

# THE BUILDING TRADESMAN

Official Publication of the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council



VOL. 73, NO. 8

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April 19, 2024

## SHORT CUTS

### Support bond issues in 2 districts

Building trades workers in the Hazel Park and Huron Valley school districts are urged to support major bond issues that will appear on the May 7 ballot. In the Huron Valley School District in Oakland County, voters will be asked to approve a \$362 million bond proposal that would fund construction of a new middle school, the remodeling of an existing middle school and other improvements to school buildings.

The district has a track record of working with union contractors, and is poised to work with Clark Construction if the bond issue passes.

In the Hazel Park School District, voters are asked to support a \$150 million bond issue. The money would pay for construction of a new elementary school, and improvements to nine other sites owned by the district.

### Consumers touts new large solar site

JACKSON – Consumers Energy and the Muskegon County Resource Recovery Center announced last month the formation of a partnership to develop the company's first large-scale solar project. It will begin construction in April and be fully operational in 2026.

The Muskegon Solar Energy Center will be a 250-megawatt facility, sufficient to power about 40,000 homes.

"Consumers Energy has some of the most aggressive clean energy goals in the nation, and projects like this are a critical part of achieving those goals," said David Hicks, Consumers Energy vice president of clean energy development. "Partnering with an organization like the Muskegon County Resource Recovery Center, with its long history of service to the county, combined with the benefits of solar energy and the revenues this agreement can provide, is truly a win-win for all parties."

The project will use about 1,900 acres of land within the Resource Recovery Center's footprint, in partnership with Moorland Twp., which is about 10 miles west of Muskegon.

The Resource Recovery Center is a one-of-a-kind facility that has reliably treated wastewater in the region for 50 years and includes a working farm that utilizes spray irrigation on crops as part of the treatment process.

### Nice report for U.S. employment

The U.S. economy gained 303,000 jobs in March, and the unemployment rate was down slightly, to 3.8 percent, according to figures released April 5 by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

March's biggest job gains were in health care (+72,000), leisure and hospitality (+49,000), construction (+39,000), retail trade (+18,000), other services industry (+16,000) and social assistance (+9,000). Employment showed little or no change over the month in other major industries.

"Strong jobs report out this morning with great news from both BLS surveys," said Economic Policy Institute Senior Economist Elise Gould. "The household survey finds mild improvements in the unemployment rate as participation and employment rise."

### Quotable

"Never put off 'till tomorrow what you can do the day after tomorrow."  
—Mark Twain (1835-1910)



## 685 feet up, trades top out steel on Hudson's Site tower

DETROIT – The Hudson's Site commemorated a historic milestone as the final steel beam was raised on April 10, securing its place as Detroit's largest ground-up development in the past 50 years.

As owner and developer Bedrock put it, it's "a feat that would not have been possible without the skill and commitment of more than 3,500 tradespeople, who put in more than 2,700,000 hours of recorded labor."

"The talent and dedication of Detroit's tradespeople has been a driving force on the Hudson's Site and integral to achieving this landmark project," said Dan Gilbert, founder (Continued on Page 12)

**IRON WORKERS Local 25 members employed by Barton Malow place the final structural beam atop the Hudson's Site tower in Detroit.** Photo credit: Bedrock

## Teamwork lauded as Ultium plant observes 2 million hours worked

Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

DELTA TWP. – Last month, the massive Ultium Cells battery plant site here observed the milestone of 2 million construction build-hours worked by skilled Hardhats at the site – and among them, the talents and contributions of a significant contingent of women in the trades.

Ultium Cells, a joint venture between General Motors and LG Chem, has been under construction for nearly two years and will mass-produce Ultium battery cells at the facility to power GM's electric vehicle manufacturing in the U.S.

Tradespeople better be wearing comfortable boots at the \$2.6 billion plant: at 2.8 million square feet, its footprint takes up the size of 48 football fields near GM's Delta Assembly plant off of Davis Hwy. east of Lansing. The 2 million man-hours and women-hours worked so far represents the equivalent average of 1,000 Hardhats working on the job every day.

Barton Malow is managing the project. Construction Manager Chris Peterson said on March 18 that the milestone signifies much more than meets the eye. "The true celebration at this time in the project is not in the two million craft labor hours alone but rather in the teamwork and cooperation that has been performed collaboratively among the client, contractors and local union labor to achieve what we have (Continued on Page 3)



SOME OF THE WOMEN union electricians working on the Ultium Cells battery plant near Lansing who took part in the site's Women in Construction events last month. They include front (l-r) Carrie Talbott (IBEW 665) and Paula Linse (IBEW 275); middle (l-r) Shaminta Gamble (IBEW 134) and June Docher (IBEW 728), and back, Karen Tully (IBEW 498).

Photo credit: Carrie Talbott

## Barton Malow recognizes women constructing Ultium battery plant

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

DELTA TWP. – It wasn't that long ago that "man-hours" was the accepted way to describe the total amount of time workers toiled on a construction project in a given period.

It's a vanishing term, as evidenced by Barton Malow's use of "work hours" last month to describe the 2 million work hours that have been spent building the Ultium Cells plant near Lansing. The change in language is a small but important part of the workplace, which has seen a slow but steady progression of women taking on positions in the building trades. And their contributions to the construction industry are being recognized every year during "Women in Construction" weeks that have been held in early March since 1998.

At the Ultium plant, for the second straight year Barton Malow and other contractors at the site sponsored a program to let women (Continued on Page 13)



NEARLY TWO YEARS of construction has yielded what amounts to a great start to the 2.8 million-square-foot Ultium Cells' Lansing plant – but there's still nearly two-thirds of the project left to complete. Ultium Cells, a joint venture between General Motors and LG Chem, will mass-produce battery cells at the facility for the automaker's electric vehicle fleet.

Photo credit: Ultium Cells

## Under one roof: trades erect multi-use building for tribe

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

WILSON – A new union-built health clinic and government services building is on the way in the Upper Peninsula for the Hannahville Indian Community. Miron Construction Co. is

managing the 60,000-square-foot project, which is being erected just east of the east of the Potawatomi Heritage Center and south of the Island Resort and Casino. The new Governmental Services and Health Clinic Building will include

tribal courts, a food pantry, tribal government offices, and a health, dental and vision center.

"We have been growing the past 30 years and with that, all of our services are spread out. We would like to combine all the services and bring it to one

location," said Tribal Chairman Kenneth Meshigaud when ground was broken last May.

Said tribal Director of Health and Human Services Susie Meshigaud: "We want to bring more services to the community and expand our services to the sur-

rounding communities. Right now, our health center is maxed out. We just want to make sure our members are taken care of."

Located about 20 miles east of Escanaba, the new building will address all manner of tribal needs (Continued on Page 2)



THE HANNAHVILLE INDIAN Community's new Governmental Services and Health Clinic Building will put a number of tribal functions under one roof. Miron Construction is managing the project.

SETTING PIPE in the ceiling of the Hannahville Indian Community's new Governmental Services and Health Clinic is Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 111 member Andrew Guesserd. He's employed by Berger & King, Inc.

Photo credits: Jack Deo



## How to grow nation's unions: spend more money, effort on TCB

By William B. Gould IV

In some respects, 2023 was the year of labor unions, putting to rest the widely held idea that labor organizations are dinosaurs of the forgotten past.

Successful strikes (or the threat of them) last year produced handsome collective bargaining agreements with double-digit wage increases, working conditions enhancements and the restoration of cost-of-living increases for unions such as the United Auto Workers and the Teamsters. In Hollywood, lengthy strikes produced new protection against AI for writers and actors.

You would think these gains signaled a rebirth of the labor movement. But thus far, they have not moved the needle away from union decline. From labor's zenith in the mid-1950s, when it represented 35 percent of the workforce, membership plummeted to an all-time low of 10 percent in 2023, according to data from the Bureau of Labor

Viewpoint

Strictly business for unions – Success lies in meeting needs of members, and potential members

Statistics. In the private sector, it's only 6 percent.

This is the stark reality the morning-after 2023. And even if new agreements produce new union members, 2024 holds relatively few rounds of important collective bargaining at the national level. A new strategy is required.

First, let's look at what unions have been doing right: During the past couple of years, organized labor has not only been audacious in its revived use of the strike; it has also engaged in more organizing in sectors where it had previously feared to tread: (Continued on Page 3)

## 'Threat from Detroit' – Fighting words from Alabama governor should be point of union pride

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

Some Southern governors have nooo problem expressing their loathing of labor unions.

The latest unprompted salvo came earlier this month from Alabama's Republican Gov. Kay Ivey, who voiced her displeasure with a potential incursion from the UAW at the Mercedes Benz plant in Tuscaloosa.

On April 5, workers there filed a petition with the National Labor Relations Board to hold a union representation election.

"It's no wonder the UAW wants a piece of the pie here in Alabama," the governor's office posted on social media. "And let's be clear about something: This threat from Detroit has no interest in seeing the people of Alabama succeed, our OEMs succeed, and in turn, the state to succeed like we are now."

Ivey's shot at Detroit and the UAW was a response to an *AL.com* article, which said that Alabama has become the No. 1 state in manufacturing and exporting passenger vehicles. Alabama shipped out more than \$11 billion in vehicles last year, sur-

UAW seeks to raise wages, and end the 'Alabama discount'

passing the former leader, South Carolina. Michigan was third at \$5.94 billion. Those numbers are according to World Institute of Strategic Economic Trade.

Building on its successful contracts negotiated with the Detroit Three automakers last year, the UAW is pointing to those lucrative contracts and pushing their way into the South – where every single automotive plant is nonunion. And workers are noticing.

"It's sad that our governor thinks so little of Alabama workers, that we're only good for cheap labor," said Jeremy Kimbrell, a Mercedes worker and member of the volunteer organizing committee to unionize with the UAW. "We know better, and that's why we're choosing to unionize and end the Alabama discount."

Further along in the organizing process, the UAW was scheduled to hold a secret ballot vote at VW's Chattanooga, Tenn. (Continued on Page 2)

## Viewpoints



### ALEC is back, ugly as ever

State lawmakers seeking to dismantle unions and implement anti-worker laws have just been handed a new state-by-state roadmap by the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), the corporate-funded bill mill popular with Republican legislators.

Although ALEC claims that its proffered labor reforms are designed to protect “worker freedom and flexibility,” its attacks on workers over the past 50 years have made it harder for them to organize, harder for local governments to support decent-paying jobs, and easier on big business.

Those attacks, bankrolled by Koch Industries and right-wing donors such as the Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation, are motivated as much by the desire to protect corporate bottom lines as by the determination to eviscerate a key supporter of the Democratic Party: labor unions.

ALEC has paid particular attention to public sector unions by peddling model bills that prohibit paycheck deductions for dues, mandate high membership thresholds, and introduce automatic decertification, among other anti-labor measures.

The first edition of ALEC’s labor policy handbook, which was published in 2019, came on the heels of the Supreme Court’s momentous 2018 *Janus* ruling, which radically upended the lives of American workers by maintaining that public sector employees do not have to pay union dues as a condition of employment.

The second edition, published this year, adds three model bills to expand the scope of ALEC’s key anti-labor policies. In addition to its evergreen model “right-to-work” and union-busting bills, the updated edition includes bills that target independent contractors and occupational licensing. Two of these address interstate occupation licenses, with one setting up a process for reviewing all current and proposed occupational licenses.

One of ALEC’s most recent anti-worker policies, which was introduced at last summer’s annual meeting, blacklists any company that voluntarily recognizes a union to keep it from qualifying for state economic development incentives. However, this policy is not included in the newly released handbook.

Since 2019, ALEC’s anti-labor priorities – including its state-level right-to-work and anti-union bills – have had a significant impact on workers and workplaces. With the imprimatur of Gov. Ron DeSantis (R), the Florida legislature passed some of the most regressive labor legislation in recent history last year. The Florida bill – which is highlighted as “noteworthy legislation” in the new handbook – empowered the state to decertify public sector unions, prohibit automatic deductions for union dues, mandate universal language on union membership cards, and impose considerable annual reporting requirements, all key items on ALEC’s anti-worker wishlist. A recent investigation found that since the law passed, more than 42,000 public sector workers in Florida have lost their union representation.

A Louisiana bill outright banning collective bargaining for that state’s public sector workers is currently making its way through the state legislature. It comes amidst a flurry of other anti-union bills that feature some of the most regressive features of ALEC’s model bills: banning the automatic deduction of dues, requiring the regular recertification of existing bargaining units, and all but outlawing political lobbying.

**Permanent precarity.** The new model bills included in the second edition focus on promulgating precarious employment through independent contracting laws and occupational licensing reforms.

These have been introduced in at least seven states this legislative session: Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Mississippi, North Carolina and Oklahoma.

