. Please make sure you have the automotive coverage needed to protect you and your family in the event of an accident.

The next MSHA will be via zoom on Sept. 12. To sign up for any MSHA class please call Ann at 906-226-6511 ext 4. Class size is limited to 20 persons so if you need to renew your certificate make the call now.

The 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Labor Day Festival will be a Virtual event. We will honor our working Brothers and Sisters but we will do our part and keep everyone safe. To attend the event go to https:// www.facebook.com/UPRLF/ events. Kickoff is at 11 am Sept. 7.

A reminder that the monthly dues are \$40.00. We have received some at the old rate of \$39.00 and a few members are overpaying. This makes the bookwork difficult. Please if you have a service that pays your dues monthly inform them of the correct amount.

Please remember that address changes and phone changes along with new additions to the families need to be passed on to the Hall and the Pension and Health Plans.

If you have any information



IBEW Local 557

SAGINAW - MONTHLY MEETINGS - Policies are everchanging these days in regards to COVID-19. It is unclear if State guidance will allow for the October Membership Meeting. Please continue to monitor emails and the Local's Facebook page for updates. Everyone should continue to do their 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 OPERA-**TIONS- The Union Hall continues to be open for in-person transactions. If you will be coming into the Hall for business, a mask is mandatory due to the Governor's Executive Order. I urge all that come in for in-person transactions to also adhere to social distancing and the utilization of the service window in the main entry way if you can. 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 August 18th. 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.

www.michigan.gov/sos. Contacting your local Township Clerk is also a great way to get the information needed to be registered for the November election. Don't delay in doing this, time is running out.

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 cannot afford to be inactive during the election season this

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

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.* 

**Death of Members.** We regret to inform you of the death of active Brother Brent Mercer, Card #D960454, who passed away on Aug. 22, 2020. Brother Mercer was born on Feb. 4, 1978 (42 years old). He was initiated on April 3, 2000. Brent resided in Gladwin, Michigan.

A gathering for family and friends will be held on Sept. 11 from 11:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. at Hall-Kokotovich Funeral Home in Gladwin.

**#320.** Local death fund assessment **\$5.00 each** (due within 30 days) payable to: IBEW Local 692, Bay City, MI 48706

# Reminder: payments can be made in person, online from our website, taken over the phone, or mailed to the hall.

Retirees Lunch. All retirees' lunches have been postponed.

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

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

**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.mielectrical health.org. Michigan Pension Fund, 517-321-7502. www.michigan electrical.org. First time logging in, use your Social Security Number in the "ID Box"

NEBF/NEAP: 301-556-4300 • IO Pension: 202-833-7000

**NEW WEBSITE** -Local 557's website recently received a refresh and will continue to be updated

2020 ELECTION- The 2020 Election will impact us in so many aspects of our lives. It is the most important election of our lifetime. 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. This is a great option due to increasing COVID-19 concerns as well.

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 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 insurance agent.

Don't forget to schedule your annual physical with your doctor. By doing so, you can help keep the costs of health care down. Registering on the Blue Cross/Blue Shield website is highly recommended. Please take the time to visit www.bcbsm.com. Upon registering you can take the Free Health Assessment test and find instant results that can lead to living a healthy lifestyle.

**BLUE CROSS APP-Down**load 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 (Continued next column) "Rumor travels faster, but it don't stay put as long as truth." –Will Rogers (1879 - 1935) you would like to see noted in this article or something you believe should be published please email the Hall with your request. Ibew906@gmail.com

# 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 themself at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced attorneys to your case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and only fly the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.

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

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

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

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

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

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

www.ssdfighter.com







BAC Local 2

WARREN – The lobbies of our Warren and Lansing offices are now open and we continue to provide services to our members. We



ask that members call to schedule an appointment if they want to come to either one of our offices. We take the COVID-19 outbreak seriously and recognize the importance of minimizing the spread of the virus. 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

CHUCK KUKAWKA

WKA SEPTEMBER 2020 CHAPTER MEETINGS HOUGHTON CHAPTER: Thursday, September 17, 20 DM 27727 Hickway 26 Taiwala MI 40065

2020 at 7:30 PM, 37737 Highway 26, Toivola, MI 49965 **KALAMAZOO CHAPTER:** Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 6:00 PM, 11847 Shaver Road, Schoolcraft, MI 49087

LANSING CHAPTER: Monday, September 14, 2020 at 6:00 PM, 3321 Remy Drive, Lansing, MI 48906

MARQUETTE CHAPTER: Monday, September 21, 2020 at 7:00 PM, 119 S. Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

SAGINAW CHAPTER: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at 7:00 PM at the IBEW Hall, 1300 W. Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706

**TRAVERSE CITY CHAPTER:** Wednesday, September 16, 2020 at 7:00 PM at the American Legion Post #35, 1231 Hastings Street, Traverse City, MI 49686

**DEATHS REPORTED:** Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Brother Robert Lemanski** (Stone Mason) who passed away April 14, 2020. Brother Lemanski had been a member for 64 years.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Brother John Wenzel** (Plasterer) who passed away on April 02, 2020. Brother Wenzel had been a member for 72 years.

**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 can perform the work of our trades are asked to 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 skilled 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.

**\*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.



## **Penobscot Building maintenance**

LOOKS LIKE SOME window maintenance was necessary on Detroit's 47-story Penobscot Building. Workers are shown on the building's sills in 1938, 10 years after the skyscraper was completed. Far down on the streets below are the Michigan Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument, as well as the bustle of streetcars, buses, vehicles and pedestrians at Campus Martius (Cadillac Square, Woodward Ave. and Fort St.).

Photo credit: Wayne State University,

# **Apprentices Needed!**

Free Training for Bricklayers – New Work and Restoration



### Local 514 Cement Masons & Plasterers

Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons Local 514

MADISON HTS. – The next membership meeting will be September 15, 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. The Labor Day Parade has been cancelled this year.

Election Results – July 31, 2020

Business Manager/Financial Secretary- Henry Williams

President – Keino Walker

Vice President – Lance Ryan

Recording Secretary-Mike Stanfield

Sergeant of Arms- Jack McCool

**3 Executive Board members at large-** Juan Hernandez, Chris Richardson, Terrance Smith

We are asking all members to contact the Local with their email addresses, it will be a more efficient way of contacting everyone.

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 now 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 September, 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 \$100.00 refundable deposit required for any cleaning and/or damages that may incur.

Miller Cohen PLC is extending an invitation to our members to participate in free Estate Planning Seminar. Learn about Wills, Trust, Durable Power of Attorney, and Medical Power of Attorney, and Guardian Designation. Contact the Union Hall if interested and a date will be scheduled for the free Seminar.

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

The Local's website is: www.opcmiami.org.

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

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

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

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

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

# TMT RTI CLASSES RESUME WITH REDUCED CAPACITY DUE TO COVID-19, REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

To register for TMT upgrade classes visit detroittroweltrades.org and click Calendar. Classes are filled on a first registered first served basis and will be held on the following Saturdays from 7:00am - 3:30pm: Sep: 12, 26, Oct: 3, 10, 24.

Apprentices, remember that Related Training Instruction (RTI) classes are a requirement of your Apprenticeship, failure to attend will delay your apprenticeship and raises. Additional classes will be added as necessary to accommodate all Apprentices.

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

**METRODETROITAPPRENTICE 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: detroittroweltrades.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.

**MEMBERSHIPASSISTANCE:** 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.

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

-texting 2MI to 877877

-You'll receive a confirmation text asking for your member number (IU#)

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

**MEMBERSHIP GOLF OUTING:** The 7th Annual BAC Local 2 Membership Golf Outing: will be held Saturday, Sept. 12. All are welcome and invited to participate. This outing will be held at Hawk Meadows Golf Course in Howell, 410 E. Marr Rd., Howell, MI 48855. (517) 546-4635. We hope that with this centrally located beautiful course that many of our active and retired members will be able to attend. This will be a casual event with prizes awarded at the end. Please find time to make it out and enjoy a nice day on the course (Continued next column)

#### **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 cable 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.

### BAC Local 2, continued

with so many of our fellow brothers and sisters.

The package includes 18 holes of golf with cart, lunch at the turn, cocktail reception, dinner. The day starts with a continental breakfast/check-in at 7 a.m.; shotgun start, 8 a.m.; lunch at the turn; cocktails at 12:30 p.m. and dinner/awards at 1 p.m. Closest to the pin, raffle prizes, 50/50 drawing, skins, longest drive. The cost is \$60 perperson (dinner included) or \$240 per foursome.

Please return the completed registration form on this page with your check payable to BAC Local 2, and mail to: BAC Local 2, C/O Golf Outing, 21031 Ryan Rd., Warren, MI 48091. The paid reservation deadline is Sept. 4.

For more information contact: Paul Dunford, 248-521-0856, Brett Gierak 248-705-3660 or Shaun Gajewski, 586-601-7539.

**PENSION AND HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION:** Bricklayers Metro Detroit Local Pension Fund (248) 641-4954 Detroit & Vicinity Health Insurance (Brick, Cement and TMT) (800) 435-4080 or (248) 828-6000 (dvtt.org)

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

Cement Pension Fund (248) 645-6550 (detroitcementmasons.org) CALL-A-DOC (800) 835-2362 (D&V Health Fund)

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

"Reading, after a certain age, diverts the mind too much from its creative pursuits. Any man who reads too much and uses his own brain too little falls into lazy habits of thinking."

-Albert Einstein (1879 - 1955)

**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 related questions.

**PLASTERERS AND CEMENT MASONS** It is your responsibility to fill out reciprocity forms if you plan on working out of the local 514 area. This will ensure that your hours are sent back to your home fund. If you have any questions, or need any forms, please contact the Local.

Please make sure your beneficiary information is up to date. Any changes to your beneficiaries can be made at the Local.

If you have questions concerning your pension benefits, **ROAD BUILDERS** can call: Toll Free 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 INTERNA-TIONAL PENSION** Call 1-888-880-8222 Toll Free or (202) 638-1996.

"Don't knock the weather. If it didn't change once in a while, nine out of ten people couldn't start a conversation." –Kin Hubbard (1868 - 1930)

"The only thing that makes

life possible is permanent, intol-

erable uncertainty; not knowing

-Ursula K. LeGuin

what comes next.