ALEC claims that its model bill addressing self-employment in the gig economy – known as the Uniform Worker Classification Act – “ensures that the 80 percent of workers who prefer their independent contractor status are able to keep it, rather than being forced into traditional employment models.”

Big business groups have long sought to maintain the status quo of workplace insecurity faced by the vast majority of gig workers. “It is in the best interests of this state, workers, and businesses for there to be certainty regarding the legal status of workers and their applicable rights and obligations,” the model bill states.

ALEC’s advocacy arm, ALEC Action, worked to oppose the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act of 2021. “Increasing barriers to independent contractor status would deprive millions the flexibility and entrepreneurial opportunity available through innovations such as the ‘gig’ economy,” an open letter organized by ALEC Action stated.

California’s Assembly Bill 5 (AB5), signed into law in 2019 by Gov. Gavin Newsom (D), has required many employers to reclassify independent contractors as employees. Backed by Julie Su, then the state’s labor secretary, it drew widespread criticism from big business and conservative think tanks. A joint friend-of-the-court brief submitted to the U.S. Supreme Court by Charles Koch’s right-wing advocacy group Americans for Prosperity (AFP) along with the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), New Jobs America, and the Independent Institute challenged AB5, but the court declined to hear their case.

Four years later, when President Biden nominated Su to join his cabinet as labor secretary, her earlier role in promoting gig worker protections in California doomed her candidacy.

Despite the Right’s concerted and coordinated effort to fund anti-worker groups such as ALEC, the tides may be turning, with a national resurgence of interest in unionizing and big wins last year for auto workers at GM and Ford, along with writers in Hollywood.

In 2023, Michigan overturned its right-to-work law, which allowed free-riders in all private sector workplaces. And even outside of true-blue states, which regularly implement stronger labor laws, purple states such as Nevada are making it easier for workers to have a voice at their workplaces.

*Juliana Broad  
In These Times*

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## Trades erect multi-use building for tribe



LEVELING A DUCT section at the Hannahville Indian Community’s new Governmental Services and Health Clinic Building is John Jacobson of Sheet Metal Workers Local 7. He’s employed by Berger and King.

Photo credit: Jack Deo

(Continued from Page 1)  
when it opens in late summer.

“The big driver for this project, from the owner’s standpoint, is to bring together offices, people and functions into one location,” said Miron Project Manager Trevor Poupore. “Right now at the site, there’s a lot going on, but everything is going according to plan.”

Poupore said a variety of trades crafts are on site, performing mechanical, electrical and plumbing rough-ins, as well as interior finish work, among the multitude of tasks going on during what he termed the “thickest” part of the schedule.

“We’re probably at about the peak level for tradespeople on site, about 35-40 right now,” he said earlier this month. “And they’ve been very good, we have no issues with their work. We’ve had a very successful project.”

## Fighting words from Alabama governor

(Continued from Page 1)  
plant April 17-19.

Similar to Alabama’s governor, Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee said on April 8 that the VW workers shouldn’t “risk their futures” by choosing UAW representation, and that joining the union would be “a big mistake.”

And when she was governor of South Carolina in 2010, Nikki Haley (R) famously laid out the welcome mat for employers choosing the low-wage road at the expense of workers, and unions. “If you come to South Carolina, the cost of doing business is going to be low here,” she said at the time. “We are going to make sure that you have a loyal, willing workforce, and we are going to continue to be one of the lowest union-participation states in the country.”

South Carolina continues to perennially have the lowest union participation rate in the country.

The UAW said more than 10,000 nonunion autoworkers across 14 Southern auto companies have signed union cards and have begun organizing to join the UAW in the wake of the historic Stand-Up Strike victories at the Detroit Three.

A statement from the Mercedes Benz workers at the Alabama plant said: “We haven’t taken this step lightly. For years,

we’ve fallen further behind while Mercedes has made billions. After 2008 and 2009, some of our coworkers were forced to leave the company. Consecutive CEOs said they’d be brought back once things improved. Things did improve, but they were never allowed to return and were replaced

within six months by temporary workers at half the pay. These same temporary workers then worked for up to eight years before receiving full time jobs.

“Also during this time, our management gave us a 42 cent raise over a six year period while making record profits. And

these same record profits weren’t enough to prevent Mercedes from imposing an unfair two-tier pay scale just as our children were entering the workforce. We’ve learned that we can’t trust Mercedes with our best interests.

“There comes a time when enough is enough.”

## A slow-moving asbestos ban

By Jim Hightower

If your home or business is suddenly being engulfed in flames, you count on a quick response from the fire department.

But who rushes to aid firefighters when so many of the burning buildings they enter are contaminated with chrysotile asbestos – a cancer-causing product so deadly that it’s banned in over 50 countries? So far, no one.

This nasty toxic (widely used in construction materials, car parts, and even water systems), infiltrates lungs and kills some

40,000 Americans a year, especially firefighters. For the last 30 years, victims, health advocates, and others have been pushing to stop using the deadly stuff – but chemical profiteers and the politicians they pay kept defeating these efforts.

In 2016, though, Congress finally empowered the EPA to ban it.

Great! But that same year, Trump happened. With his usual deep analysis, concern for workers, and respect for science, he mindlessly proclaimed asbestos “100 percent safe,” even declaring that the movement to ban it was “led by the mob.” Thus, his EPA did nothing... and deaths continued.

Then came Joe Biden, and – Hallelujah! – EPA has now announced that it is “finally slam-

ming the door on manufacturing, importing, and using chrysotile asbestos.” When? Twelve years from now.

What? Yes, that’s a very sloooow-motion slamming. Biden wanted the ban to take effect in two years, but industry lobbyists screeched. So, our government chose not to “rush” to aid firefighters and others who’ll be killed by this policy of putting corporate profits over their lives.

Remember this whenever political hucksters demand that you vote to eliminate “regulatory burdens.”

Burdens for whom – asbestos peddlers or firefighters? And beware: Here comes Trump again, promising to eliminate public regulations if he’s elected. Really? Who will benefit from that?

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### Just joking

On the first day of the new semester in college, the dean addressed the students, pointing out some of the rules.

“The female dormitory will be prohibited for all male students, and the male dormitory will be prohibited to the female students.

“Anybody caught breaking this rule will be fined \$50 for the first time. Anybody caught breaking this rule the second time will be fined \$100. A third offense will cost \$200. Are there any questions?”

At this a male student piped up from the back of the crowd, “and how much for a season pass?”

•••

I accidentally swallowed some Scrabble tiles. Now I’m experiencing constant vowel movements. My next trip to the bathroom could spell disaster.

•••

Argon walks into a bar. The bartender said “Hey, get out of here, we don’t serve noble gases!” Argon didn’t react at all.

•••

**The Building Tradesman** ISSN-007-3717  
is the Official Publication of the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council

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Visit our website: [www.michiganbuildingtrades.org](http://www.michiganbuildingtrades.org)

The Building Tradesman is published bi-weekly (every other Friday) by the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council, Detroit office. 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216

Subscription Rate \$15 annually (group rate for unions)

**The Building Tradesman**  
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**MICHIGAN BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL**  
BUILDING MICHIGAN UNION

Printed at Grand Blanc Printing, a union shop

Periodical mail postage paid at Detroit, MI and additional mailing offices.

# BUILDING MICHIGAN: Munising Woodenware Co. HISTORY IN THE MAKING

By Marty Mulcahy



MUNISING HAS ALWAYS been the gateway to the Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, but in the first half of the last century, it was the site of the Munising Woodenware Co., maker of its signature decorative bowls and all manner of other wood products for the home. The plant included a number of structures, including a steam-heated log pond, a sawmill, a bowl carving and painting operation, a factory, a kiln, and a warehouse and shipping facility.

Wooden kitchenware – plates, bowls, serving forks, ladles – were once a thing a few decades ago. And even today, some of our readers of a certain age might still be serving green beans or eating potato chips out of wooden bowls that are still in their cupboards.

It's not difficult to see why wooden tableware has been mostly supplanted in our kitchens by china, ceramic, glass or even paper products. Wooden ware requires a bit of maintenance, can more readily harbor bacteria, and can't be put into a dishwasher – none of which seemed to matter much to many housewives a century ago, and even sooner.

Wooden kitchenware was once a big seller – and the folks at Munising Woodenware Co. used Michigan's ready supply of forest raw materials to give the people practical products they used then – and collect now.

"Spread out along Lake Superior's southern shore, on a crescent of land flanked by forested hills, Munising is considered by many to be one of the Upper Peninsula's most scenic small towns," says a 2013 Michigan Historical Society article by Linda Wirtanen Fitzgerald. "But among folk art aficionados, it enjoys a different kind of fame. They know it as the former home of the Munising Woodenware Co.: the source of Munising-brand bowls and other household items so popular among collectors nationwide."

The Munising Woodenware Co. originated downtown, in Kalkaska. There, in 1877, entrepreneur and inventor William C. Freeman founded the Freeman Woodenware Factory. In 1908, with northern Lower Michigan gradually running out of prized hardwoods such as beech, birch, and maple, Fitzgerald said the company's new owners – Milton Bonz and John Cavitch – looked to the U.P. to find more raw material for their products. In 1911, they relocated their manufacturing operations to Munising and incorporated under the name Munising Woodenware Co.

"In just six months," Fitzgerald wrote, "the new factory was up and running with a crew of 40 men, turning out wooden butter bowls, butter prints, potato mashers, paper roll plugs, and rolling pins. The company's logging facility in nearby Chatham was also nearing completion, and 500,000 feet of logs were waiting to be processed at that site."

By 1916, the firm merged with the Munising Veneer Co., and the company employed 250-300 workers. Starting pay for Woodenware workers was approximately 25 cents an hour, and workdays ran from 6:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.

An early company catalog from the time, advertising "Su-



WOODEN BOWLS are decorated at the Munising Woodenware shop, date unknown.



A PAINTED Munising Wood Products bowl.

perior Quality Woodenware," featured 65 separate products – a number that would eventually grow to more than 400. A 1920 company catalog sold not only "polished maple bowls," but also "oblong butter molds" to make a brick cakes of butter, "Number Ten spades" for cutting lard, "steak mauls" for tenderizing meat, "fruit-butter stirrers," and "sanitary pickle dippers" presumably for picking pickles out of a barrel. And what kitchen was complete without a "kraut stamper?"

And among their non-food related products, the company sold towel racks, soap dishes, salt boxes, yarn holders, churn dashers, and clothespins. During World War II, Munising Woodenware made 50 million wooden tent stakes for the war effort.

Alger County's "Munising Wood Products" web page presented a chronology of the company. "The factory closed over 50 years ago, yet there's still a lot of the products around," wrote Munising native Joel Graber.

In 1934, the Munising Woodenware Co. merged with the Piqua Handle and Manufacturing Co. of Marquette, and operated under the name Piqua-Munising Wood Products Co., with main offices in Cleveland. In 1940, Piqua-Munising declared bankruptcy, but production continued in both Munising and Marquette. The new buyer of the wood-works: oddly enough, the Cleveland Cliffs Iron Co., which had been a majority owner of the Piqua-Munising operation. It then became known as Munising Wood Products, with the main offices moving to Marquette.

In 1945, "determined to boost flagging sales and expand their market, the new owners ushered in what was then a

novel concept: painted bowls,"

Fitzgerald wrote. "The company's first designs included hibiscus flowers, strawberries, Pennsylvania Dutch motifs, and an apple-pear-plum fruit combination. The decorated bowls quickly captured the buying public's fancy – as did the painted lazy Susans, rolling pins, and other household items that bore the Munising insignia. As the market for these products grew, so did the number of design options. Within a few years, the art department had added ivy, birds, roosters, grapes, pine cones, and even carved geometric shapes to its repertoire."

The decorated bowls concept only lasted for a decade. "The introduction of plastic, along with inexpensive wooden imports, proved too much competition for the Munising Wood Products Co.," the Alger County history said.

"In 1955," Fitzgerald wrote, "in the wake of plummeting sales and labor disputes over wages and working conditions, the Munising operation closed its doors. Five years later, the Marquette factory shut down as well." The closure took away jobs from 175 workers.

While some of their products are no doubt still in use on dining room tables, various pieces of Munising Woodenware have become quite collectible as folk art. The company's name was usually stamped on bowls, and today "prices can vary from cheap to around \$100, depending on their size, condition and patina," said one collector's website.

The Munising campus, located on what is now Mill Street, was demolished in 1962. In Marquette, the senior high school sits on the company's former location.

"Woodenware artifacts can also be found on display in antique shops across the state and the country," Fitzgerald wrote. "They are sold on eBay. They are auctioned off at estate sales. And they are handed down as family heirlooms."

"So it is that these modest, eminently practical pieces of folk art continue to grace thousands of homes – an enduring and colorful legacy from Michigan's Upper Peninsula to the world."



LOGS TAKEN IN from local hardwood forests in the Upper Peninsula fed the Munising Woodenware Co. plant. An "edgerman" cut the optimum wood out of each piece. Lower-quality "cull wood" was sold by wagonloads to Munising residents, who burned it for cooking and heating. Except for the pieces used to make Munising bowls – which were always hewn from malleable green wood – the cut logs moved on to a kiln for drying. From the kiln, a trimmer sent the cured chunks of wood to various departments dedicated to the production of rolling pins, plates, clothespins, and other items.

## 'Blockbuster': Construction's start in 2024 lauded – even by the ABC

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

Passing the first quarter of 2024, the U.S. construction industry is doing just fine, thank you.

Construction added 39,000 jobs in March – the most since January 2023 – with gains among all five types of residential and nonresidential categories. Construction employment in March totaled 8.21 million, and the first quarter was helped by an upwardly revised February total. The sector added 11,000 jobs in January and 23,000 jobs in February – part of a total of 270,000 jobs during the past 12 months, a 3.4 percent increase.

"All types of construction firms were hiring in March," said Ken Simonson, the AGC's chief economist. "But the record number of construction job openings at the end of February indicates contractors would have hired even more workers if they were available to keep pace with demand."

The glad tidings were widespread throughout the industry. U.S. residential builders added 2,300 employees in March, while residential specialty trade contractors added 8,900. Employment rose among nonresidential construction firms, by 6,000 at building construction firms, 16,300 at specialty trade contractors, and 6,000 at heavy and civil engineering construction firms.

Even the anti-union Associated Builders and Contractors – rarely willing to acknowledge good news for the union-friendly Biden Administration – gave a nod to the good first quarter for the construction industry.

"Today's release was a blockbuster jobs report and indicates that recession is not arriving anytime soon," said ABC Chief Economist Anirban Basu. "The 39,000 jobs added by the nation's construction segment was roughly twice the monthly growth observed over the past year. If one focuses purely on nonresidential construction, monthly job growth was nearly 80 percent faster than the one-year average."

Average hourly earnings for production and nonsupervisory employees in construction – covering most onsite craft workers as well as many office workers – climbed by 4.9 percent over the year to \$35.42 per hour. Construction firms in March provided a wage "premium" of 18.9 percent compared to the average hourly earnings for all private-sector production employees.

"One reason for the rapid wage gains is that the industry continues to struggle to find enough workers to hire," the AGC said. Simonson noted that a different federal report released earlier showed there were 414,000 industry job openings at the end of February, the highest number of open positions yet recorded for the month.

The ABC's Basu said the jobs report "was not completely positive. Those in search of lower inflation and interest rates will not be comforted by this release."

He said the good monthly wage growth figure suggested a pace of compensation growth "that will render it difficult for the Federal Reserve to substantially reduce interest rates in 2024. The notion that interest rates will remain higher for longer remains firmly in place, which means that project financing costs will likely be an ongoing issue for construction demand, especially in privately financed segments, for the foreseeable future."

# How to grow nation's unions: spend more money, effort on TCB

(Continued from Page 1)

Starbucks, Amazon, Apple and Google. Indeed, a Staten Island Amazon warehouse brought 8,000 workers into union ranks.

Graduate and undergraduate students performing research at prestigious universities such as Stanford, MIT and Worcester Polytechnic Institute were among the newly represented employees. UAW members negotiated a right to strike whenever management seeks to close a plant, and they convinced Stellantis (Chrysler's parent company) to do the unheard-of: keep open a plant that was slated to close.

In 2022 and 2023, unions filed 50 percent more petitions for secret-ballot elections than in the preceding years and increased their win rate to nearly 80 percent of all ballots conducted by the National Labor Relations Board. Even so, the number of petitions was less than half of those filed two decades earlier.

The trailblazing nature of the 2023 agreements would seem to pave the way for unions to expand their presence. After the UAW victory, nonunion auto companies Honda, Toyota, Hyundai and Tesla quickly announced pay raises for their workers – a tool intended to fend off any movement in that direction.

Union victories should logically increase the popularity of unions: The rapid emergence of union organization in Las Vegas casinos in the 1990s has often been cited for the proposition that good union contracts are a good union organizing tool. And the AFL-CIO has now publicized a list of the best union contracts, which ought to be a good incentive for joining.

So why is union membership not surging? Some blame can be attributed to the inadequacies of the National Labor Relations Act, with its convoluted procedures and its weak remedies for illegal anti-union behavior. The ability of Starbucks and Amazon to avoid negotiating contracts even after a union has been certified dramatizes the law's weakness.

And the Supreme Court recently agreed to hear a Starbucks case that could limit the board's most effective tool: its ability to proceed directly to court to immediately reinstate unlawfully dismissed workers while the administrative process plays out. The court's apparent interest in this case as well as its war against the "administrative state" signal more restrictions to come. (The Supreme Court's ruling in *Janus v. AF-SCME* in 2018 had already hindered union activity in the public sector by deciding that "fair share" agreements requiring all public employees to pay dues to finance union representation are unconstitutional.)

Another legal impediment is the too-frequent acceptance of the concept that many gig-economy workers are independent contractors rather than employees. This has severely limited the pool of people who might opt for a union — and was responsible for the nationwide Valentine's Day strikes at Uber and Lyft.

But history shows that laws alone don't necessarily limit union growth. For a full decade after the enactment of the anti-union Taft-Hartley Act in 1947, the advance of unions that began in the Great Depression continued unabated. Yet the percentage of workers represented by unions has continued to decline even during the union-friendly Clinton, Obama and Biden eras. Other factors are clearly at work.

A quarter-century ago, the labor movement split over the refusal by some unions to commit funds to organize more workers. The same reluctance to tap into resources might prevail today: Union strategist Chris Bohner has noted that unions "have seen their net assets ... grow from \$14.3 billion in 2010 to \$32.7 billion in 2022, up 127 percent or about 11 percent annually."

So, the resources have grown while union membership has declined. Using these funds to recruit able young workers will be critical for today's unions — just as it was integral to the spectacular organizing explosion of the 1930s and 1940s.

But recruiting doesn't necessarily help you climb the ladder in union leadership. Members tend to reward the people who process their grievances and administer their contracts more than the ones who are out in the field trying to drum up support at non-union companies. Yet this is the best course of action for building a strong union movement. Though it is true that Joe Biden's White House is the most worker-friendly since Harry S. Truman's, even it is not likely to succeed in overhauling the National Labor Relations Act, regardless of Congress's political composition.

So, the principal burden lies with the unions. They have the financial ability to produce change in the workplace and they must start spending to do so. Only then will they be able to wage more effective organizational campaigns, reduce wage inequality, restore balance in labor-management relations and thus enhance democracy in our society.

*(Gould is emeritus professor of law at Stanford University and was chairman of the National Labor Relations Board during the Clinton administration.)*

## Teamwork lauded as Ultium plant observes 2 million hours worked

(Continued from Page 1)

thus far. Building a battery plant requires very detailed coordination among many different trades, and we are thankful to be working with professional and talented Michigan tradespeople who make it all possible."

Announced in January 2022 and breaking ground in June of that year, the construction of the Ultium Cells Lansing plant is currently about 35 percent complete. To commemorate the hours-worked milestone, Barton Malow held an event at the plant site for all contract and trade workers.

The building's framework allows for an innovative open floor plan, with a main corridor spanning the width of the building interior and creating a natural connection point across the operation. The plant will have a voracious appetite for power, with an annual capacity of 36 gigawatt hours – and with room to expand.

As construction continues, so does hiring. Ultium Cells said they currently have about 120 employees, almost 50 of whom have been hired since December. The plant will support 1,700 new high-tech jobs.

"We are thankful for the dedicated team of gifted individuals who are putting the structure in place to allow us to bring our facility to life. With the support of the greater Lansing region and Michigan, we are progressing toward a successful launch," said Grace Griffin, plant director.

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## Local 292 Sheet Metal Workers

**Sheet Metal Workers Local 292 TROY – MEETING NOTICE:** Due to a scheduling conflict, the next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 1, 2024, at 6:00 pm. This meeting is extremely important as there will be a Special Order of Business regarding Division of Money. The meeting will start at 6:00 p.m. sharp. All members are encouraged to attend.



The Regular meeting schedule will resume in June. Member meetings are held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at The Knights of Columbus in Clawson. Check out the calendar tab at [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com) for the location and date.

The **E-Board/Stewards meeting** will be held on **May 28, 2024**, at 6 p.m. at the Union Hall.

**MEMBER ASSISTANCE:** Please remember, Local 292 partners with Ulliance, an Employee Assistance Program designed to assist members and their eligible family members who may be struggling with emotional, domestic or substance abuse issues, as well as legal and financial referrals. If you and/or a family member feel this may benefit you, contact Ulliance at 1-800-448-8326 or [www.LifeAdvisorEAP.com](http://www.LifeAdvisorEAP.com) for completely confidential assistance. Ulliance is available **24 hours a day, 365 days a year.** Services are of no cost to members and their dependents.

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

**RETURN TO WORK BY NORMAL OR EARLY RETIREES:** Consistent with the actions of the Sheet Metal Workers' National Pension Fund, the Trustees of the Sheet Metal Workers Local No. 292 Pension Fund ("Fund") have decided to provide a limited waiver of the Fund's suspension of benefit rule from **March 22, 2023 through Dec. 31, 2024** only, without limitation and without incurring a suspension of benefits then in pay status. This means that, during this period, if you are working as a sheet metal worker for an Employer that contributes to the Fund, you will receive your monthly pension benefits from the Fund no matter how many hours you work in any one month.

This waiver is based on the current demand for sheet metal workers and is not anticipated to be continued indefinitely. Call Paul for more information or if interested.

**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.

**TRUHEARING:** On behalf of Sheet Metal Workers Local 292, we would like to introduce TruHearing, the NEW exclusive provider of premium hearing aid benefits. This benefit is available to active eligible participants, dependents, and Pre-Medicare retirees. To get started, contact TruHearing at 1-833-898-1255 for an appointment.

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

**DUES:** Membership dues are required to be paid in advance of the month for which they are due. The union hall is not open on Saturday or Sunday, therefore, if you pay dues on either of those days, it will not be processed until Monday. If you are on suspension warning, your dues are **60 days late.** To avoid suspension, dues must be paid online or at the union hall by **4:00 p.m.** on the last business day of

the month. Payments received after 4:00 p.m. on the last business day of the month will not be processed and you WILL go suspended. All members are responsible for making sure any required fees, i.e. late fees or service fees, are included if paying online ([sheetmetal292.com](http://sheetmetal292.com)).

**LOCAL 292 ONLINE STORE:** The online store is no longer available. If you are interested in purchasing merchandise, please contact Paul or Tony.

**ADDRESS UPDATES:** If you move, please get in touch with the union hall to update your address.

**RETIRES NOTICE: MARK YOUR CALENDARS:** The 2024 schedule for the Local 292 Retiree luncheon is as follows: **June 6, August 1, and Oct. 3.** We will post the date of the December meeting at a later date.

The retirees' luncheon will be held at: \*NEW LOCATION\* Madhous Bar & Grill @12:30 pm, 32787 Stephenson Hwy., Madison Heights MI 48071

Located on Stephenson Hwy 1 block south of 14 Mile on the west side of the street.

Please contact the union hall via our website [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com), click on the "Contact Us" page if you want to be added to the retiree email list.

Please join us for lunch, great conversations, and storytelling. Looking forward to seeing all retirees, new and old!!

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

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

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

**TEXT BLAST NOTIFICATION:** We have recently updated the text blast contact list. All members have been added. If you haven't been receiving texts and would like to be added or wish to opt out of text blast, please contact the Union Hall and we will make the change.

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

**THE 4 PLUS MEMBER PROGRAM:** The "4-plus" member program is for any Local 292 member who has achieved four (or more) welding certifications. These certifications can be in any welding process. Members who qualify will receive a shirt (one shirt for every four certifications) with the 4 Plus logo, hard hat stickers, and bragging rights. If you would like to be a "4-plus" member contact your Local 292 Training Center at: **313-623-9390 (Dave)** or **Quintin 248.495.6764.**

**Attention all Welders!** We are looking for any member interested in a Saturday welding class on April 20, May 4, May 11, & May 10. These classes would be for members ready to obtain an AWS welding certification, learn how to weld, or need to practice welding.

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

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



ADJUSTING A DUCT while working at the Hannahville Indian Community's new Governmental Services and Health Clinic in Wilson is Aaron Sprowl of Sheet Metal Workers Local 7. He's employed by Berger and King.