"Do not regret growing older. It is a privilege denied to many."

– Unknown





# \$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:** <u>www.bricklayers.org</u> and click on the Signing Bonus page!



#### Laborers 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 online 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 Councils' 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.must online.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



#### Roofers 149 DETROIT - Main Office -

Southeastern Lower Michigan -**Regular Membership Meet-**

ing. The next regular membership meeting is scheduled for Tues. Oct. 6, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., Sep. 29, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Condolences. It is with great sadness and heavy hearts that we inform you of the passing of the following Brother. Brother Tadeusz E. Kowcun, he was 75 years old and a 33-year member. Brother Kowcun passed on 8/24/ 2020.

Scholarship. This year the Joint Scholarship Committee is proud to announce the offering of four scholarship grants, for those planning a post high school higher education.

Those individuals interested in obtaining a scholarship grant, will submit an essay to the Joint Scholarship Committee. The essay should contain 250 words or more. You may select one or more of the following topics: • Roofing Technology - Old vs.

New

• Roofing Safety - Safety practices and their importance • Roofing Impact - What does

roofing mean to you, based on your life experiences?

 Roofing Ethics – Is my parent and/or guardian in a job that matters to society?

The scholarship applications are available at the Union Hall. The scholarship is worth \$1,000.00. All essays must be received no later than September 18,2020.

**Detroit Training Center In**formation. Journeyworkers upgrade classes to improve your skills, your worth, and our Brotherhood/Sisterhood is available at no cost to all Detroit LU 149 members.

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

If you are interested in any of these classes, contact Thomas Jaranowski at the Training Center, 248-543-3847, or TJaranowski @DetroitRoofers.org to make arrangements.

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.



Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25 SOUTHFIELD - REMINDER: We continue to be under the directive of the International Union and pursuant to that directive, the **SEPTEMBER 2020 UNION** MEETING has been cancelled. Continue to monitor the Facebook page for updates.

WEBSITE: The new website is up and running. It can be located at: https://heatfrost insulators.org. 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 McGLONE hoodies. Apparel can be

viewed on the Facebook page. EMPLOYEMNT CHANGES:

hi-vis

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 fifty dollar 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 LIMITA-TION: Please be reminded, per the Plan Document: Each time a participant receives a State Unemployment check, he/she must mail or deliver the receipt, check stub, or a copy of the check to the Administrator's office within thirty (30) days of receipt of said State Unemployment check Any request for a benefit payment past the thirty (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.



## Workers <u>Loc</u>al 207

Abatement Workers Local 207 TAYLOR - Calls for workers are beginning to come in at a better pace as we approach the busy time of the year. 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, **KEVIN** working tele-MEAGHER phone 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 still has a 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.

**Retirement of Long-Stand**ing Business Manager: After 29 years as an officer with Local 207 Dan Somenauer has announced that it is time for him to retire. All of us at local 207 want to thank Dan for his strong leadership and professionalism for taking our Union from its infant beginnings to the strong, respected and powerful Union that we are. Without his guidance we would surely not have the strong pay and benefit programs that we have now! Dan, Thank you again. You are Local 207.

Dan will be finishing his time with us through the end of September during the transition for the new officers, so please feel free to give a call to thank him for all he has done for each and every one of us. Brother, enjoy your retirement you have whole-heartedly earned it. You will be missed.

From the departing Business Manager, Dan Somenauer: Thanks to the membership for vour cooperation and hard work during my 29 years of service with Local 207. It has been a pleasure to serve you throughout these years. Local 207's success has only occurred with the joint





Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 47

LANSING - The Union Meeting originally scheduled for September 11, 2020 has been cancelled due to the current Covid-19 pandemic

To combat and limit the spread of Covid-19, Local 47 encourages all members to continue to work safe, and if you feel sick contact a doctor immediately.

Any retirees wanting to go to work, please call the office.

The Funds Trustees have waived the 79-hour rule.

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 Number: (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



& 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 5 your name will be removed from the list.

Members are urged to report new project starts to the Local Union. Members working for a contractor who may be looking to hire additional laborers are urged to call the Union Hall and help a brother or sister get referred out to work. The next time, it may be your name on the list when that call comes in for work.

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 (Continued next column)

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

**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.

MID-MICHIGANAREA-Clio Office. The next Mid-Michigan regular membership meeting is scheduled for Tue, Oct 13, 2020 at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420.

Mid-Michigan Training Center Information. Journeyworkers upgrade classes to improve your skills, your worth, and our Brotherhood/Sisterhood are available at no cost to all Mid-Michigan LU 149 members.

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

If you are interested in any of these classes, contact Rick Baird at the 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.

#### Local 1191, con't

the office (313-894-2241) to have one mailed to you.

Members who sign up for Vacation deduction and pay 6 months at a time will receive a 1month 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.

"A week is a long time in politics.

-Harold Wilson (1916 - 1995)

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

"Man must evolve for all human conflict a method which rejects revenge, aggression and retaliation. The foundation of such a method is love."

-Martin Luther King Jr. (1929 - 1968)

effort between the administration and the membership. I look forward to my retirement and I leave in good hands with Doug Ripple & Kevin Meagher. I believe they will continue the progressive path for Local 207 in the future. Best to you all and again, Thank You.

**UPCOMING ASBESTOS** TRAINING CLASSES: Asbestos Supervisor Refresher > Saturday, October 3rd. 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, WEAR YOUR MASKS, & FOLLOW THE SO-CIALDISTANCING GUIDELINES! 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.

Under Duties of Apprenticeship, Section 5.3 part L, page 4 of the Apprenticeship Standards states, "According to the Apprenticeship Standards you are required to accurately fill out the online work report for NO later than ten (10) days from the end of the current work week."

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

"The human tendency to regard little things as important has produced very many great things.

-Georg Christoph Lichtenberg (1742 - 1799)

"However beautiful the strategy, you should occasionally look at the results."

- Sir Winston Churchill (1874 - 1965)

"I've always followed my father's advice: he told me, first to always keep my word and, second, to never insult anybody unintentionally. If I insult you, you can be goddamn sure I intend to. And, third, he told me not to go around looking for trouble."

-John Wayne (1907 - 1979)

"Saying goodbye doesn't mean anything. It's the time we spent together that matters, not how we left it." -Trey Parker and Matt Stone

"It is better to wear out than to rust out." -Bishop Richard Cumberland

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PLUMBERS, PIPEFITTERS & HVAC SERVICE LOCAL 357

KALAMAZOO – UNION MEETING: All Union Meetings are cancelled until further notice. The Finance Committee and Executive Board will conduct their regularly scheduled monthly meetings in person.

We will conduct an Informational Zoom Meeting in place of a face to face membership meeting starting at 6:30 pm on September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020. There will be an email with instructions on how to participate in advance of September's union meeting. You can only receive this email if you have given us permission to send you emails. Please call Lori at the Hall, (269) 679-2570, to confirm your email address and/or consent to us sending you emails.

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

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 REG-ISTER 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



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

FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: On

the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of

each month a representative will

be available to meet with mem-

bers from 9 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. and

1-4 p.m. at the union hall. Please

feel free to come in for any infor-

mation you may need on Health

and Welfare funds, Met Life Insur-

ance Policies and miscellaneous.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT.9 THERE

WILL BE NO REPRESENTA-

TIVE FROM OUR BENEFITS

OFFICE AT THE UNION

become eligible for Medicare,

please contact Bernadette Maus

at our Fringe Benefit office 1-888-

**TRAINING CENTER-OFFICE** 

OPENED BACK UP TO MEM-

BERS WISHING TO UPDATE

ANY CERTIFICATIONS. LI-

CENSES OR QUALIFICATIONS.

lowing the State and CDC guide-

lines. You must wear a face mask

**Pathogens Training (4 hours):** 

Monday, Oct. 5 at 5 p.m. This is an

in-person class, at the Training

Center. To register for this class

hours): Monday, Oct. 19 at 5 p.m.

This is an in-person class, at the

Training Center. To register please

the first week of September, the

welding lab will be back to open

labs on Mondays, Wednesday,

and Thursdays. Weld tests dates

are determined as participants

**TESTER CERTIFICATION (40** 

**HRS**): This class starts Tuesday,

Aug. 18 and runs for five weeks

on Tuesday and Wednesday,

from 5-9 p.m. This is an in-per-

son class at the training center.

CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED TO

EIGHT. Contact Retha to register

**CERTIFICATION (8 HRS):** This

class starts Tuesday, Sept. 22 and

Wednesday, Sept. 23 at 5 p.m.

This is an in-person class at the

training center. Please check your

certifications for the expiration

ASSE BACKFLOW RE-

for this class 734-426-3700.

BACKFLOW

show they have the skills.

ASSE

First Aid/CPR Training (4

WELDING LAB: Starting

contract Retha, 734-426-3700.

contact Retha, 734-426-3700.

PLEASE NOTE: We are fol-

Lead/Asbestos/Bloodborne

PHONE: 734-426-3700

inside the building.

MEDICARE: When you

CLASS INFORMATION -

TRAINING CENTER IS

NOTE:

PLEASE

HALL.

390-7473.

Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 190 ANN ARBOR - UNION

**MEETING:** The next regular union is scheduled for Monday, Sept. 14 at 6:00 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI. This meeting will take place outside under a large tent. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

**Due to COVID 19 Pandemic** - There will be no annual Awards Banquet held during the month of September.

MASKS MUST BE WORN WHEN ENTERING THE UNION HALL BUILDING AND TRAIN-ING CENTER DUE TO THE EX-ECUTIVE ORDER.

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

MICHIGAN GAS DISTRI-**BUTION - 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, Feb. 3, 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 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. 2020 - MICHIGAN LI-

**CENSE 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.

UA LOCAL 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



**Pipe Fitters** 

Plumbers & Pipe Fitters Local 370 FLINT - The next Membership Meeting scheduled for September 8<sup>th</sup> has been **cancelled** due to the Governor's order banning inside gatherings of more than 10 people. If this changes you will be notified

Please note that we have moved to our new Union Hall/ Training Center located at 2151 W. Thompson Rd. Fenton MI. and will no longer be at our Pierson Rd. location.