## Local 7 Sheet Metal Workers

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

The next Statewide Meeting will be, June 13, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

- \*Zone 1 May 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.
- \*Zone 2 May 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m.
- \*Zone 3 May 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. (Saginaw)
- \*Zone 3 June 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)
- \*Zone 4 May 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.
- \*Zone 5 June 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Please register on our website at [www.sheetmetal7.org](http://www.sheetmetal7.org) for the most up to date information on meeting schedules for 2024. 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.

**Local 7- Zone 1 Seeks Full-Time Apprenticeship Instructor.**

Sheet Metal Workers is currently seeking a knowledgeable and enthusiastic Local 7 Member to join our staff of Instructors to teach classes at our Marshall Training Center. Integrity, good communication and people skills, self-motivation, a positive attitude, and the ability to keep pace with technological advances are essential. Instructor training will be provided. Qualified members are invited to email a cover letter and resume to Coordinator Ryan Lehmann at [rlehmannsmw7@gmail.com](mailto:rlehmannsmw7@gmail.com) by **April 26th, 2024.** For more information, please contact Ryan at (269) 781-7183

**NEWS: Local No. 7 – Union Hoodies** available through the Lansing office for \$70.00/each (While supplies last). Hoodies are Gray, Black or Navy with White logo. Payment via check, cash or credit card. Payment must be received before shipping.

**SMART Members Assistance Program** provides counselors to speak with members experiencing crisis. Call (877) 884-6227 for 24/7 assistance with Suicide Prevention and Drug and Alcohol Abuse.

**ZONE 1 Info.** Work in the Zone 1 area remains busy and will increase as we get into spring and summer. If you become unemployed, please update your status with Eric or Vance (Apprentices please notify Ryan as well). If you are experiencing any difficulties with unemployment or insurance, please contact Eric or Vance for any additional assistance. Any Journeypersons interested in upgrade classes, please contact Ryan at the Training Center for additional information (269) 781-7183 (class availability depends on the number of individuals interested).

**ZONE 1 Training Center Info.** There are new changes to the testing procedure in Zone 1. Applicants will need to register for the Zone 1 entrance exam. Registration will open at the beginning of the exam month. You will receive your exam time during registration. Please contact the training coordinator to register (269) 781-7183.

**ZONE 1 Monthly Retiree Meetings:**

1st Wednesday of each month @ 8:00 am located at Bob Evans 1725 N W Ave, Jackson, MI 49202

2nd Tuesday of each

month @ 1:00 pm located at Rocky Top 1900 Lansing Ave, Jackson, MI 49202

2nd Wednesday of each month @ 12:00 noon located at The Beamery 879 E Michigan Ave, Battle Creek, MI 49014

(Retirees, please notify Vance or Eric of any changes or additions you would like)

**- In Solidarity, Eric Farrington and Vance Saunders**

**ZONE 2 Info:** Work in the Zone 2 area is steady and looks good thru spring and into the summer. We will be having a ratification vote and possible wage disbursement meeting April 23rd, 6:00pm at the VFW, Post 3195 the address is 5209 Grand Haven Road, Norton Shores MI. As always dues are due prior to the first of each month and keep me informed of any phone or address changes. Please work safely.

**- In Solidarity, Mike Adams**

**ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw)** Watch for postcards regarding contract ratification vote and possible wage disbursement this week. Work in the Saginaw area has slowed down but there is a lot of work coming this year. Also please make sure your MAY DUES are paid in April just in case there is a strike. Please make sure to schedule your physicals 1 year and 1 day from your last physical, this will be a yearly thing. Next retiree meeting will be June 25th at the Ponderosa on Wilder Rd in Bay City.

**In Solidarity, Joe Dotson**

**ZONE 3 Info: (Traverse City).** Postcards are being sent out regarding contract vote and possible wage disbursement this week. Work has picked back up and its looking to be a busy summer, there is also work in other areas if you get laid off. Please make sure your dues are paid for the month of May, to be eligible for strike pay in case we walk. Don't forget to set up your yearly physicals and go to [www.ourbenefitoffice.com/smw7-3/](http://www.ourbenefitoffice.com/smw7-3/) benefits, to register and get a wealth of information on your H&W and local pension status as with the National Pension Fund, go to [www.smnwpf.org](http://www.smnwpf.org) and register to see your future benefit. If anyone needs any help in any areas or anyone interested in our trade, please contact me.

**In Solidarity, John Amalfitano**

**ZONE 4 Info:** Work in Zone 4, we are currently experiencing an opportunity period of growth and success. I am proud to say work continues to stay strong for our members. We will be sending out a card this week with the date for our upcoming wage disbursement meeting, please try to attend. On May 14 our next regular Zone 4 meeting we will be having a special guest from the Greater Flint Health Coalition to discuss the Fentanyl problems that we are facing in our County and State. We will be covering a lot. Overall it is a great time to be a Sheet Metal Worker, stay safe and look out for your brothers and sisters **Your Brother Scott Brotherton**

**ZONE 5 Info** Work in the U.P. is busy and will stay that way through summer now. There is a lot of mine work coming up in the next 2 years so if you don't have your mine safety make sure you get signed up for that. The retirees are holding their next meeting at Sherrie's in Ishpeming on May 8 at 10 am.

Congratulations are in order for our brother Brandon Rogers and his wife Courtney as they welcomed their first child, Waylon John Rogers into the world Monday April 8th. **In Solidarity, Brandon Langenfeld**

(Continued on Page 5)



## Local 80 Sheet Metal Workers

**Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 SOUTHFIELD – This paper serves as official notice for all meetings and elections.**

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** The next general membership meeting is scheduled for May 28, 2024 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, 48076.



**TIM MULLIGAN**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:** The next executive board meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2024 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.

**RETIREE MEETING SCHEDULE:** The 2024 schedule is as follows: June 17, Aug. 19, Oct. 21 (holiday party) and Dec. 16. All membership meetings will be held at the Local 80 hall. Please enter the hall through the ramp entrance. All meetings will start at 12:30 pm. Any questions regarding joining the Retirees Association please contact Steve Murzen, 248-652-0593.

**RETIREE NEWS:** Retiree lapel pins with the SMWIA logo are available to all members of the local 80 retirees' association. They will be available to all retiree association members at our general membership meetings. Please see the general membership meeting schedule above.

**Effective immediately** you will need to start sending your unemployment proof to [smw80subfund@gmail.com](mailto: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.

**BENESYS AT THE UNION HALL:** There will now be a representative from Benesys at the union hall to help our members with anything related to benefits or funds. She will be available all day on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-4pm. If you are interested in setting up an appointment, please contact Lashone, 248-813-9800 ext. 3250

**GOLF OUTING: Tickets are now available & are selling fast!** They are on sale for members only until May 10! Please join us on July 13 at Cracklewood Golf Club in Macomb Twp. Tickets can be reserved at a cost of \$105 a ticket for members and \$140 a ticket for non-members. Your ticket will include coffee, donuts & danishes, a bloody mary bar, lunch at the turn, open bar up until 1 hour after golf, beer & pop available on the course and a wonderful steak dinner. Please contact the hall with any questions you may have or to reserve your ticket! \*Payment must be received to lock in your ticket\*

**RETIREMENT CLASS:** Saturday May 4, 2024 at 9am we will be hosting a FREE retirement education class with Graystone Consulting. This will give you the opportunity to ask questions about your retirement plans. Please call the hall to rsvp 248-557-7575. Spouses are welcome.

**THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE:** Hunter Brotherton, Mike Anderson, Ryan Wyskiel, Ed Rowley, Jacob Cantin, James McPherson, Raymond Klimas II, Anthony Pichette, Timothy Hocker and Thomas Grzebyk.

**DUES PAYMENTS: YOUR DUES PAYMENTS ARE DUE PRIOR TO THE FIRST OF THE MONTH.** The books will close at the end of the business day on the last day of the month. **Payments made on the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month are considered late for that month. There will be no exception, once the books are closed it cannot be undone.** Members will receive a text message dues reminder prior to the end of the month. If you are not receiving our text messaging, please call the hall. **REMINDER: We ONLY take Visa, Master Card & Discover and do not accept American Express.**

**ADDRESS CHANGES:** If you have a new address please make sure to let the hall know.

We will take care of your account with the union hall which includes the tradesman paper. You will need to call Benesys at 800-400-7710 and update your address with them as well. That is not done through the hall.

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

**3:00 pm on Friday.**

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

**LAYOFF SLIPS/TERMINATION NOTICES:** Layoff 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 (7) days from your layoff date or you will forfeit S.U.B. benefits. Lay-off slips must accompany the application to be eligible. Proof of UIA benefit payments must be submitted within 21 days of when you were paid in order to receive SUB benefits. Do not submit your sub applications directly to the fund office. Your application must be signed by the hall or you will not collect benefits.

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

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

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

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

**SAVE THE DATES: Pre-Retirement Seminar – May 4 Golf Outing – July 13 Picnic – August 3**

**Training Center News. Part-Time Instructor Opportunities.** The Joint Apprenticeship Committee is accepting applications for part-time instructors to teach Welding and Sheet Metal Layout classes in the evening. Ideal candidates should have strong knowledge in the subject, shop/field experience and have an interest in helping members improve their skills.

Interested Local 80 members can submit their resume to the "Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 Joint Apprenticeship Committee" by email to [info@smw80jac.org](mailto:info@smw80jac.org), as well as in-person or by mail to the Training Center at 32700 Dequindre Road, Warren, MI 48092. Call Matt at the Training Center with any questions.



**Michigan Painters District Council**

Painters District Council 1M WARREN – Dear Members, DC1M WEBSITE: [www.iupatdc1michigan.org](http://www.iupatdc1michigan.org)

DC 1M UNION CARDS\* Any questions regarding a lost, damaged Union cards, or if you have dues inquiries or have not received a card please contact the DC1M offices at: Warren Office: (586)552-4474 extension 100

Freeland Office: (989) 695-6888 PAINTERS DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M SMART PHONE APP

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



**ROBERT GONZALEZ**

For IPHONE go to IOS store, For ANDROID got to Google Playstore Search for "Painters and Allied Trades" download APP Username: your member id# Password: painters

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

FTI of the Great Lakes upgrade classes. FTI Apprenticeship will be putting on CPR First Aid and Lift Certification classes at the Warren School:

CPR First Aid April 27<sup>th</sup> at Warren School starts at 9am.

Lift Certification class at Warren School Week of April 29: Mon.-Thurs: 5pm – 9pm Sat. May 4<sup>th</sup> starts at 9am.

Sign up for these classes by email to [dot@iupatdc1m.org](mailto:dot@iupatdc1m.org) or call Director Shawn Oneill at (517)304-4425.

GET INVOLVED AND PARTICIPATE IN YOUR UNION!

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

Warren office # is 586-552-4474 or Freeland office# is 989-695-6888. New job starts should be reported to the Union office, please do so.

Get involved. Work smart. Work safe.



**Local 357 Glaziers & Glassworkers**

WARREN – Our next union meeting will be a "Special Called Meeting" held on Monday, May 6, at 6pm. We will hold nominations for one local 357 delegate to the district council, and also nominations for one local 357 recording secretary. We will also be holding voting on sending two delegates to the IUPAT General Convention. Please make every effort to attend.

Longtime member and former Local 357 President Keith Shannon's mother-in-law Connie Missine passed away on March 24, 2024. Please keep Keith and the entire Shannon family in your thoughts, and prayers.

The IUPAT pension has updated the pension website. There is new information that could be helpful. [iupatpension.org](http://iupatpension.org)

The IUPAT has a new app that you can download. It's called IUPAT Mobile Member Portal. You can find this in the app store, and it is a free app. Once you download this app, you will need your union member id to log in. You can find your member id printed on your quarterly union card. Once you log into this app it's a helpful tool to track your hours worked, and it also has a digital copy of your union card.

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 (Continued next column)



**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](http://www.iupat-local514.org).

**Local Union 826**

**Business Rep:** Rocky Ackerman

**Meeting date:** 2nd Thursday of every month at 5:30 p.m.

**Place:** 3115 Joyce St. Burton, MI 48529

**Local Union 845**

**Business Rep** – Fred Frederickson

**Meeting date:** 1st Thursday of every month at 7 p.m.

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

**Local Union 1052**

**Business Rep** – Jake Fluty

**Meeting date:** The Fourth Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

**Place:** 3115 Joyce St., Burton MI 48529

**Local Union 1803**

**Business Rep:** Josh Ovalle

**Meeting date:** 4th Tuesday of every month at 5:30 p.m.

**Place:** 7677 Midland Road, Freeland, MI 48623.

**Local Union 2352**

**Business Rep:** Jeremy Haviland

**Meeting Date:** 3rd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

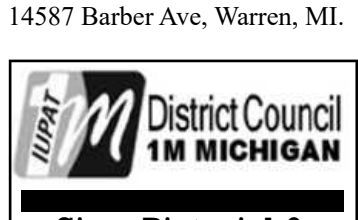
**Place:** District Council 1M, 14587 Barber Ave., Warren, MI.

**Local Union 2353**

**Business Rep:** Tony Parker

**Meeting date:** 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

**Place:** District Council 1M, 14587 Barber Ave, Warren, MI.



**Sign, Pictorial & Display Local 591**

**Sign Pictorial & Display 591** WARREN – The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday May 7, at 6:30p.m. Trustees and union stewards meet at 6:20 p.m.

Display members will be voting on wage distribution at May meeting.

Members must be in good standing (dues up to date) with district council 1 app or receipt of paid dues to attend meeting

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

Any questions on local union issues, please call Jeremy Haviland at 586-899-0183, your Business Representative.

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

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

**Local 357 cont'd**

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 our union strong, so try to make it to a meeting. – Business Rep. Don Stepp



**Local 25 Heat and Frost Insulators**

Heat & Frost Insulators 25 SOUTHFIELD – SPECIAL CALLED MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, May 9, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge Street, Southfield, MI 48033.



**CURT MCGLONE** This meeting is SPECIAL CALLED for allocations. *This meeting is MANDATORY for all apprentices.*

**SUB FUND BENEFIT:**

Please be reminded, documentation for SUB Fund benefits must be received by 2:00 p.m. Thursday to receive a benefit check on Friday. Any documentation submitted after the deadline will be issued the following Friday.

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

**M.U.S.T. SAFETY MODULES:** It is important to keep your M.U.S.T. Safety Modules up to date. If you have Modules expiring and needing to be completed, give the Union Office a call to have the testing authorization turned on.

**EMPLOYMENT CHANGES:** All employment changes; hire, lay off, fire, shop change, disability, etc. must be called into the Union Hall. This is the only way to guarantee you are on the out of work list and your employment records remain current and correct.

**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.

**SUB FUND TIME LIMITATION:** Please be reminded, per the Plan Document: Each time a participant receives a State Unemployment check, he/she must mail or deliver the receipt, check stub, or a copy of the check to the Administrator's office within 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.

**NOTICE TO ALL:** When you move into the Medicare Advantage Program, your deductible balance for the year, is supposed to carry over. Whatever you have paid toward your annual deductible, prior to changing over to Medicare Advantage Program, should follow you. As with any system, there can be flaws. Please keep an eye out for any charges, related to your deductible balance (Continued next column)

**FINISHING TRADES INSTITUTE INTERNATIONAL GREAT LAKES**

**D-BAR-A**

**Boy Scout Camp Annual Mix Fix**

**Volunteers Needed Saturday May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 @ 8:00 AM** (Breakfast served between 7 & 8 am)

880 East Sutton Road Metamora, MI 48455

Breakfast, Snacks, Lunch and Dinner provided. Camping space provided for those that want to stay Friday and/or Saturday night. Painters, Finishers, and Glaziers can stay at the Jack Lord Bunkhouse (Bring a sleeping bag, toiletries and pillow)

For more information contact: Shawn O'Neill – DC 1M Apprenticeship Director 14587 Barber Ave Warren, MI 48088 (586) 552-4481 Cell: (517) 304-4425



**Local 47 Heat and Frost Insulators**

**Heat & Frost Insulators Local 47 LANSING – The next Regular Union Meeting will be held Friday, May 10, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.** at the New J.A.T.C. Training Center, 16475 Ingersoll Rd., Lansing, MI 48906. Please make note of the new Location for the Union Meeting. Please Note this is a Mandatory Meeting for ALL Apprentices.

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

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

Local 47 will be hosting our Annual Picnic on Saturday, June 8, 2024 at Fitzgerald Park, Site 5, and invites have been mailed out. Please mail in your RSVP as soon as possible so we can have a proper headcount to make arrangements. If you have not received your invite please contact the Union Office to let us know how many will be attending from your Party. This is open for families. The Union Meeting will start at 11:00 a.m., and the awards announcements will be held immediately following the meeting, then lunch will be served. The address for Fitzgerald park is: 133 Fitzgerald Park, Grand Ledge, MI 48837. Please do not wait until the last minute to mail in your RSVP.

Local 47 will be hosting our annual Golf Outing on Saturday, July 20, 2024 at Royal Scot in Lansing, MI. You can call or text the office with the names of your team by July 5<sup>th</sup>.

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

Members must notify the office before ANY overtime is worked.

Pension and Health Welfare: Joshua Kroell (989) 385-2671 Allied Workers' Local 47 Fringe Benefit Funds, 6525 Centurion Drive, Lansing, MI 48917-9275 Toll Free: (800) 323-8079 Fax: (517) 321-7508

Joshua Kroell will be available via phone to answer any questions regarding Pension, Welfare and Vacation Funds. Joshua is the Secretary for the Pension, Welfare, Vacation and Special Benefits and can be

(Continued from Page 4) **Dues Department:** \*Online dues payment is now available\* Dues of all members of local unions shall be paid monthly or quarterly, but always in advance. To better serve our membership, we accept Credit Card Payments in lieu of your monthly dues. If you would like to take advantage of the Credit Card Service, a finance charge will be applied – Please call the Lansing office during regular business hours at 517-882-4064 to make your payment.

**Address/Telephone Changes:** Article 8, Section 1 of Local 7 Work Rules: *Address Changes:* All members are required to keep the Financial Secretary informed of their correct address. A noticed 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 Contee Drive, Lansing, MI 48910-517-882-4064 **Local 7 Officers:** Samuel Fuller (Business Manager/Financial Secretary-Treasurer) 517-882-4064 Eric Farrington (Agent-Lansing/Jackson) 517-242-3223 Vance Saunders (Agent-Battle Creek/Kalamazoo) 269-569-9200

Mike Adams (Agent-Grand Rapids/Muskegon) 616-299-3752 Joe Dotson (Saginaw) 989-225-0095 John Amalitano (Traverse City) 231-590-1112 Scott Brotherton (Agent-Flint) 810-836-3552 Brandon Langenfeld (Upper Peninsula) 906-372-9288

**Local 25 cont'd**

not being carried over, when you move into the Medicare Advantage Program. If you receive a charge that should have been covered by your deductible, please contact the Fund Office.

**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.

reached by phone at (989) 385-2671, or by mail at: P.O. Box 1498, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804.

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

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

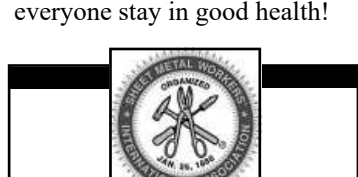
Please complete and return the working spousal forms to TIC.

JATC Coordinator Phil Wilson (616-466-8736)

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

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

Good and Welfare: We hope everyone stay in good health!



**Local 7 Sheet Metal Workers**

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**LiUNA! Feel the Power Local 1191**

**Laborers Local 1191** (2161 West Grand Boulevard, Detroit, MI 48208)

**DETROIT – Regular Membership Updates:** Please check out our website at [www.laborers-local1191.org](http://www.laborers-local1191.org) and the "Laborers' Local 1191" Facebook page for important information about your Local Union.

**Member Personal Information Updates:** Be sure to keep the Local Union updated with any changes to your phone number, address, and/or email.

**Monthly General Membership Meetings:** General Membership meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Local Union, located at 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208 (except for holidays). **May's General Membership meeting will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May, 2024.**

**Monthly Retiree Council Meetings:** Retiree Council meetings are the last Friday of each month. The meetings are held at 11:00 am at the Local Union, located at 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208. **The next Retiree Council meeting will be held on the 26<sup>th</sup> of April, 2024.**

**Union Dues For 2024:** Regular monthly dues are \$35.00 for Active Members. Retiree monthly dues will remain the same \$8.00. Members can now Pay Dues online 24/7 on our website at [www.laborers-local1191.org](http://www.laborers-local1191.org)!!! To make online dues payments, click the "Pay Dues" tab in upper right-hand corner and follow the instructions.

**Important Notice Regarding Dues Payments:** According to 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 will be suspended by the International Union without notice. **To better serve our membership, the Local accepts in-person Cash, Credit and Debit payments.**

**Save Time & Money: We urge members to make their payments timely to avoid additional costs! Monthly dues can be deducted from your vacation check and sent directly to the Local Union. Please stop by the Local Union office to get one of the "Vacation Monthly Dues Deduction" forms or you may call the Local Union office at (313)-894-2241 to have one mailed to you.**

**New Projects:** Members are urged to report the start of any/all new projects 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.

**Referral List:** Every member who is looking for work must call or come to the Local Union Office on Mondays between 1-4 pm to put their name on the Out-of-Work list. You must have an Out-of-Work skills sheet filled out and on file in order to be referred out for work by the Local Union. FYI: It is the Member's responsibility to regularly notify the Local Union of any changes to his/her skillsets.

**Roll Call:** All members on the out-of-work list must re-register every quarter within the first five days of the following months: March, June, September and December. **Your failure to do so will result in your name being removed from the referral list. \*Example:** If your name is on the list in April and or May and you don't re-register by June 5<sup>th</sup> your name will be removed from the list.

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**MANN METALS CORP.**  
 1011 DECKER ROAD • P.O. BOX 711 • WALLED LAKE 48390

**Local 190**

Plumbers,  
Pipe Fitters,  
Service Technicians,  
Gas Distribution

**UA Local 190**

ANN ARBOR – UNION MEETING: A monthly union meeting will be held on Monday, May 13 at 6:00 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

UNION HALL CLOSING AT NOON FOR AN UPCOMING HOLIDAY: Our office will be closed at Noon on Friday, May 24 and all-day Monday, May 27 for Memorial Day. Our thanks to those who serve. As we celebrate our liberty and freedoms we remember and support those who protect them.

50th ANNUAL GOLF OUTING: will be held on Saturday, July 27. Our event will be held at *Whitmore Lake Golf Links, Whitmore Lake*. Mark your calendar for this special event. Tickets will soon be available to purchase at the union hall. If you have any questions please contact Karen, (734) 424-0962 Ext. 210.

SCHOLARSHIPS: Local 190 Scholarship is now available at the union hall for distribution to members and their families. There are two scholarships available. One from Local 190, due back no later than June 28, please mail or return to the union hall. The UA scholarship is now available at the union hall for distribution, this application must be postmarked no later than June 12 and mailed to the UA Office in Annapolis, MD.

IMPORTANT REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS - LAID OFF OR BACK TO WORK: All members who get laid off or report back to work *please immediately contact Karen (734) 424-0962 Ext. #210. Please report the last day in which you worked. When calling to report back to work please let Karen know the contactor and the date you reported back to work.*

PLEASE NOTE: All Members can now go to the website under "members only" and fill out a "back to work" form or "laid off" form.

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

FUSING CLASS: Anyone interested in registering for the fusing class, please contact Business Agent Pat Duffy at (734) 368-4423, Business Agent Roy Musgrove 734-646-8838 or Ralph Booth at (734) 369-1432. MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION - E-Mail address: Please contact the union hall 734-424-0962 or Pat Duffy 734-368-4423 to make sure we have a current e-mail address.

MICHIGAN LICENSE RENEWAL: Plumbing license renewals are done online ONLY! For detailed instructions and requirements, please visit: [www.michigan.gov/bcc](http://www.michigan.gov/bcc). Feel free to stop into the Union Hall and pick up a copy of the instructions. The link is now on the website in the "Members Only" section under "Helpful Member Forms"

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

INFORMATION - FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: 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 benefits and much more. Download: *BCBSM*

A REPRESENTATIVE FROM FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE WILL BE AT THE UNION HALL: A representative will be at the union hall each month on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Wednesday of each month. Members will be able to meet with Bernadette from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1-3:30 p.m. You can reach the benefits office Monday through Friday by calling 888-390-7473.

MEDICARE: When you become eligible for Medicare, please contact Bernadette Maus at our Fringe Benefit office 1-888-390-7473.

The Training Center will be closed May 27 for Memorial Day. The Training Center is open to members wishing to update any

certifications, licenses, or qualifications. Office hours of operation are Monday through Thursday 8am. to 5 pm. Friday 8am. to 4 pm. We will be closed for lunch from Noon to 1pm. Please give Kristyn a call with any questions regarding certifications and training schedules or visit us on UA190.org members only section under training to register for classes online. The Training Center will no longer accept cash payments, we will accept checks or credit card payments only. We are following CDC, OSHA, MiOSHA, MDHHS, and Washtenaw County Health Department guidelines. Check your Certifications to make sure that you are current!