The Local 370 2020 Golf outing was held August 22. A good time was had by all. Congratulations to Jon and Jeremy cook on their first place finish.

**Upcoming Night Classes:** Call Kaytlin to sign up.

CPR/ First Aid classes. Wednesday, September 9th & Thursday, September 10th @ 4pm.

Rigging Class: September 15th, through October 22nd, Every Tuesday and Thursday @ 4:30pm

All Committee and Board meetings are cancelled until further notice.

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

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

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

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

Attention All Active Members in Good Standing. The Joint Apprentice and Training Committee voted to reimburse any active member of Local 370 that takes and passes any training, testing or certification that may be required to perform their work. This includes Rigging, Med-Gas, Back flow or any work-related training or certification expense. Members will be reimbursed after successful completion and verification of the cost. Lost wages will not be covered by the JATC. Plumbing license renewal is still the responsibility of the member. If you have any questions, please contact local 370 JATC. Mobile App. Our mobile app. is now available for download on your cell phone. Go to the app store and search UA Local 370. Download the app and sign in. You can read the latest Building Trades article, see upcoming meeting dates, or pay your dues. This is a work in progress, and we will add more content to the site as we move forward. 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 MUSTB SAFE.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.



Plumbers 98 DETROIT - Membership of

Plumbers Local 98. Brothers and Sisters, On behalf of the officers and staff, we wish you all a safe and happy

Labor Day. LABOR DAY. Just a reminder that the Labor Day Parade and Rally are canceled this year. Labor Day became a national holiday in 1894 to pay tribute to the American Worker, such as all of our brothers and sisters in Local 98. The office will be closing at noon on Friday and reopening on Tuesday morning in observance of the holiday.

MEETINGS. We hope to have a Special-Called meeting sometime in September. Please keep an eye out for an email blast. All distributed allocations are posted on our UA Local 98 web page (UALocal98.com) and went into effect the first week of June 2020. All Retiree Meetings are cancelled until further notice. E-Board meetings are getting back under way on the first Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. If you need to contact or see the board please call V.P. Jim Cools at 734-307-9841.

ELECTIONS. Are you registered to vote? You can check your voting status by logging on to the Secretary of State website, mvic.sos.state.mi.us. You can't bitch if you don't vote! The candidates we are supporting and, most importantly, who will support us are now found under the About section under Political Action on our webpage. Click on either the Build Trades List or our Local 98's list. Local 98 will continue backing both party's candidates who have proven to be true Union supporters. We will continue to update our endorsement list as the election nears.

#### COVID-19. Any concerns with COVID-19 safety protocols or lack of PPE contact the Safety Hotline number at 313-340-7339

Michigan residents have access to free with no copay required COVID-19 testing for members and family. Located at the old State Fair Grounds on Woodward and 8 Mile Road in Detroit, you must call for an appointment at 313-230-0505, our code is 289488PL.

**UNION HALL.** The Union Hall is open to essential foot traffic only at the West entrance. Masks are required and you need you need help.

**Plumbers** 

Local 98

Good/Welfare. We would like to congratulate Brother Ronald Hutchinson who completed his Apprenticeship and is now a Journeyman. Welcome Brother!

We would like to congratulate the 2020 scholarship winners Gary Glaser III, Erika Lindsay, and Katelynn Wiessner.

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

In Memoriam. On behalf of the family of Joseph L Sposita on his passing August 12th, his surviving son Brother Tony Sposita and the rest of our family wish to thank you all for the condolences and phone calls. A great write up was done by the Building Trades Editor Marty Mulcahy in the last paper. What can you say when calls and letters of sorrow are sent from the General Presidents office to the men and women working and retired across this great country. R.I.P. Joe you deserve

In Brotherhood, Carlo Castiglione Business Manager **Plumbers Local 98** 

TRAINING CENTER **NEWS.** Phone # 248-585-1435 Check out The Training

Center's website www.Plumbers 98tc.org

The Apprenticeship Application process is closed until further notice.

The Training Center staff and trustees would like to send out a hearty congratulations to our newest graduates James O'Neill, Kalvin Klein and Ronald Hutchinson, who have completed their Apprenticeships and are now Non-restricted Journey Plumbers.

As the COVID-19 restrictions begin to relax the Training Center is open and slowly returning to normal operations. Please call Paul Baker at 248-585-1435 ext. 123 if you have any questions.

**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 October 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 & October 3, 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 & October 2, 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 January 1 - December 31, 2020 to be eligible for the \$80.00 reimbursement. **OSHA Training -** OSHA 10, available as on an online class for \$25 at www.careersafeonline.com This OSHA 10 class is not affiliated with the UA or our Training Center. OSHA 10 and 30 Hour Training is also offered online through the MUST website. Go to www.mustonline.org. \*\*Be sure to take the Construction Safety courses; not the General Industry courses. It is each member's individual responsibility to keep all their Certifications current. If the person you are trying to reach at the Training Center is unavailable, please leave a message to ensure we can return your call. We attempt to return all messages by the end of the business day.



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 email 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 CON-TRACTORS.

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 Mario Hernandez on the addition of a baby girl, Weslyn Rae.

Congratulations to the family of Derek Beach on the addition of a baby girl, Hazel Grace.

We would like to extend a SPEEDY recovery to Raymond Miner .... Get Well Soon!

**CONDOLENCES:** Last month we lost Jon Saunders and Ken Corliss. Normally we would have read their names off and said the prayer for a deceased member at the end of the September union meeting. In addition to saying a prayer it is customary for us, as members, to stand and share a memory or describe what kind of member they were.

With the cancelation of our face-to-face monthly membership meetings we cannot follow this time-honored tradition. Please take a moment and reflect on our brothers' passing and, if you are a Facebook user, please share your memories on the Local's Facebook page.

#### From Ken Willcutt: My per-(Continued next column)

3.99% is added to your card on the transaction amount. We will then mail you your dues receipt and credit charge slip.

LAID OFF OR BACK TO WORK - IMPORTANT RE-MINDER 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-IM-**PORTANT 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: 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** Local 357, con't

sonal experience with both Jon and Ken was that of mutual respect, as I held them in high regard. They were journeymen ahead of most of us in their skill and in their knowledge of the craft. They would not think twice about sharing their knowledge with you if you asked them a question. I always got sound advice from both gentlemen when I was an apprentice and as a journeyman. God bless these brothers as they rest in thy everlasting Kingdom.

date. A mailing will be sent out. Please contact Retha to register for this class 734-426-3700.

MED GAS INSTALLER UP-DATE (8 HRS): This class starts Wednesday, Sept. 23rd (online) and Thursday, Sept. 24 (in-person) at 5 p.m. Classwork is done online, via ZOOM and BLACK-**BOARD** 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

**ICRACERTIFICATION(16** HRS): This class starts Tuesday, Sept. 8 from 5p.m. - 9 p.m. (online). It will run for two weeks, on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The three classes will be ran through Zoom and Blackboard. The fourth (4th) day is the exam and will be at the Training Center on Thursday, Sept. 17. This certification is for work at hospitals and other medical facilities that require Infectious Control. Call Retha, at the training center to be put on the list.

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

**RETIREMENT CON-GRATULATIONS:** Our member Rodney Eversole initiated on Aug. 4, 2003 and retired Aug. 1 Wishing you good health, good luck and a satisfying retirement.

**CONDOLENCES:** Our lifetime member Raymond Goff passed away on Aug. 16. Raymond initiated on April 13, 1959, retired on Sept. 1, 1991 and became a lifetime member April 13, 2009. May our sincere condolences bring comfort to all family members and friends.

**RETIREE MEETINGS** -**\*\*SPADES and BREAKFAST MEETINGS HAVE BEEN CAN-CELED UNTIL FURTHER NO-**TICE.

**NOTIFICATIONSFORTHE BUILDING TRADESMAN PA-PER:** 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.

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 (Continued next column) to make an appointment to visit. Remember, the Training Center can be used.

We would like to welcome our new office administrator Kristina Lodovisi. I believe with her technical skills, military service, as well as being well versed with politics in our area, she will be a big help once she is settled in

SUBAPPS/OOW Changes. Please fill out SUB Apps electronically now. This can be found on the web page under the Benefits section. The new OOW list is also available at the top of the webpage, just follow the instructions. If you're still having unemployment issues call BAs Gary Glaser or Tom McWilliams. For any member issues dealing with benefits contact Jon DeRoo at 248-762-9238. If you are less than a year from retiring, please set a meeting with Jon today.

LICENSE RENEWAL. For all continuing education opportunities call Training Coordinator Paul Baker at 248-585-1435. BAs Gary Glaser and Tom McWilliams are now admins on the Must/ Most program, contact them if

### Local 370, con't

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.

'I cannot pretend to feel impartial about colours. I rejoice with the brilliant ones and am genuinely sorry for the poor browns.

-Sir Winston Churchill (1874 -1965)

"Man does not live by words alone, despite the fact that he sometimes has to eat them."

-Adlai E. Stevenson Jr. (1900 - 1965)



Plumbers and Steamfitters 85 SAGINAW – The Next

Union Meeting is still to be determined.

On Monday, August 31, 2020, United Association Local Union 85 hosted United States Senator Gary Peters as the Mid-Michigan stop on his Harley Davidson Campaign Tour across Michigan. It was a great event attended by the great friends of Labor. We wish Senator Peters the best of luck in the November Election, UA Local 85 could not ask for a better friend and Representative in the Senate.

Other election news, a postcard of United Association Local 85 Plumbers, Steamfitters & HVACR Service Technicians endorsements will be mailed to you sometime in late September or early October. These endorsements are something we take very seriously, the Leadership of Local 85 does its very best to only support and endorse candidates with like-minded labor views. I am fully aware there are many divisive issues surrounding all politicians, our choices are made solely on what will benefit the hard-working men and women of Organized Labor. Please vote your pocketbooks.

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 IN-TERACTIONS 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 jbadour@ualocal85.org Tim Danielak, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 14

tdanielak@ualocal85.org



Sprinkler Fitters Local 704 DETROIT – The September 9<sup>th</sup> meeting has been cancelled do to Michigan's Executive Order 2020-160. If there are any changes, the Local will send out notifications.