The Training Center and UA Local 190 Apprentices will be participating in the Dexter Memorial Day Parade May 27. Any UA Local 190 Veteran members wishing to participate contact Kristyn to sign up. Please submit all certifications and licenses to the Training Center, so we can keep your profiles up to date.

Lead/Asbestos/Blood-borne Pathogens Training (4 hrs): Please register through the website: ua190.org 2024 Schedule - Mondays - July 15, and Sept. 30. Each class will start at 5 pm.

First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs): Please register through the website: ua190.org 2024 Schedule - Mondays - , July 22, and Oct 7. Each class will start at 5 pm.

Welding Lab: Open welding lab schedule is Mondays and Thursdays at 4:30pm. to 9pm. and Saturdays 7am to 3:30pm. The welding lab will be closed for Union Meetings and Holidays. Welding tests will be scheduled after participants are approved by welding instructors and the training coordinator.

ASSE Backflow Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become an ASSE Certified Backflow Tester (5110). 2024 Schedule: The second course starts Sept 10. Courses run on Tue and Wed for 5 weeks and are limited to 8 participants. Call the Training Center to secure your spot or register through the website: ua190.org

ASSE Backflow Re-Certification (8hrs): ASSE PRICE INCREASE ASSE has increased the retesting fee to \$85 for this recertification. Re-certification for the ASSE Backflow Tester (5110). 2024 Schedule: The second course starts May 7. The third course starts Oct 17. Courses are on Tue and Wed and start at 5 pm. Each course is limited to 8. Call the Training Center to sign up for one of these courses or register through the website: ua190.org

Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class to be Med Gas certified. Must have a minimum of 4 years, documented experience in the plumbing and/or piping industry. 2024 Schedule: The second course starts Aug 20. Courses will run for 5 weeks, Tue and Thur. These courses are limited to 16 participants. Call the Training Center to sign up for one of these courses or register through the website: ua190.org

Med Gas Installer Up-Date (8hrs): This is a two-day course. 2024 Schedule: Second course starts Sept 24. Courses will be on Tue and Thu and are limited to 24 participants, per course. Call the Training Center to be put on the list for the next class or register through the website: ua190.org

ASSE 12010 ICRA Certification for Infection Control and Risk Assessment for Construction Workers (16hrs): This is a four-day course. 2024 schedule: Second course to be announced.

EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be Spring 2024. Class size is limited to 8. Please register through the website: ua190.org

RETIREE MEETINGS - PLEASE JOIN US: Our next Spades meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and be held on Thursday, May 2nd at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and a warm cup of coffee.

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



Plumbers &  
Pipe Fitters

**UA Local 333**

LANSING – The monthly union meeting for the month of May will be held Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at 7:30 pm at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin L. King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI.

NOTICE: "A proposed bylaw change has been properly submitted for consideration. The proposal simply moves up the start time for regular monthly membership meetings from 7:30 pm to 6:30 pm. The proposal will be read and voted on the next three regularly scheduled meetings. Per our bylaws a minimum of two thirds support is needed to pass at each of the three meetings."

Scholarship applications for the 2024-2025 school year are available at all three halls or you may call Joni at 517-784-1106 ext.#4 to have one mailed.

**SPRING SESSION WELD CLASSES**

LANSING. Beginning - 4/01/24 - 6/06/24 - Monday and Wednesday 4:30 - 8:30 Advanced - 4/02/24 - 6/07/24 - Tuesday and Thursday 4:30 - 8:30

JACKSON. Beginning - 4/01/24 - 6/06/24 - Monday and Wednesday 4:30 - 8:30 Advanced - 4/02/24 - 6/07/24 - Tuesday and Thursday 4:30 - 8:30

BATTLE CREEK. Welding - 4/01/24 - 6/06/24 - Monday and Wednesday 4:30 - 8:30

JOURNEYPAN PLUMBING PREP CLASS: April 29th, May 1st, May 6th and May 8th. BACKFLOW RENEWAL CLASS. Starts April 15 (Mondays only)

ADVANCED PIPEFITTING CLASS. Starts April 1st at 5:00 pm - Class lasts six weeks.

MIG CLASS. Must have UA21 - Class will begin when 6 members have signed.

ORBITAL 18A CLASS. Must have UA41 - Class will begin when 6 members have signed.

MED GAS RENEWAL CLASS. Class begins May 13, 2024 - 5:00 to 8:00 pm. Test day will be June 6, 2024 at 5:00 pm.

ADVANCED PIPEFITTING CLASS. JACKSON TRAINING CENTER Chris Berry- Instructor. Class will start when 6 members have signed.

Please sign up on the Website. UA333.org. If you need assistance call the Lansing Training Center 517-323-0333.

PLEASE NOTE FOR ALL CERTIFICATIONS: Per the UA as of January 1, 2019, all Braze and Weld certifications must be updated within 120 days of their expiration date or you will lose your certifications. Check the dates on your certifications and if they have expired call Diana at the Lansing Training Center 517-323-0333. Even though the Training Center sends everyone's continuities to be renewed, between changes of addresses and the Post Office, there is plenty of room for error. Ultimately it is the member's responsibility to make sure their certifications are current.

NOTE: Members needing assistance with the Journeyman Plumbing Code test prep please contact Tim Hicks at the Training Center.

We were saddened to hear that Mary Jean Osborne, wife of deceased Life Member Richard A. Osborne and mother of retired members Charles Osborne, Sally O'Connell and Rick Osborne passed away March 23, 2024 at the age of 94. She is also survived by Life Member son-in-law Terry O'Connell, nephew Jack McNamara and step grandson, Terry O'Connell Jr. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family during this time of sorrow.

Battle Creek Retiree Breakfasts are held the fourth Thursday of every month at Lux Café, 2587 Capital Avenue, Battle Creek, MI at 9:00 am. Please spread the word.

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

"Let not thy will roar, when thy power can but whisper."  
-Dr. Thomas Fuller (1654 - 1734)



Plumbers &  
Pipe Fitters  
**Local 85**

**UA Local 85**

SAGINAW – The next Union Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 24, 2024, at the Union Hall, 3535 Bay Rd. at 7 PM.

The next Northern Union Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 5, 2024, at 7:00 PM.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The new website is up and running. Please check out wwww.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 at (989) 799-5261 ext. 8511.

Social Media: Like us on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, @UALocal85. Facebook has our Members Only page for updates at UA Local 85 Members Group.

GOD BLESS ORGANIZED LABOR AND THE LABOR MOVEMENT!

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

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

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

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

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

NOTE TO ALL MEMBERS:

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

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

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

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

RETIREE LUNCHEON: The next luncheon will be held on Tuesday, May 7 at 12 Noon at UA Local 85 Administration Office, 3535 Bay Road Saginaw, MI 48603. We ask if you are able, please bring a dish to pass.

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



Plumbers &  
Pipe Fitters  
**Local 671**

**UA Local 671**

MONROE – The next regular scheduled Union Meeting is scheduled for May 2nd, 2024, at 7pm. There will also be an Executive Board meeting at 5pm on May 2nd, 2024. If any member would like to attend the Executive Board Meeting, please contact the Union Hall prior to the meeting.

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

Special Order of Business: There will be a Special Order of Business for wage allocation at the May 2nd Union meeting. All members are encouraged to attend.

There also will be a potential By-Law change and its first reading at the May 2nd Union meeting. If you are interested in getting a copy prior to the meeting, please contact the Union Hall.

Also, please refer to our website <https://www.unitedassocationlocal671.com/> and its calendar for the latest updates.

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

Local 671 Softball Team: If any member is interested in playing on the Local 671 Softball team, please contact myself (Mike Jewell) or Nate Schneider. We are sending a team down to Cincinnati to the UA National softball tournament. The tournament is June 21st through June 23rd. If you want to play you will have to make a commitment to go to the tournament and participate in some practices.

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

Scholarship Opportunities: The Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 671 Scholarship Fund will be awarding scholarships again this year. If selected, one scholarship will be awarded to a qualified dependent, grandchild, or spouse of a Local 671 Member in good standing. The applicants must be a 2024 graduating senior or currently enrolled as a full-time student at a college or a qualified post-secondary school. Contact the Union Hall for the Scholarship application.

Qualification Requirements:

- Applicant must be the dependent, grandchild or spouse of a member in good standing of UA Local Union 671

- Have at least a 3.0 (B) grade point average

- Write an essay of 500 words or less on one of the following two topics: 'How Monroe Local 671 has benefitted my Family' or 'What Labor Union Means to Me.'

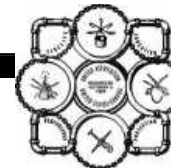
- We are very proud of our previous winners, but please understand that we only award (1) scholarship per applicant.

The application deadline is May 3rd, 2024.

Retiree Luncheon: We would like to remind everyone that our retiree luncheons are held on the last Thursday of every month, except for August (due to the picnic) and November and December due to their proximity to the Holidays. These luncheons are a great time to see old friends, and maybe even meet some new ones. The next retiree luncheon is set for 12:00 pm on April 25th. We look forward to seeing you there!

Open Weld Shop Nights: The open weld shop nights are now Thursday nights from 6pm-10pm now that school is back in session. There will be no open welding on Union Meeting or UA weld test nights. A booth will need to be reserved by noon on the Monday prior to the practice night. If we have (3) or more signed up, we will hold the practice night. Booths will be first come, first served with whoever is practicing for a UA test getting priority.

The next UA weld test is scheduled for April 25th at 5pm. Michigan Plumbing Exam Prep Class: We will be holding classes to prepare Members who will be taking their Michigan (Continued next column)



Plumbers,  
Pipe Fitters &  
HVAC Service

**UA Local 357**

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

GROWLERS BASEBALL NIGHT: Mark your calendars for Local 357's Union Outing - Kalamazoo Growlers Baseball Game on Saturday – June 8th, 2024.

More information will be coming in a few months.... So ... Just set this date aside for now.

UNION DUES REMINDERS: Phone call reminders to pay your dues will not be made. Cash is accepted at the Union Hall for any payments. You also have the option to pay your union dues through the Local 357 website [www.ualocal357.com](http://www.ualocal357.com).

Note that you must add a 4% fee for using this site.... so, if you are paying a month of dues at \$34.00... you need to pay \$35.36. Other ways to pay include sending a check, stopping by the Union Hall, dropping off a payment in the drop box outside the front door or calling Lori at (269) 679-3708 and paying with a credit card.

RETIREE MEETINGS (NEW PLACE & TIME): Retiree lunch meetings will now be BREAKFAST on the 1st Monday of every month. Breakfast will commence at 9:00 am at The Crew (Note - New Location) located at 5200 Portage Rd, Portage, MI. The phone number for the location is (269) 337-9800.

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

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).

**Local 671, con't**

Journeyman Plumbing Test. If you have any questions or are curious about your Plumbing hours with the State, contact Justin for details.

Medical Gas Installer Class: We have spots available for the upcoming 40-hour NFPA 99 Medical Gas Installer license training. The class will run from March 20th to June 5th on Wednesday nights. Please contact Justin if you are interested in attending.

In Closing: You may disappoint others occasionally but remember to never disappoint yourself. Do one good deed every single day but don't tell anyone about it, and smile and say good morning to strangers on the street or in the store. You will never know how you could affect that person's day. A little kindness can change the world. God Bless Local 671!

Mike Jewell: email: [mike@ualocal671.com](mailto:mike@ualocal671.com)

Vinnie Fenech: email: [vinnie@ualocal671.com](mailto:vinnie@ualocal671.com)

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

Local 671 Fax: (734) 242-4692





# Plumbers Local 98

Plumbers 98

**DETROIT – Membership of Plumbers Local 98. The officers and staff at Local 98 hope you and your family are well.**

Announcements, information on meetings, links to your benefits, the Training Center, and more can be found on our web site. Go to [UALOCAL98.COM](http://UALOCAL98.COM)

**Meetings & Union Hall.** The next Union meeting will be May 9 at 7pm.

The Executive Board meetings are generally held the first Thursday of the month at 5:30pm and before all Union Meetings.

**Retiree Meetings.** The next meeting is Wednesday, May 8 from 12pm–2pm at Local 98!

Applications are now being accepted for our apprenticeship. Learn more at Plumbers98TC.org/apprenticeship.

**Attention Hockey players:** If interested in playing hockey contact Dan Nixon, 248-752-3702.

**Attention Baseball players:** if interested in playing baseball please contact Jeremy Pitts at 586-405-9425 or Jon DeRoo at 248-762-9238.

**Macomb County Adopt-A-Highway:** Will be April 20 at 8 am. Meet at the Roseville Bob Evans on 13 Mile Road and Gratiot Avenue. Please call Business Agent Gary Glaser (313) 580-0148 to RSVP.

**Dues. Happy to say there are no expelled members at this time. Check your mail and update your email at the hall, it's not your spouse's fault your dues fall behind. Those of you who read the paper please bring it in and put on your break table.**

**SUB Apps/Out of Work List.** SUB You have 48 hours to report being out of work and to fill out a SUB App whether you qualify for SUB or not. It is your responsibility to check your location on the Out of Work List. Make sure your contact information is up to date, as well as MUST and other certifications. If you have any problems with state agencies involving unemployment, or questions on MUST models and staying current, please contact Gary Glaser at 313-580-0148 or Dan Nixon at 248-752-3702.

**Benefits.** \*We have dedicated BeneSys employees at the Union Hall to help with the following issues: Health Insurance, HRA, SUB, Short Term Disability, Eligibility, and Claims. The Local 98 Health Insurance office is receiving the calls coming into Local 98. In order for them to best track all issues please call the hall at (248) 307-9800 and select option #2. If they are on the other line, please leave them a message and they will get back to you promptly.

**New Benefit.** We have a new benefit for the working members of Local 98 and their families. We are proud to announce we have secured a 2-year agreement with Delta Dental starting March 1, 2024. There is zero cost to the fund at this time. Please watch the insurance mailings for the annual benefit information for 2024. We still will offer the DENCAP (Golden) Dental plan for the retired members who wish to purchase this plan.

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

Please select option #4 for Financial Secretary Jon DeRoo if you are looking to retire. Please set a meeting up with him. We recommend doing this at least 6 months before retirement.

**In Memoriam: Our sympathies to family and friends of deceased. No deaths have been reported at this time.**

We are currently looking for Industrial, Residential and Service Plumbers & Apprentices. 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. Or get online at the Training Center

for more information on Apprenticeships.

*In solidarity I remain, Carlo Castiglione, Business Manager Plumbers Local 98*

**TRAINING CENTER NEWS. Phone # 248-585-1435**  
Check out The Training Center's website [www.Plumbers98tc.org](http://www.Plumbers98tc.org)

The Apprenticeship Application process is currently open. The application deadline for the next class is Friday, July 26, 2024. Applications are submitted online. Go to our website and read all requirements for the application process.

The Training Center is open for normal business 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please call Ryan Lyle at 248-585-1435 ext. 122 if you have any questions. The State of Michigan Plumbing Division will be instituting the 2021 Michigan Plumbing Code beginning in March of 2024. Books are available for preorder through the ICC. The Training Center will have a limited number available for sale.

**CALL THE TRAINING CENTER TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CLASSES OFFERED IN 2024.** All classes are register and pre-pay by check or money order only. Deadlines for registration and prices are listed with each class. The 2024 upgrade classes are listed below. Please keep an eye out for the class you need or find interesting!

**Monthly Code Class** – Next class is PENDING at 4:30 pm. This is not a code update class. Open to any member looking to have discussions about the interpretation of the Michigan Plumbing Code. Great refresher for anyone wanting to take a state plumbing exam. Please call Paul Baker at the Training Center at 248-585-1435 ext. 123 to register.

There will be a code class that reviews the entire Michigan Plumbing Code and includes practice for the practical portion of the Journey exam in the near future. Please call the Training Center if you are interested in attending the class.

**If you are a member that has the practical portion of the state test scheduled for May 7<sup>th</sup>, we have 2 available evenings to come in and practice for it. The 2 dates are Wednesday, April 24 and Wednesday, May 1. Call the Training Center if you are interested in attending either of these sessions, or both. You will be required to bring all your supplies as you would for going to the actual test.**

**CLASS LIST 2024**  
**ASSE Backflow Tester Certification:** Please be sure to check your expiration date, it is now required that you complete your update class prior to your expiration. This class is offered quarterly. \$100  
**8 hour recert class July 23 & 24** Deadline is June 21  
**8 hour recert class October 22 & 23** Deadline is Sept. 20

**ASSE Backflow Tester (Full 40 hour):**  
Fall: Sept. 9 – Nov. 18 Deadline is Aug. 23-\$200  
**ASSE Repairer: Prerequisite: Must hold a current 5110 Tester Certification**  
Fall: Sept. 10 - Oct. 15, Deadline is Aug. 23 -\$100

**ICRA and Water Quality: \*\*\* Prerequisite: Must Have OSHA 10 or 30**  
Fall: Sept. 11 to Nov. 20, Deadline is August 23 -\$200  
**CAD/BIM**  
Fall: Sept. 9 – Nov. 18 Deadline is Aug. 23-\$100

**Medical Gas Installer (Full 40 hour):**  
Fall: Sept. 11 to Nov. 20, Deadline is Aug. 23 -\$200

**Steam Fundamentals for the Repair Plumber**  
Fall: Sept. 11 to Nov. 20, Deadline is Aug. 23 -\$100

**Hydronic Heating and Cooling**  
Fall: Sept. 11 to November 20, Deadline is Aug. 23 -\$100

**OPEN WELDING – Open welding is available on Wednesday evenings.** Please call Chris Opalka 248-585-1435 ext.146 for any welding related inquiries and to check on booth availability. For those that can't find time to get in during the weekdays, open welding will be available on the first Saturday of the month, call to get a booth.

**2023 brazing and welding sessions will be scheduled on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month.** If your brazing or welding certs are ready to expire, call to schedule an appointment. The next Weld-

(Continued next column)



## Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters, Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Service

UA Local 636

**DETROIT – Our next regular meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2024** at St. George Romanian Cultural Center 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. (at the Lodge) Southfield, MI 48075.

The time for new allocation suggestions is here! For any allocation suggestion, please either drop off, mail to the hall, or email Business Manager Larry Krisinski (lkrisinski@pipefitters636.org).

**REMINDER:** The annual Year End Financial Report will be read and the wage allocation vote will take place at the May 21, 2024 Regular Meeting.

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

**Attention Softball Players:** Anyone interested in playing Softball please contact Jeff Selph at 269-598-6942.

**Attention Hockey Players:** UA Local 67 Hamilton, ON Hockey Tournament that 636 participates in is taking place 5/3/24 – 5/5/24. Per past years, 636 sends an under 35 and an over 35 team. This year, there will be 8 pre-tournament conditioning skates on Tuesday's 3/12/2024 – 4/30/2024 from 4-5 pm at Redford Ice Arena. If you are current or new and interested in playing this year, please reach out to Ryan Stewart (248) 798-7420.

**Attention Retiree Golfers:** The 636 Eastside Retiree Golf League is hoping you'll join us this season. We play on Thursday's, usually around 11:00 am, spring through fall on a different course each week. If you are interested, simply call Jim Dunn at 248-709-7036 or Joe Bourgeois at 313-590-0448.

For those still owing on PLDF we are only able to take checks or money orders for payment.

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

**Save the Date:** Saturday Aug. 17, 2024 Local 636 will have our annual picnic at the SARA CLUB in Brighton, 11am – 4pm.  
**2024 Golf Outing...SOLD OUT!**

The first Annual Local 636 Scholarship Golf Outing Saturday June 15, 2024 at Mystic Creek Golf Course Milford, MI. To get on a waiting list, please contact Jake Regits 248-939-6636 or Dan Gurley 248-939-5636. All proceeds benefit the Detroit Pipefitters Benevolent Fund!

**CALLING ALL RETIREES! The next meeting will be held May 16, 2024.**

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

**Our deepest condolences** go out to the members, families, and friends of the following, who have passed from our ranks: Condolences to Daniel & Justin Jagosz on the passing of their Mother Sandra Jean Falvo April 8, 2024 also related to Tom Atkins sr. and TJ Atkins; Condolences

## Local 98, con't

**ing and Brazing sessions** will be May 4, 2024. \*\*You must call to schedule your brazing OR welding tests at least 3 days prior to the test. Please note: All members must be dressed appropriately to be in the shop area.

**2023 Course Hour reimbursement forms** are 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, 2023 to be eligible for the \$100.00 reimbursement.

**OSHA Training** - OSHA 10, available as an online class for \$59 at [www.careersafeonline.com](http://www.careersafeonline.com) This OSHA 10 class is not affiliated with the UA or our Training Center. OSHA 10 and 30 Hour Training is also offered online through the MUST website. Go to [www.mustonline.org](http://www.mustonline.org). \*\*Be sure to take the Construction Safety courses; not the General Industry courses.

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

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

to Lifetime Member Norman Davis on the passing of his wife Sharyn K. Davis April 3, 2024; Condolences to Lifetime Member Ronald Hornyak on the passing of his Father Joe Hornyak April 2, 2024;

**Deceased Members** – 47-Year Member George Braman April 10, 2024; 34 Year Member Robert “Bob” Simon Mar. 25, 2024; Lifetime Member James Flanary Mar. 21, 2024; Lifetime Member Gary Lewis March 5, 2024, may they Rest in Peace.

**Get Well Wishes to;** Charles Baker, Barbara Brown, Adam Cloutier, Patrick Cullen, Theresa Danko, Brian Finley, Kevin Harper, Andrew Hernandez, Alan Hiller, Jamie Klimowicz, Frank Kozlowski, Mark Surowiec, Kirt Williamson, David Yuhn, David Jarzab, Brian Mierendorf, Paul Franjesh, and Ron Sarata.

**Congratulations!** To Member Daniel Caldwell and his wife Robin on the birth of their daughter Grace!

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

**January;** Daniel Sarma, David Selph March; Amanda Weidenbach.

**Dues - First Quarter Dues are due now or you may incur a suspension with a \$50 reinstatement fee.** Your dues receipts will now be emailed to you; this will help us save on the cost of mailing receipts. Please call the Local to update your email and phone numbers. Local 636 has set up an auto-pay system for your dues so you will never miss a payment. Please contact Kim Kavanaugh at the union hall, she will be more than happy to help you with payment made by credit or debit card.

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

**S.U.B. -NEW- Direct Deposit is NOW AVAILABLE** for SUBPAY. Participants should continue to send all applications and weekly proof to the SUB Fund office for review and processing by emailing [subpay@pipefitters636.org](mailto:subpay@pipefitters636.org).

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

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

After 10am every Wednesday, BeneSys will generate the checks in the SUB System and have them printed and mailed from Troy production.

**Direct Deposit is now available,** members choosing direct deposit will have the payments deposited into their accounts on Fridays. That is the reason for processing being done on Wednesdays.

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

**BeneSys** has set up a dedicated phone line for Pipefitters 636 needs and questions, when calling BeneSys, please call #248-641-4936 or #888-646-8920.

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

**Defined Contribution Pension Plan.** For those members who use the Voice Response Unit, VRU to obtain balance information and transfers funds in your Defined Contribution Pension, the number has changed. The NEW 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 **corrected** website is [www.accountplanaccess.net/benesys](http://www.accountplanaccess.net/benesys). Your initial login information is

as follows: Username – Social Security number, without the dashes. Password – Full birth date, without the slashes, (mmddyyyy). You will be prompted to update your username and password after initial login. Upon login, the site will take you to the “My Dashboard” page. Here you will be able to review a snapshot of your account balance, investments, and recent transactional activity.

**Considering Retirement?** Any member may meet at the office during business hours with Jake Regits, Financial Secretary-Treasurer, to begin the process. Jake can be reached at ext. 5, to schedule an appointment so that he can get all of your paperwork in order, or if you prefer, contact our Members Phone Line 248-641-4936 at BeneSys for your retirement paperwork.

**Please allow a 60–90-day notice that is necessary** to adequately process the requests for paperwork, getting the forms sent to the participant, the member completing it and returning it to the Fund Office for final processing.

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

**WHEN YOU STAY CURRENT WITH YOUR SAFETY MODULES, DRUG TEST AND FIRST AID, YOU WILL QUALIFY FOR FUTURE CERTIFICATION PAYMENTS.**

**Training Center News.** Regular night welding runs through the Summer: Monday and Thursday nights from 4pm till 8pm.

Certified Brazing class Monday and Thursday Night 4 till 8 We will be accepting applications for a new service instructor on July 18<sup>th</sup>, call Kim before to schedule an interview time.



Sprinkler Fitters Local 704

**DETROIT – The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday, May 8, at 5:30 P.M.** at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

Your dues payment is due the last day of the month.

**Training Classes:** A fire pump testing class is being scheduled at the Local 704 Training Center, Call Jeff Gray to reserve your spot. ASSE 15000, ITM classes are scheduled for after the first of the year, this is a forty-hour class. Contact the training center for more information.