The Annual Labor Day Parade held in Detroit has been cancelled because of COVID-19 concerns. The AFL-CIO are researching an alternative event to take place instead.

Reminder: Article V, Section 13 of Local 704's Constitution, By-Laws and Rules of Order. Any project that falls into the jurisdiction of Local 704 shall be manned by not less than two (2) members. Any member violating this By-Law shall be brought before the Executive Board for a trial and be subject to a fine.

NFPAAll 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.

Congratulations to retire Brother Dave Paul on achieving his 50-year status with the UA and Local 704. Thank you for your years of service.

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.

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



# Local 85, con't



Pipe Fitters 636 DETROIT – There will be No October Union Meeting.

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

The Labor Day Parade has been cancelled due to Covid-19.

Any Member interested in volunteering to Lit Drop (contactless), phone banks (text), post card writing, etc. for our Labor Friendly Politicians for the upcoming General Election, please call Business Agent Sam Cadena @ 248-939-8636

Pipefitters Local 636 Sisters would like to say "Thank you" to all persons who helped support us by purchasing raffle tickets for 2020 Tradeswomen Build Nations Conference Fundraiser. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, this year's conference was cancelled, but the funds generated will help to off-set cost for next year's Conference. The raffle drawing was held at Pipefitters Local 636 hall on August 3, 2020. In attendance were Terry Gilligan, Val Pod, Melissa Leonard, and Theresa Danko. We would like to congratulate the following winners: 1<sup>st</sup> Place- \$300- Dave Forbes 2<sup>nd</sup> Place- \$200- Dominic Agasta 3<sup>rd</sup> Place- \$100- Laura Pernak

Once again, thank you to all that participated in Our Tradeswomen Build Nations Conference Fundraiser. We are looking forward to all your support again.

The Pipefitters would like to extend our deepest condolences to the family of Retiree Brother Michael Moran on the passing of his wife Lois Moran, Lois passed away on Aug. 21, 2020. And to the family of Retiree Brother George DesJardins Sr. who passed away on Aug. 26, 2020.

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

The Retiree Association Meeting for the month of July and all other Retiree Meetings moving forward, have been cancelled until further notice. The election has also been postponed until further notice. – President David Evans

Any member who is Retir-



Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 111

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

The next scheduled union meeting will be on September 24, 2020 at the Escanaba hall @ 7:30 p.m. EST.

We will be following ALL state mandates of the Michigan Executive order by the Governor. Masks will be required so if you plan on attending please wear a mask.

**Condolences:** To John Denton and his fam-

ily on the passing of his brother Jerry.

To the Dantes family on the passing of their mother/grand-mother Beatrice.

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

**Training/Apprenticeship News:** School will be back in session as of September 8, 2020. Please refer to your class schedule for your times and dates.

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** responsi-



MONROE – The next Regular Union meeting is scheduled for **October 1st** at 7pm at the Union hall. The next Executive Board meeting is also scheduled for **October 1st** 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.

Health and Welfare: Due to some very large claims and the continued rise of Health Care, the Health and Welfare Board had to make some substantial changes to our health plan. These changes will come into effect on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. You will receive information in the mail in the coming months

**Congratulations:** We want to congratulate Brother Chris Allore who attained Journeyman status on August 28<sup>th</sup>. We wish him a long and successful career!

**Condolences:** Unfortunately, we received word that Brother Tom Dusseau passed away on August 26<sup>th</sup>. This comes three weeks after the death of his Brother Mitch, who was a Local 671 Member. Tom was initiated in November of 1967 and served as President of Local 671 from 1995 to 2007. He was the Brother of Members, Michael, and Bill and Mitch, and also cousins with Denise Dusseau. His wife Beth and the entire family are in our thoughts and prayers.

We also received word that Brother Tom Zochowski also passed away on August 30<sup>th</sup> after a lengthy illness. Tom was initiated into Local 671 in March 1976 and served on the Executive Board from 1992-1998. Tom was also very well liked and was always there to lend a hand at the Picnic or a Retiree Luncheon.

They will both be sadly missed; it has been a rough couple of weeks here at Local 671 with the loss of three Members





Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 333 LANSING – September's

union meeting is CANCELLED. Please note: Due to the

Covid-19 Pandemic, scholarship award checks will be mailed directly to the recipients from Comerica Bank. If your applicant has not received his/her check by September 1, 2020 please contact Joni immediately at 517-784-1106

Weld Classes will start up in September. If you're interested in taking the weld class please sign up at www.ua333.org or call Trent or Diana at 517-323-0333. There is a \$25.00 fee, please call your respective hall to pay for the class.

Lansing: September 1<sup>st</sup> (Tuesday's & Thursday's) Lansing Training Center, 16180 National Parkway, Lansing, MI. 48906.

Jackson: September 1<sup>st</sup> (Tuesday's & Thursday's) 3101 Industrial Allied Dr. Jackson, MI. 49201.

Battle Creek: September 14<sup>th</sup> (Monday's & Thursday's) (KCC) RMTC, 405 Hill Brady Rd. Battle Creek, MI. 49037.

Weld Tests are the second Tuesday of each month beginning September 8<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 at the Lansing Training Center.

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

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

(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. 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.

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

#### Training Center News: 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 (Continued next column)

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 retiree luncheons are postponed until further notice. Please check the ualocal85.org or Facebook for all up to date information.

Remember you all are essential to me. Justin M. Pomerville

Business Manager/Financial Secretary, Local Union 85 ing, contact Benesys @ 248-813-9800 for your Retirement paperwork or if you want to meet with the Financial Secretary Treasurer, please give him a 7 to 10 day notice so that he can get all of your paperwork in order.

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

**Defined Contribution Pension Plan:** For those members who use the Voice Response Unit, VRU to obtain balance information and transfers funds in your Defined Contribution Pension, the number has changed. The new number for the VRU is 877-410-9984. Plan provider number 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 mustbsafe.org and if it is time for renewal call the Training Center 248-585-0636 and they will register you. Be "ready" when the calls come in. Safety modules and drug tests are paid for by the Contractors Association. WHEN YOU STAY CURRENT WITH YOUR SAFETY MODULES, DRUG TEST AND FIRST AID, YOU WILL QUALIFY FOR FU-TURE BONUS PAYMENTS.

**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 (Continued next column) bility 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 online 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 Ann at (906) 226-6511 ext. 4 to register. MSHA expires in one year.

#### Local 636, con't

**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.

in as many weeks. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families.

**JAC:** The new school schedules for 2020-2021 school year have been emailed out. Instructors and apprentices please check your email and make sure you got them.

Work Opportunities: There have been some travel opportunities available recently. Give Vinnie a shout if you are looking for some work out of town.

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: Please get involved and help Labor friendly candidates get elected this fall; GET OFF the sideline and put your helmet on and get in the game. We are in for a fight this fall and if you think it doesn't matter you are sadly mistaken. Be looking for slate cards coming in the mail. God Bless Local 671 and all of Labor.

Mike Jewell cell 419-262-8503 email: mike@ualocal671.com

Vinnie Fenech cell 734-693-4082 email: vinnie@ualocal 671.com

"Put up with it and you will get more of it." –Lynne Deal

## DOOGIES HATS

WE MAKE THE BEST FITTING, LONGEST LASTING UNION MADE CAPS FOR THE HARD WORKING MEN AND WOMEN IN ALL BUILDING TRADES! WWW.DOOGIESHATS.COM UNION MADE IN THE USA 3655 N. MERIDIAN RD. SANFORD, MICHIGAN 48657 USE COUPON CODE: MTBT2020 TO GET AN EXTRA DISCOUNT! Med-Gas new certification: Please sign up online on our website or contact the training center.

Long sleeve and short sleeve t-shirts available. Long sleeve are \$25. Short sleeve tees are \$20. We have a large assortment of colors and sizes. Zip up hoodies is available also.

Sincere condolences to the family and friends of Dorothy Kill, who passed away August 7, 2020 at the age of 97. Mrs. Kill was the office manager of Local 388, Lansing office prior to the merger which is now Local 333. Are thoughts and prayer are with you.

"On the whole human beings want to be good, but not too good, and not quite all the time."

-George Orwell (1903 - 1950)

"A critic is a gong at a railroad crossing clanging loudly and vainly as the train goes by." -Christopher Morley (1890 -

\_ 1957)

"I am more and more convinced that our happiness or unhappiness depends more on the way we meet the events of life than on the nature of those events themselves.'

-Alexander Humboldt (1769 - 1859)

"Rudeness is the weak man's imitation of strength." – Eric Hoffer (1902 - 1983)

"They can do all because they think they can." – Virgil (70 BC - 19 BC)







Local 174 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & Service Trades

#### West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters & Service Trades Local 174

COOPERSVILLE – Meeting Notice: ALL IN-PERSON UNION MEETINGS AND RETIREE BREAKFASTS ARE CAN-CELLED UNTIL FURTHER NO-TICE. We will continue to do monthly virtual meetings through the members-only Facebook group the first Tuesday of the month at 7pm.

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

UA for Biden: The UA and General President McManus assembled a UA Political Engagement Committee (PEC) to directly engage members across the country in the political process. The PEC is made up of Business Managers, Business Agents, Journeymen and Journeywomen, and Apprentices from all UA trades. That committee examined the two presidential candidates and their positions as related to: Union rights, energy, infrastructure, and retirement security. After several virtual meetings, the committee voted unanimously to endorse Joe Biden for President. Find more info on the process, the issues, and other endorsed candidates at uagetinvolved.org/

**VOTE:** Mail ballots are going out in mid-September 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.mvic.sos.state.mi.us/ avapplication

Fundraiser for Marc Vernick: Cami will be running a fundraiser for Marc Vernick beginning September 1<sup>st</sup> and running thru the month of October. Back Packs and Duffle Bags are available for purchase thru Cami and can be personalized with "UA LOCAL #174". 100% of commissions is being donated to help Marc with medical and living expenses. Please contact Cami at (616) 837-0222, ext. 10 or email cburris@ua174.org for more details.

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 eco-

Medicare Retirees: Effective January 1st 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 September 30th, 2019.

Dispatch: We will be splitting up the dispatch responsibilities between the business agent and the assistant business manager positions. Each person will be on dispatch for 2 weeks. There is a dispatch email: dispatch-@ua174.org which both offices have access to. There is a dispatch phone extension that will switch between the two offices depending on who is on dispatch.

New insurance carriers: Active and NON Medicare Retirees:

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

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

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

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

Contact Info: Please make



#### Painters DC 1M

WARREN - Dear Members: We have been informed OSHA will be visiting construction sites across the state of Michigan and issuing fines on



Take care of ROBERT yourself and GONZALEZ each other.

DC1M WEB-SITE: www.iupatdc1michigan.org DC1M FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/iupat1m

DC 1M UNION CARDS\*

Any questions regarding a lost, damaged Union cards, or have dues inquiries or have not received a card please contact the DC1M offices at:

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

\*LABOR DAY PARADE **CANCELLATION\*** 

Due to COVID-19 concerns the Labor Day Parade scheduled for Monday September 7, 2020 has been cancelled.

**FTIOFTHE GREATLAKES** MICHIGANAPPRENTICESHIP

# 174 cont'd

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

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

Union Hall extension numbers: Ryan Bennett Business Manager ext:12, Nathan Phillips Assistant Business Manager ext. 13, Jason Finch Business Agent ext.14, Chris Pelton Organizer ext.15, Lisa Johnson Accounting Manager 11, Cami Burris Administrative Assistant ext. 10, Training Dept: Jeff Rumsey ext. 16, Nicole Shumaker ext. 30. Training News: The Training Center plans to start scheduling night class after the Labor Day holiday and will be following the CDC Guidelines and the Governor's mandate to wear masks while in the building. We are actively monitoring changes due to COVID-19 and schedules are subject to change based on group restrictions indoors. Med Gas recertification class will begin on Wednesday, September 9 (a) 5:00p – 8:00p with the exam scheduled for Monday, September 21. The class days are as follows: 9/9, 9/14, 9/16 and 9/ 21. The cost for this class is \$49 and is due prior to testing. Crane Signalperson class will begin on Monday, September 14 (a) 5:00pm – 9:00pm with the exam scheduled for Thursday, September 24. The class days are as follows: 9/14, 9/16, 9/21, 9/23 and 9/ 24. The cost for this class is \$75 and is due prior to testing.

#### **Michigan Painters District Council**

The FTI of the Great Lakes will be having Lift training at the Warren Training Center the week of September 21, 2020. Please contact Shawn O'Neill for further information 586-552-4481 or 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 ac-

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

your Union, etc. GET INVOLVED AND PAR-TICIPATE IN YOUR UNION!

OUT OF WORK/BACK TO WORK: To keep work placement efficient, please notify the office when you are laid off or going back to work.

Warren office# is 586-552-4474 or Freeland office# is 810-232-0005. New job starts should be reported to the Union office, please do so.

Get involved. Work smart. Work safe.



Local 357

Glaziers & Glassworkers 357 WARREN - Our next regular scheduled union meeting will be Monday October 5<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.

Everybody have a terrific Labor Day Holiday weekend! There is no work to be performed on Labor Day in accor-

dance with our CBA. This is our union holiday, let's enjoy it! This year's Detroit Labor

Day Parade has been cancelled. Our Local union meeting for September falls on Labor Day. That meeting has been cancelled.

Apprenticeship school has resumed, as of Monday, August 17. Please contact Jeff Flynn, or Rich Oakey if you have questions on the schedule, make-up classes, raise letters, or anything else related to school. 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.



District Council 1M Michigan

#### 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.





**Boilermakers Local 169** ALLEN PARK - The union

meeting will be held in Area Four on Friday, September 11, 2020 at 8pm at the United Trades Building - 119 South Front Street,

Marquette, MI.



The union hall accepts Visa, Master Card, and Discover. Payments can be made both at the hall and over the phone.

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BOB OSHA 10 and HUTSELL OSHA

safety training can now be taken online. Please visit our website www.boilermakerslocal169.com for more information.

Dear Brothers and Sisters, I hope you are all well and following the CDC guidelines to ensure you and your family remain safe during the ongoing pandemic. I would like to congratulate all our graduate apprentices for the Fall class of 2020, the future of our Local is depending on your continued success, so keep up the good work! By now, all members should have received their ballot for the upcoming election in the mail.

Unfortunately, the postage that is usually included on the return envelope was missed. This is easily remedied by placing a stamp on the envelope and placing it in your outgoing mail. I am sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you and encourage all members to fill out their ballot and mail it as soon as possible. Your vote is important, make sure that you participate in our electoral process.

I would like to thank the election committee for their continued efforts, both in preparing the mail out, and the upcoming ballot count, thank you for taking the time to participate in this important function. In closing, I encourage all of you to continue making your best effort to stay safe during the pandemic.

I am pleased to report that our Local has seen a relatively low rate of infection among our members This shows that the protocols and safety measures taken by Union, Contractor, and Member are working. Please stay vigilant, by working together, we will overcome this pandemic and resume our "normal" lives.

nomic 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 3year 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 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. Make sure you specify that you are taking a COVID withdrawal.

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 members 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. 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.

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 / 5:30pm

Lakeshore  $-3^{rd}$  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 agree-(Continued next column)

CSD-1 class will be held on September 28 & 29 with the Hands-On class scheduled for 9/ 30. Class will begin at 5:00pm.

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, September 10 and Thursday, October 8, 2020. 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.

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.

"The secret of being boring is to say everything. -Voltaire (1694 - 1778)

#### – Business Rep- Don Stepp

"Time is the coin of your life. It is the only coin you have, and only you can determine how it will be spent. Be careful lest you let other people spend it for vou.

-Carl Sandburg (1878 - 1967)

"Never let the fear of failure be an excuse for not trying. Society tells us that to fail is the most terrible thing in the world, but I know it isn't. Failure is part of what makes us human.' -Amber Deckers

"Americans detest all lies except lies spoken in public or printed lies.

-Edgar Watson Howe (1853 - 1937)

#### Sign, Pictorial & Display Local 591

Sign Pictorial & Display 591 WARREN - The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Oct. 6,2020 at 6:30p.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 Bylaws

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 back to work: When laid off or going back to work, call the office. 586-552-4474

"Why is it that our memory is good enough to retain the least triviality that happens to us, and yet not good enough to recollect how often we have told it to the same person?'

-Francois de La Rochefoucauld (1613 - 1680)

"Son, always tell the truth. Then you'll never have to remember what you said the last time." - Sam Rayburn (1882 - 1961

"Know how to listen, and you will profit even from those who talk badly.

-Plutarch (46 AD - 120 AD)

"The man who backbites an absent friend, nay, who does not stand up for him when another blames him, the man who angles for bursts of laughter and for the repute of a wit, who can invent what he never saw, who cannot keep a secret - that man is black at heart: mark and avoid him.'

-Cicero (106 BC - 43 BC)

"One of the hardest tasks of leadership is understanding that you are not what you are, but what you're perceived to be by others.

-Edward L. Flom

"The purpose of life is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer *experience*.

-Eleanor Roosevelt (1884 -

"No man really becomes a fool until he stops asking questions.

-Charles Steinmetz





THE FINAL STEEL beam used in the topping out at the Lansing Board of Water and Light's Delta Energy Park had five stars to honor five contractors associated with the project who were killed in a plane crash last year. Photo credit: Lansing BWL

# The iron is up at Delta Energy Park

(Continued from Page 1) six occupants of the plane died in an Oct. 3 plane crash in a field west of Lansing's Capital Region International Airport. The six-passenger Socata TBM 700 airplane took off from Indy South Greenwood Airport at 8 a.m. and crashed about an hour later.

The National Transportation Safety Board and the Federal Aviation Administration have yet to release a determination of the cause of the crash. A report in the Daily Journal said investigators estimated the plane to be overweight before the flight and when it crash-landed, accounting for fuel usage.

The overall \$500 million Delta Energy project by the BWL involves the installation of three natural gas-fired combustion turbines, each rated at 55 megawatts. The new plant will put the BWL on target to lower its greenhouse gas emissions by 20 percent, and allow it to retire its aging Eckert and Erickson coal-fired plants.

Josh Redinger, vice president of Redinger Steel, said his

company has been on the project since mid-February, peaking out at about 15 iron workers. He connected the final beam along with fellow iron worker Nick Place. Operating the cranes were Local 324's Nick Peterson and Doug Paris.

'Aside from dealing with COVID-19, it's been a really nice project," Redinger said. "The iron workers have done really well, and the Lansing Power Constructors set everything up for us; I've been impressed with how well it has been structured."



### Local 8

#### **Iron Workers**

Iron Workers Local Union #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. 414-476-9372.

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** The Membership Meeting will take place by video conference on September 23rd, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. CST. Members can gain access to the meeting at https:// meeting.iwl8.org on the afternoon of the meeting.





### Local 36 Elevator Constructors

#### **Elevator Constructors 36**

DETROIT - ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED that our next regular Membership Meeting was planned for Monday, Sept. 28th, 2020 at 5:30 pm, as of this printing we are having a meeting in the parking lot only, we are seeking alternate ways to communicate if the weather does not cooperate or if a venue opens to accommodate us. Any changes in this schedule or venue will be included in future Building Tradesmen articles and emails. The Local requests your email so we may inform you on any last-minute changes or the possibility of virtual meetings.

All Members, 4<sup>th</sup> quarter dues are due by October 1, 2020. Please remember that there are two International Death Assessments being collected for Bill Rogers, Local 2; and Joseph Crook, Local 63. Please include a extra \$10 to your total for these assessments.

Attention, our NEBA contract will be expiring July 9th of 2022 so we will be having nominations for the Delegates for the 32<sup>nd</sup> General Convention. At our December 28th meeting, per the International Constitution and By-laws. Any Resolutions for the next contract shall be turned into the Hall as per our Local Constitution and By-laws before our February 22<sup>nd</sup> 2021 meeting.

Attention All Apprentices, classes are available as of August 31, 2020 on the NEIEP website. Check your NEIEP email address for additional information. NEIEP will be continuing the next semester with the format of online classes. Apprentices who have completed their classes will soon receive their invite for the Mechanic's Exam and have been sent an e-mail from the Local regarding the Mechanic review courses, if not call the hall. Monthly OJT Forms are still required of ALLAPPRENTICES! 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 your responsibility. This will also result in your appearance before the Local JAC Committee.

Attention All Apprentices, upgrade letters have been sent to all employers. This becomes effective the first full pay cycle after September 1, 2020. Check and verify that you have received your raise at this time

Attention All Members: Check your pay stubs regularly. There have been issues with multiple Employers with proper payments. The hours you are paid should match hours toward vacation, benefits and expenses submitted. All may request a copy of the time you submit, according to Article XI, Par 2. of our CBA. Any changes are to your time are to be documented and given to you, Article XI, Par 1. We recommend all request a copy as issue with payrolls seem to be rising. Document all tests that are due and only tasks you have completed

All Members, Local 36 is working with Local 85, Lansing and the EIWPF 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.

The City of Detroit is open by appointment only for license renewal. 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 or call 313-316-8711. Kurt Johnson has said all licenses expiration dates have been extended during the shutdown. These instructions have been sent to you through email. City of Detroit Elevator Journey Person testing procedures have been updated, an email containing this information will be sent to all. Please keep all licenses current.

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 journeyperson 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!

# Local 25 **Iron Workers**

#### **Iron Workers 25**

NOVI - Labor Day is Monday September 7, 2020, all halls are closed.

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.ironworkers 25.org

MANDATORY TO WEARA FACE MASK IF YOU VISITANY OF THE UNION OFFICES OR UNION HALLS.

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.

Classes at the Local 25 Apprenticeship School have started up again, please go the ironworkers25.org to view the block schedule; we are practicing social distancing protocols, New Apprentice Applietc. cations are being accepted BUT MUST you go to ironworkers25.org, print the to vote," said Benson. "Voting by application, gather documentation then phone the school for an appointment; no walk-in foot traffic. The Wixom Training Center – Phone: 248-960-2130. Welder online Verification: For an accurate and quick review of welder certifications please visit www.welderscertification .org On the homepage click "login" and type "read only" as both your username and password. Once logged on, type the member's book number in the column on the left marked "advanced search," click the "go" button, wait until the name pops up, and then click on the welders first or last name. On the next screen, click "list certifications." Every welding certification the welder has will be available for viewing and you can see that if it has been renewed; it is good until the year 2021. The site also allows you to print out a copy of the welder WPQR if needed. Click on "list test results." Click on the actual test code you want to see and you will see the test details. On that page click "Printable Form" (WPQR) and you can print the WPQR. If you read this please contact the Training Center for meeting credit. The following Events are Cancelled: Detroit Labor Day Parade, and the Labor Day Bridge Walk in Mackinaw. The Annual September Ironworker Benefit Dinner is cancelled. If anyone wishes to make a donation to the ICIF please contact Jimmy Horvath at the Novi Union Hall. Thank you. Pay union dues with creditdebit 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 outdoordues-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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 AF-TER your actual 12-month payment.

Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson stated that all REGIS-TERED voters in Michigan will receive an **application** to vote by mail in the November elections. By mailing applications, the Secretary of State will ensure that no "Michigander has to choose between their health and their right mail is easy, convenient, safe, and

planning a regular meeting for October 15, 2020.

**Diversified Members Credit** Union: Located at 25880 Novi Rd. Phone: 248-344-2560 - CALL FOR HOURS. Services available: debit or credit cards, interest bearing checking accounts, IRAs, CDs, Benefits Plus program, HOME MORTGAGES, low interest loans and part of Co-Op Shared Branching. We have other branch locations in Detroit and Clawson.

Home Mortgages for Union Families: Learn more about the unique benefits available to union members, their parents and children. CALL 866-802-7307, M-F 8am - 10pm EST, Sat 9am -5:30pm EST www.unionplus.org

Those who have passed: Robert Chiles passed away August 18, 2020 at the age of 52; he was an Apprentice ironworker from October 1988 through July 1992. He is survived by his

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. Trov 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 newborn child, or a new dependent child through marriage MUST NOTIFY the Fringe Benefit Office of your new dependent within 31 days.

The next Zoom Union Meeting will be Monday, September 28, 2020 at 7:00 pm. Please sign up as Notifications will go out via the APP. Participation was very good in August and we look forward to more members joining us in September. To participate in the Zoom Union meeting is very easy ... just be sure you have downloaded our APP or signed up for our emails via our website (www.ironworkers25.org). We are leaning toward communication through the PUSH NOTIFICA-**TIONS** – Please download the APP if you haven't done so yet!! Again, via our website!

Unfortunately Steward Meetings are still cancelled until further notice as we adhere to the Governor's revised Executive Orders

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 RECIPRO-CALAND 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.

Apprentices: Fill out your monthlies online at the website

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

Voter Registration - Alternately ironworkers can visit ironworkersvote.org to check their voter registration status, register to vote, and request a mail ballot. This is a service from the national Building Trades and works in every state, so our Members can use it and share it with their Family Members also!

'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.

Curtis Schmidt would appreciate thoughts and prayers for Patrick Allen #1007390 as he battles lung cancer. Best wishes to Patrick from all the Officers here at Local 25.

**ATTENTION RETIREES:** The Novi Retirees regular meeting is "in person" September 15, 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 however. The Novi Retirees Board of Directors meets "in person" September 1, 2020.

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.

The Retirees' Scholarship Fund Golf Outing is September 10, 2020 at Green Hills Golf Course in Pinconning. Golf is \$60.00 per person with cart, payable the day of the event. For registration info call Dallas Compeau 989-737-5518

The Bay City Retirees are

brother Thomas "Bubba" Chiles #1112200. Fred Lapan #1070494 passed away August 12, 2020 at the age of 65. He was a 13-year member prior to his withdrawal in 1994. Gregory Burnett #1237827 was a 23-year member who passed away August 20, 2020 at the age of 67. Carl Weigle # 817293 passed away August 30, 2020 at the age of 74. He was a 51-year member. He is survived by his son Eric Weigle #1197163.

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

To all Union Members: We hope you and your family are safe and healthy. Thank you for all you continue to do to support each other during this pandemic response.

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (8/31/2020 12:00 pm E.S.T.).

"Slight not what's near, while aiming at what's far." -Euripides (484 BC - 406 BC),

We regret to inform all members of the Passing of Honorary Retirees William "Billy" Kantz on August 18, 2020 and Geoff Hughes on August 28, 2020. On behalf of the Local we wish to extend our condolences to their families and friends.

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. Be Safe and Be Healthy !

"The world is moving so fast these days that the man who says it can't be done is generally interrupted by someone doing it." -Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878 - 1969)

"It does not seem to be true that work necessarily needs to be unpleasant. It may always have to be hard, or at least harder than doing nothing at all. But there is ample evidence that work can be enjoyable, and that indeed, it is often the most enjoyable part of life."

- Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi,

"The nice part about being a pessimist is that you are constantly being either proven right or pleasantly surprised."

-George F. Will (1941 - )

"If you have a talent, use it in every which way possible. Don't hoard it. Don't dole it out like a miser. Spend it lavishly like a millionaire intent on going broke."

- Brendan Francis

"My definition of a free society is a society where it is safe to be unpopular.'

-Adlai E. Stevenson Jr. (1900 - 1965)



♦ The call is free. ♦ The consultation is free. ♦ There is no obligation. MILAN & ASSOCIATES, P.L.L.C., a Full Service Organization Offering Statewide Coverage



### <u>Local 292</u> **Sheet Metal Workers**

Sheet Metal Workers' Local 292

TROY - MEETING NOTICE: The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2020.



Member meetings are held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at The Knights of Columbus in Clawson. Check out the calendar tab at www.sheetmetal292.com for the location and date. The E-Board/Stewards meeting is scheduled for Sept. 22, 2020 at 6:00 pm at the Union Hall. \*\*Per the CDC guidelines, masks must we worn and social distancing must be followed during all meetings.

ANNUAL LABOR DAY PARADE: Just a reminder, the parade has been cancelled this year. **ELECTION RESULTS:** Elections were held on

PAUL 8/21/20

GUALDONI Business Manager/FST. Paul Gualdoni Business Agent. Tony LaForest Vice President. Antonio (Tony) Silvestri

Recording Secretary. Chuck Garry Warden/Conductor. Kim Hartman

Executive Board. Dave Pistotti, Tom Paquette, Frank Lewandowski

Union Trustee. Denny Lau, Brandon Whipple, Dean Fournier The term of office will run from the regular membership meeting, Sept. 9, 2020 through the first regular membership meeting in June 2023.

NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS for TWO VACANT EXECUTIVE **BOARD SEATS :** Per Article (12) Section (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 Oct.14, 2020 at the Regular Membership Meeting (Knights of Columbus Hall, 870 N.Main Street Clawson, MI) beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Candidates may be nominated by any member in good standing. A second is not necessary. 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 Oct. 19, 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 Oct. 14. 2020, dues for the month of October must be paid in advance, that is, on or before Sept. 30, 2020.

**RETIREES NOTICE:** The retiree's luncheon will be held Thursdavs 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. Next meetings: Oct. 1, Dec. 3, 2020. Please contact Fred Engelman at fred\_e1@yahoo.com if you would like to be added to the retiree email list.

CONSTITUTION AND RITUAL: The Constitution and Ritual of the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 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 confirma-



Sheet Metal Workers 7

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

The next Statewide Meeting will be held Oct. 8, 2020 at 4931 Contec Drive/Lansing, MI at 6:00 p.m.

SAM

\*Zone 2 –Sept. 15 -6 p.m. (Zoom meeting) \*Zone 3- (Saginaw) - Sept. 9 -6 p.m. (in person mask required)

\*Zone 3- (TCity) Sept. 17- 6 p.m. (in person mask required)

\*Zone 4- Sept. 8 - 6 p.m. (in person mask required) \*Zone 5 –Oct. 1, 2020 – 6 p.m. Meeting (special order of business, mask required)

Please register on our website at www. sheetmetal7.org for the most up to date information FULLER 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.

\*Special Order of Business\* \*Youth to Youth Election\* There will be a special order of business at the regular scheduled SMART Local 7—Zone 5 area meeting held: 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 1, 2020, 304 Avenue A. Gwinn, for the purpose of nominations and elections for one (1) Youth to Youth Committee member position.

\*\*Attention Certified Welders from Zones 2, 3, 4 and 5\*\* Starting April 1, 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 Oct. 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 1<sup>st</sup> or Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>. 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 CERTIFICA-*TION 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.labelitscanitreport.com and download the official app by texting "SMART" to 90975.

ZONE 1 Info: Attention the Sept. 10, 2020 meeting will be a Zoom Meeting at 6 pm. The link will be available on the website at www.sheetmetal7.org or contact your Business Representative. 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. 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. In Solidarity, James Callahan and Eric Farrington.

ZONE 2 Info: Attention, the Sept. 15, 2020 meeting will be a Zoom Meeting at 6 pm. The link will be available on the website at sheetmetal7.org. If you are currently not working please call to make sure I have you on the out of work list and have a good number to reach you. Our next meeting will be Sept. 15, 2020 at 6pm in Grand Rapids. Thank you, Dave Rutz

ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw) Zone 3 is steady, a few nice jobs being bid. Hopefully everyone is staying safe and healthy. It comes with heavy heart to announce the loss of two retirees; Dave Eddy and Don Knowlton, may they Rest in Peace. Thank you, Wayne Stover

Zone 3 Info: (TCity) Our next union meeting will be Thursday Sept. 17 at 6PM. We will be having the meeting outside at the Union Hall. (Weather permitting) The building will be open for bathroom usage. Masks will be required inside the building. If anyone is interested in a CAD Class in Traverse City please call the Fruitport Training Center at (231) 366-7269 to sign up. This has been a challenging



# 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 Sept. 22, 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, Sept. 15, 2020 at 5:00 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Southfield, MI

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

TIM **RETIREE MEETING SCHEDULE: All re-**MULLIGAN maining meetings and activities have been can-

celled for 2020. We will inform you at a later date what we will be doing for 2021. Any questions regarding joining the Retirees Association please contact Steve Murzen at 248-652-0593.

SEPTEMBER RE-REGISTRATION: If you were laid off prior to Sept. 1 you need to re-register to keep your spot on the out of work list. You may re-register at the hall, by email registerlocal80@gmail.com or fax 248-557-0297. You CANNOT re-register over the phone. Please call the hall with any questions.

SUB CHANGES: 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: Drake Wohlfeil, Derek Grout, Anthony Hoskey, David Roland, Keith Viau, Andrew Neece, Gary McNutt, Robert Bates, Ronald Ingalls, Hunter Brotherton & Ron Edwards Jr.

CONDOLENCES: Local 80 sends their heartfelt condolences to the Winters family on the passing of retired member Sam Winters, father of Antoine Winters.

Our condolences also go out to the family of retiree Robert Paquette who passed away on August 17, 2020.

CANCELLED EVENTS: Unfortunately the Labor Day parade is cancelled for 2020. We hope to resume back to normal for 2021.

SMART INTERNATIONAL has announced that they will be endorsing Presidential candidate Joe Biden for the 2020 election.

LAWN SIGNS- We have some Biden lawn signs coming, if you are interested in one please contact the hall.

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.





tion 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.

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 p.m. on the last business day of the month. Payments received after 4 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.

Attention all Welders! We are looking for any member interested in a Saturday welding class September 12 & 26.

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.smwl292jatc.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, however we have scheduled a testing day for Saturday Sept. 12, 2020 beginning at 10 A.M. If you would like to be considered for the Apprenticeship, you must take the exam. The last day to make out an application for this test day is Thursday, Sept. 10, 2020 at 2:00 P.M. Any application not submitted by that time will put in the next available test day, which has not been scheduled at this time.

If you have taken the test at Macomb and want a chance to better your score feel free to contact David Pistotti. You cannot just show up. You must register by calling the Training Center.

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 (Continued next column)

year in many ways for all of us. I hope everyone got to enjoy the beautiful summer we had and Labor Day. The next Traverse City Retirees Breakfast will be held at Willies Rear, Friday Oct. 2, 2020 9AM. Thank you, Travis Eastman

**ZONE 4 Info** Work in the area is good with everyone working, anyone who is not please call me ASAP. 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 SASMI please give me a call. There are jobs still waiting to start across the U.P. and if you are interested there is work in other areas if you want to travel. If you have not already signed up on the Local 7 website please do so at sheetmetal7.org there is lots of good information also you can pay your dues there. If your MSHA 5000-23 safety training has or is about to expire please contact me. Respectfully, Greg Faust

SASMI Information – Zone 3 and 5: Underemployment – Filing for period 2020-A is from July 1 through Oct. 1, 2020. Eligible members who worked less than 650 hours from Jan. 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020 may receive an underemployment benefit. Health and welfare benefits paid on your behalf will be deducted from your benefit. NOTE: Members who received an Emergency Advance Benefit must file for Underemployment to receive the remainder of that benefit for the stabilization period.

For information or applications, contact Travis Eastman at 231-943-5150

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

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

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

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

#### Local 7 Officers:

Samual Fuller (Business Manager/Financial Secretary-Treasurer) 517-882-4064

Eric Farrington (Agent-Lansing/Jackson) 517-242-3223 James Callahan (Agent-Battle Creek/Kalamazoo) 269-342-8842 David Rutz (Agent-Grand Rapids/Muskegon) 616-458-2313 Wayne Stover (Saginaw) 989-692-0002 Travis Eastman (Traverse City) 231-943-5150 Larry Kinzie (Agent-Flint) 810-785-6831

Greg Faust (Agent-Upper Peninsula): 906-372-9288

#### Local 292, continued

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.smwl292jatc.org for more information.

WORKASSIGNMENTS: 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: Lav 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 Sept. 1 through Sept. 20. If you fail to re-register you will be removed from the list.

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

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

Training Center News: Please be advised that Upgrading Classes will resume as scheduled the week of Sept. 14. The Training Center will open every day for class at 4:45pm. At that time your temperature will be taken. Please do not enter the Training Center if you have COVID symptoms, such as shortness of breath, fever, cough, muscle aches, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, sore throat or congestion, or if you have been in contact with someone that has tested positive for COVID-19 within 14 days and you have not been tested with a negative result. Masks will be required at all times and necessary precautions will be in place to minimize the risk of spreading germs.

# Dems' plan 'is the most pro-union platform l've seen in my 50 years'

#### (Continued from Page 1)

tie between Biden and GOP President Donald Trump in a constituency, blue-collar white men, whom Trump heavily carried four years ago. And, Trumka said, Biden learned from Clinton's mistakes of taking both union voters and certain states, notably the Great Lakes industrial states of Michigan, Wisconsin, Ohio and Pennsylvania, for granted. She skipped campaigning in at least the first two.

All four states narrowly went for Trump. Union voters remembered former Democratic President Bill Clinton, her husband, pushing through the jobs-losing "free trade" pact, NAFTA. They also witnessed Hillary Clinton's campaign flipflop on the Trans-Pacific Partnership. They deserted her in droves. In those four states, Trump won half of union family votes, narrowly won all of them overall, and the presidency.

One reason those voters deserted, Trumka said, is they justifiably believed the powers-that-be, in both politics and corporate suites and in both parties, had left them behind. That's persisted, but Biden is addressing it, unlike Hillary Clinton, he added.

'Right now, there's inequality of wealth and wages. There's inequality of opportunity. And there's inequality of power. But you can't address the first two without addressing the inequality of power," first, Trumka explained. "Joe understands that" and understands the way to achieve it is "workers have to have a stronger voice on the job, and that there is a need to grow the economy from the bottom up and the center out, not from the top down.'

As a result, Trumka declared, the Democratic platform, which he helped draft, "is the most pro-union platform I've seen in my 50 years" in the labor movement.

Capehart, however, challenged Trumka by saying those same blue-collar white voters, especially men, saw Trump as blue-collar, too, despite his palatial Park Avenue digs and Mar-A-Lago estate. The AFL-CIO chief replied he believes those voters saw Trump as "a guy who said 'I'll come in and change the rules for you. He's changed them all right. Our (worker) health and safety are threatened. Our wages are threatened. Our pensions are threatened. Our rights are threatened. And workers aren't stupid. When you take away" those safeguards and standard of living, they know it.

But as unionists hit the campaign trail for Biden and running mate Sen. Kamala Harris, D-Calif. - at least in ways the coronavirus pandemic's restrictions will let them campaign - they face another barrier in talking Biden with their colleagues: A 10-percentage point lead for Trump over Biden in handling the economy, despite the current official jobless rate of 10.2 percent, at least 31 million unemployed and GOP refusal to extend the \$600 weekly federal unemployment relief checks through the end of January.

So Biden, Trumka said, must make the case by facing forward, emphasizing platform planks and his own record in proposing and pushing through a large public works job creation program, centered around both traditional infrastructure and green jobs.

Those plans, Trumka again emphasized, are "geared toward working people" particularly blue-collar workers "and giving them a fair shake.<sup>3</sup>

What's Donald Trump gonna do?" Trunka asked sarcastically. "Say 'I lost (you) 12.9 million jobs this year?" That's the minimum number that disappeared when the coronavirus-caused closures plunged the U.S. into the deepest crash since the Great Depression.

The pandemic and its impact will also be a big worker theme on the campaign trail, Trumka predicted. Biden has already started in on that, with a hard-hitting pre-convention critique of Trump's malfeasance and offering his own plan.

It starts with everyone nationwide wearing anti-virus face masks in public whenever outside or in public spaces such as restaurants, stores or hotel lobbies.

Trumka also noted that Trump's predecessor, Democrat Barack Obama, who was Biden's boss, had federal anti-pandemic structures in place. Those structures helped the U.S. respond quickly and effectively to the 2013-16 Ebola pandemic in West Africa. U.S. aid and technical expertise helped confine it there and prevent it from spreading. Trump dismantled the whole apparatus, Trumka said, leaving the U.S. virtually defenseless against the coronavirus, and then ducked responsibility. Trump also wants to send all kids back to school, regardless or anti-coronavirus readiness, or lack of it. "He wouldn't even help us get PPE," Trumka said, referring to personal protective equipment: masks, ventilators, hazmat suits and protective gloves. "We still had to provide these ourselves. Thousands of (union) workers got sick and several hundred have died." Overall, the latest figures from the most authoritative source, Johns Hopkins University, show that as of mid-afternoon Aug. 18, 5.469 million people have tested positive for the virus since the pandemic was declared March 13 and 171,343 have died. "You can't fix the economy" - Trump's mantra - "until you fix the pandemic," Trumka said.

# **Trades upgrade prominent glass box**

#### **By Marty Mulcahy**

Editor DETROIT - The plain, modern four-story "footstool" to the opulent 40-story Guardian Building is getting a update.

Constructed in 1972 to house the long-defunct Detroit Federal Savings and Loan company immediately east of the Guardian Building, the nowempty low-rise former bank building is under renovation for use by another bank.

It will be known as the Capital One Cafe, and include a new facade, a pedestrian-friendly patio and a Peet's coffee shop. It will be Capital One's first Michigan location, located at Woodward and Congress, and will offer branch-like services and financial services like credit counseling.

General contractor Walbridge is managing the 30,000-square-foot building's interior and exterior renovations. The bank will take up 7,000 square feet on two floors. and the remainder will be available for lease. The Elia Group, based in Birmingham, purchased the property last November from Wayne County for \$4.65 million.

"We are extremely excited to bring this project from concept to reality," said Zaid Elia, founder and CEO of The Elia Group. "The property has been sitting vacant for well over 20 years and through a concerted, forwardthinking effort with our team, Wayne County, the city of Detroit, and many others, the iconic 511 Woodward building will once again be a vibrant part of the city's landscape, growing workforce, and visitors.

The building facing Detroit's main thoroughfare, Woodward Avenue, is more prominent than "iconic." Faced with a curtain wall of bronze-colored mirrored glass, the building is hardly remarkable architecturally, and it has twice escaped demolition in favor of becoming a parking lot. The site itself does have some historic significance.

A State of Michigan historic marker at the site marks the installation of the first service by what later became Michigan Bell. The marker reads: "On September 22, 1877, a Bell telephone was installed on this site in the drugstore operated by Frederick Stearns. An iron wire strung along rooftops connected the store with the Stearns laboratory a half-mile away at the foot of Fifth Street. This service, only eighteen months after Alexander Graham Bell patented his invention, was the first to be offered by the organization which eventually developed into the Michigan Bell Telephone Company.

"This is another key piece of property identified in our recovery plan that we are putting back into productive use after it sat idle for years," said Wayne County Executive Warren Evans. "There has been tremendous interest in the building and in Wayne County, and this deal reflects that. We are happy to help attract a national tenant like Capital One to the region. It shows that investing in Detroit and Wayne County continues to make a lot of sense."



WHAT WILL BE the glass-encased Capital One Cafe, which seems like a "footstool" to the tall Guardian Building behind it.



CAULKING WINDOWS at what will be the Capital One Cafe in Detroit are Mike Blatz and Ken Shannon of Glaziers and Glassworkers Local 357. They're employed by Modern Mirror and Glass.



WE ASKED the crew of Iron Workers Local 25 members working at the Capital One Cafe in Detroit to pause what they were doing and gather for a photo. They include (I-r) Jesse Schroeder, Chris Adams and Jeff Hamric. They're employed by Ideal Contracting.



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The renovated structure will have new Low-E glass, the addition of a deep screen wall over the facade, development of an exterior plaza, and a new roof.

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# <u>Outdoors</u> Too much water



SIGNIFICANT EROSION plagued F.J. McLain State Park in Houghton County early in the Great Lakes high water levels crisis. Campsites, a park road and other features needed to be moved away from the shoreline. *MDNR photo* 

#### By John Pepin Michigan Department of Natural Resources From the Porcupine Moun-

tains to Lime Island and Harrisville to Tawas and Van Buren state parks, record or nearrecord Great Lakes water levels have produced powerful impacts forcing the closure of numerous facilities.

These impacts include flooding, extensive erosion and destruction or damage to countless shoreline features, ranging from homes to harbors.

Along with the closure of campsites, trails, roads, boating access sites and recreation areas, high water levels have also created numerous hazards for boaters, swimmers and even wildlife.

"Over the past few years, the rising Great Lakes have posed significant challenges to maintaining our recreation facilities across the state," said Ron Olson, chief of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' Parks and Recreation Division. "In turn, these challenges have increased costs to our already strapped infrastructure improvements budget, even before the additional impacts from the coronavirus pandemic."

Among the noted closures affecting DNR-managed facilities

are more than 20 boating access sites, campsites at Harrisville, Leelanau, Muskegon and Young state parks and submerged electrical conduits at Mackinac Island State Harbor.

Lime Island Recreation Area, in the eastern Upper Peninsula, is closed for the season because of submerged docks, as is the Hammond Bay State Harbor on Lake Huron.

Olson said Orchard Beach State Park in Manistee has had acute shoreline damage, forcing relocation of a historic shelter, which is in danger of falling into Lake Michigan. The storm water drainage system is also being redesigned to help protect the eroding bank. The cost for those activities tops \$3 million.

**Records and reasons.** According to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, except for Lake Ontario, the remaining four Great Lakes and Lake St. Clair each have logged monthly mean highwater records at some point this year. Lake Ontario last hit a record high in September 2019.

Annual water levels, fueled by snowmelt and rainfall, rise in the spring to midsummer – when there is increased sunshine, warmth and evaporation – and then start to decline into fall where

they remain throughout the winter as snow accumulates.

Depending on rainfall dynamics, the waters of all five of the Great Lakes are projected to subside below record levels by the end of the year. Preliminary estimates show precipitation in the Great Lakes Basin was slightly below average in June.

"The primary drivers of water level fluctuations are changing weather patterns and resulting fluctuations in water supply," said Chris Warren, a professional engineer with the Army Corps' Detroit District.

The Great Lakes Basin includes 14,000 miles of shoreline along eight states and two Canadian provinces, with 200,000 square miles of land and 95,000 square miles of water. The basin covers a total of 2,212 miles from eastern Minnesota and northern Wisconsin to the Gulf of St. Lawrence in the Atlantic Ocean.

After more than a decade of low Great Lakes water levels, including record lows, the trend toward higher water began in 2013, marked by a record rise and record highs, Warren said.

Through December 2019, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Centers for Environmental



Information, the preceding 12-, 24-, 48- and 60-month periods were the wettest on the Great Lakes in more than 120 years.

"We're seeing some of the highest water levels in recorded history on the Great Lakes," said Keith Kompoltowicz, chief of the Army Corps' Watershed Hydrology Branch. "And that's the result of very wet weather experienced over the last several years."

Widespread effects. The Michigan Sea Grant website said "even shallow, slow-moving floodwaters can become a major hazard.

"In addition to damaging homes, businesses, power lines, agricultural fields, roadways and other infrastructure, extreme storms and floods can also wash high levels of nitrogen, phosphorus and other nutrients into rivers and streams, where they can lead to harmful algae blooms, give invasive fish and plant species new routes for moving from one water body to another, create damp environments that encourage the growth of mildew, mold, harmful bacteria and mosquito larvae, tempt people to swim, drive, fish, wade or boat in potentially hazardous waters. Fast-moving currents, underwater obstructions and waterborne contaminants can all threaten the health and safety of people who take risks in floodwaters," the website states.

Michigan DNR conservation officers have offered important tips for boaters given the highwater conditions prevailing on many waterways across the state.

"Some of our officers have witnessed vessels attempt to take a shortcut through channels marked by a buoy. Buoys and markers are in place to communicate a change in water levels that could pose a risk to boaters, including obstacles under the surface of the water or shallow water that has recently become impassable," said Gary Hagler, chief of the DNR Law Enforcement Division. "Each conservation officer is assigned to patrol specific areas of the state, so they are familiar with the fluctuating water levels. We recommend researching

the area you'll be navigating and remaining vigilant to all markers and buoys."

Higher waters can cause fast-flowing currents, deeper and colder water, unpredictable conditions and more debris floating under the water's surface – especially on rivers. The law requires that all vessels, including kayaks and canoes, be equipped with a personal flotation device for each person on board.

Task force formed. After a Michigan High Water Coordinating Summit in February, convened by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, several governmental agencies created the Michigan High Water Action Team to facilitate collaboration and resource sharing in response to public health and safety challenges posed by the state's historic highwater levels.

Members of the team include the Michigan departments of natural resources, state police, health and human services, insurance and financial services, and environment, great lakes and energy, in addition to groups representing local and federal officials.

"High water levels affect every corner of the state, from Great Lakes shorelines to inland lakes to rivers and canals," said Liesl Clark, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy director. "There is no short-term end in sight, which means homeowners and communities will feel the impacts for quite some time. The Michigan High Water Action Team will make sure we continue to have robust discussions at all levels of government to help all Michiganders."

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District, said its personnel are "committed to ensuring public safety while providing technical expertise and assistance during this time of high water around the Great Lakes."

The Army Corps has author-

ers ning assistance for floodplain management planning. The Great Lakes Hydraulics and Hydrology Office forecasts and monitors water levels of the Great Lakes and the conditions that lead to water level fluctuations.

ity to provide technical and plan-

Additional concerns. Beyond the Great Lakes, problems with high water levels also have been persistent on inland waters, including lakes and streams. Inland water levels vary from place to place given winter snowfall, the water content of that snow and rainfall amounts. Precipitation also has raised groundwater levels.

"All of this means water has less places to go, and frequency and magnitude of flooding events can increase," said the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy's webpage on high water.

In addition to numerous hazards that may be encountered by boaters given high water levels, swimmers and waders can underestimate the strength and power of lake currents leading to dangerous and tragic circumstances.

There have been more than 50 drownings reported on the Great Lakes this year, most from Lake Michigan.

Impacts to wildlife. High water also can produce negative circumstances for wildlife.

DNR wildlife biologists say many wildlife species are adaptable and can relocate when high water threatens their habitat. However, some ground-nesting birds like eastern meadowlarks, wild turkeys, mallards and piping plovers can experience nest failures when flooding occurs, which can mean the loss of young birds.

Wakes generated by watercraft also can have harmful impacts for wildlife. To help alleviate flooding, wake restrictions are in place to protect shoreline habitat for fish and animals.



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