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

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

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

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

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

**Jason May (Merrill Lynch):** 248-655-4048 for D.C. Fund Investment questions.

Condolences go to the family and friends of Retired Brother Robert Theisen who passed April 3. Brother Theisen was a 38 year member of Local 704. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

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

# BOOT REPAIR

Please look us up on Facebook or Instagram and YouTube @ EBR Leathercraft

For your next repairs, call or text

**(810) 588-7576**

434 W. MAIN ST., BRIGHTON, MI 48116

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

### BIESKE & ASSOCIATES

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



**Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service**  
**Local 111**

**UA Local 111**  
UPPER PENINSULA – **Reminder:** the Thursday, April 25th Union Meeting in Escanaba at 7:30 will be a Special Called meeting for the purpose of Wage Allocation Vote and a presentation by the Pension Actuaries. **Please plan on attending!**  
**Welding Classes:** Tuesday Evening weld classes are ongoing at the Escanaba Training Center, classes run from 5 pm-9 pm on a week-to-week basis. We are also starting Saturday weld classes, 8am-4:30 pm, once a month. Contact Training Coordinator John Antoncev to be added to the notification list. Your position in the class is not confirmed until you receive a reply.  
**Upcoming Saturday Weld Sessions: April 27th.**  
**Upcoming Weld Tests: May 4**  
Anyone interested in 1-day shutdowns, please contact Business Agent/Dispatcher, Scott Pendergraft in the Escanaba office.  
**MRA CARD: Please check your MRA Account for transactions that are in need of substantiation or ineligible.**  
You can access this info here: <https://www.zenith-american.com/>  
The MRA link will take you directly to your MRA info and you will be able to see the ineligible transactions.  
Please make sure what you are submitting is either an **Explanation of Benefits (EOB)** or an **Itemized billing with paid receipt**, that includes:  
Provider Name  
Patient Name  
Date of Service  
Description of Service  
Total Patient Responsibility  
Please if you are having trouble with something you have submitted you can call the Zenith American Solutions helpline at 1-866-823-4730 extension 1 (MRA) Or call the hall and Rose will be able to try and assist you-906-226-6511 ext. 4  
**New 988 Crisis Helpline:**  
The UA & the MCAA have made a joint investment to spread awareness on how we approach mental health and suicide prevention. New resources are now available with the implementation of the Department of Health and Human Services 988 Lifeline. Call or text 988 to be connected to trained counselors who will listen & provide support and linked to resources.  
**Reminder:** Check your records and contact the hall with *any changes* to the following: **E-Mail, home address, phone number, a new birth, marriage, divorce, or death.** Please call April or Rose to have your information updated.  
**Reminder:** It is your responsibility to call the hall as soon as you get laid off, the day you call in is the date that you are placed on the **Out of Work List**, if you do not call in you will not be referred to work.  
Reminder to all apprentices, you must attend 4 union meetings per year.  
**Reminder to Welders/Welding Forms:** The UA Welder Qualification Continuity Report forms are available on our website under Training or at the hall. Certifications expire every 6 months and it is **YOUR** responsibility to get your welding forms turned in on time.  
Please update all Non-UA certifications (Plumbing License, MUST, OSHA-30, MSHA etc.) by sending a copy of your certification to the Union Hall  
**Check your dues records!**  
You are assessed a \$50 reinstatement once you become 3 months behind. You are automatically expelled once you are over 6 months behind.  
**Safety Training on Local 111 Web Site:** When taking the on-line safety training, go to our web site **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:** To register for an MSHA class please go to **Upconstruction.org** and go to the **MSHA calendar** to register. This website applies for cancelling classes also.



**Local 370**  
**Plumbers, Pipe Fitters and HVAC Service**

**UA Local 370**  
FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 14th, 2024, at 7:00 and is designated **Special Called Meeting** for the purpose of Wage Allocation and Discussion of Vehicles.  
**Scholarship Applications** for the 2024-2025 school year are now available on our website at [ualocal370.org](http://ualocal370.org). The applicant must be a son or daughter of a member in good standing of UA Local 370. Complete lists of qualifications and applications are also available at Local 370 hall. Applications are due by the end of May.  
**Upcoming Night Class Schedule:**  
**First Aid & CPR** September 18th @ 430  
**HVACR STAR Mastery Prep** Monday May 20th and Wednesday May 22nd with exam on Thursday May 23rd.  
**A2L Class** Sign up today. Class dates TBD  
All classes and test days can be signed up with the Training Center at 810-720-5243 ext 15 or at [training@ualocal370.org](mailto:training@ualocal370.org)  
Per our **By-Laws Article XV, The Building Tradesman** is hereby adopted and subscribed to as our Labor paper for all members of Local 370. Said paper to be used for all official notification of membership.  
**Committee and Board meetings are as follows:**  
Examining Board – Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 4:00pm  
FMR Committee – Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 4:00pm  
PAC committee – Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 5:00pm  
Executive Board – Tuesday, May 14, 2024, at 5:00pm  
Building Committee – Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 6:00pm  
Finance Committee -Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 6:15pm  
JATC Committee – TBD  
**ALL GM Worksites and others require Must Safety and Drug Testing:** MUST safety modules are only valid for 4 years. Call the hall to sign up for the MUSTSAFE.com website and complete all 18 safety modules. Members will not be eligible to work at any job site requiring them until all 18 modules are complete and are current on their drug test. If your drug test is expired, you must take one before you can be dispatched to any GM work. Drug tests are only valid for 1 year. Call The Hall and we will print you a drug test authorization form  
Local 370 office hours 7:30am – 4:30pm.  
Sub/Sick checks will be processed 8:00am – 11:30 am and 1:30pm – 4:15pm daily.  
**Attendance award** drawing for membership meeting information. Members present must have dues paid to date to claim award. The 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 Riggging, Med-Gas, Back flow or any work-related training or certification expense. Members will be reimbursed after successful completion and verification of the cost. Lost wages will not be covered by the JATC. Plumbing license renewal is still the responsibility of the member. If you have any questions, please contact local 370 JATC.  
**Mobile App.** Our mobile app. is now available for download on your cell phone. Go to the app store and search **UA Local 370**. Download the app and sign in. You can read the latest Building Trades article, see upcoming meeting dates, or pay your dues. This is a work in progress, and we will add more content to the site as we move forward.  
**Our web site is up and running.** Check it out at [ualocal370.org](http://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  
**(Continued next column)**



**AT WORK AT THE Hannahville Indian Community's new Governmental Services and Health Clinic Building in Wilson in the Upper Peninsula is Garrett Saari of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 111. He's employed by Berger and King.**  
Photo credit: Jack Deo



**Local 174**  
**Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & Service Trades**

**UA Local 174**  
COOPERSVILLE – MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The monthly membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 7:00pm in our Assembly Hall at 1008 O'Malley Dr in Coopersville. The front office will remain open until 6:55pm.  
**ATTENTION:** This paper is to serve as the official notice to the membership.  
**Retiree Breakfast:** The retiree breakfast will be held on Thursday, May 9, 2024, at 9am at New Beginnings Restaurant in Coopersville.  
**#174 Golf League:** The Local #174 Golf League will start Wednesday May 1st at Hickory Knoll in Whitehall. Two person teams, 80% handicap, \$18.50 for 9 and half a cart. Bring your own beer and there are 4 different 9-hole courses. Show up at 5pm that 1st night with your partner and we'll pair you up with another group. League runs until the end of September.  
**Organizing Update:** I've received quite a few phone calls from non-union workers, I appreciate everyone passing along my information. If they don't have any experience I have them apply in February and invite them to our open house we're having on May 16. I've been getting a lot of responses from the social media videos as well, using different platforms to get the message out.  
We also have a billboard on I-96 right by our union hall, it's pretty catchy. I will be in Wisconsin this week helping other organizers hit the pavement. We will have organizers from other areas in our state the week of May 6; everyone is coming together to help out for the same cause. If you know any non-union workers please have them call me 616-307-8551 - Johnny Ortiz.  
**Hiring Rule Reminder:** As

**Local 370, con't**  
the monthly window dues fee and a 3% fee for all other transactions.  
Remember to keep your dues current. Any member failing to pay for 3 months shall stand suspended, unable to vote for a period of 1 year or run for office for a period of 2 years and subject to a \$50.00 reinstatement fee. Dues must be paid in 3-month increments according to our by-laws. Dues will be accepted up to 6:45 on union meeting nights.  
Members wishing to take the U.A. welding certification test contact business agent, Zack Desrochers 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 \$30 and the long sleeve tee shirts are \$15. Golf polo and golf wind shirts are available for \$25.  
If you shop on the internet, SHOP UNION MADE, log on to [www.shopunionmade.com](http://www.shopunionmade.com).  
T.I.C. fringe administrators' toll free number is 1-888-797-5862.

**Local 174, con't**  
per section 5.8 of the CBA, the 50/50 hiring provision applies only to jobs working under the Local CBA. Any national agreement jobs calling for manpower are not eligible for the 50/50 provision.  
**Contact Information:** If you need to change or verify your contact information, PLEASE CONTACT THE UNION OFFICE as soon as possible so we can keep our system up to date.  
**FRINGE PLAN THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR: (SOLXSYS)**  
West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters and Service Trades Local No. 174 Fringe Benefit Funds  
5600 New King St, Suite 330, Troy, MI 48098  
(855) 407-5862 Toll Free  
**Health Insurance Contact Info:**  
**Active and NON Medicare Retirees**  
Aetna: (855) 878-4101  
EAP: (888) 238-6232  
Save-Rx (800) 228-3108  
**Medicare Retirees Retiree First:** (616) 345-0788  
**Current Health Insurance Premiums:** Active Member Working Retiree \$1,110.33  
Non-working Pre-Medicare Retiree \$791.10  
Medicare Single \$123.63  
Medicare Couple \$247.26  
Medicare with Pre-Medicare Spouse \$497.13  
Medicare Surviving Spouse \$126.67  
**Solxsys, Aetna, Labor First:** If you have issues with any of our fund service providers, contact Ryan Bennett at [rbennett@ua174.org](mailto:rbennett@ua174.org). Please try to remember who you spoke with; this will help the company fix the problem.  
**Dues:** Please keep your monthly window dues current. You can find your dues balance on the website or by calling the Union office. Remember that if you are expelled from the UA, you are no longer eligible to attend Local Union events such as meetings, picnics, awards banquets, and Christmas parties.  
**Dispatch:** We have split up the dispatch responsibilities between the Business Agent and the Assistant Business Manager positions. Each person will be on dispatch for 2 weeks. There is a dispatch email of: [dispatch@ua174.org](mailto:dispatch@ua174.org) which both offices have access to. The dispatch phone extension will switch between the two offices depending on who is on dispatch.  
**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 that you are due for a raise.**  
**Labor Councils:** - Kent Ionia - 3rd Wednesday of the month / 5:00pm / Contact Nathan for location  
Lakeshore – 3rd Thursday of the month / CIO Hall 490 Western / 6pm  
All members are encouraged to become active in our area / Labor Councils. Please contact a Union Officer for details. \*The  
**(Continued next column)**



**Local 36**  
**Elevator Constructors**

Elevator Constructors Local 36  
**DETROIT- ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED,** our next regular MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE April 22, 2024, at 5:30pm at 1358 Abbott Street, Detroit, MI. This meeting will be at the IBEW Local 58 Electrician's Hall. Any changes to this schedule or venue will be in the Building Trades Article or sent via email.  
**We are going to be giving pins for service at the April Meeting,** so if you are eligible for 15 years or more of service pin, please attend this meeting.  
We are having a supplemental insurance company (Aflac) come into the April membership meeting to let members sign up for a policy if they choose, they need 25 members to sign up to get a group pricing.  
**Attention All Members,** this paper is to serve as official notice to the membership. This is how we get information out to all our members, as repetitive as it might be there is new information in each article, please read it carefully and call the hall or attend a union meeting if you have any questions.  
If you are interested in volunteering to help with the picnic, contact Jon Bujan , (586) 787-1114. The picnic will be on July 27.  
If you are interested in volunteering to help with the Golf Outing, please contact Justin Smith @ (248)709-0341. Golf outings, like the picnic, take a lot of time and effort to plan and execute, I would like to make this year one of our best outings. We plan on partnering with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention this year and many years to come to raise money for this cause. This year's outing will be our first annual Kyle Owsley Golf Outing to raise money for AFSP. If you are a golfer or just want to help volunteer in any way, contact Justin Smith.  
To all Mechanics and Temporary Mechanics doing testing in the State of Michigan and City of Detroit, Keep good records of your tests. Take a picture/scan of your test forms, make sure you fill out only what you completed. DO NOT leave an unfinished form on a jobsite, or turned in an unfinished form to your company, if you don't finish a test or must come back, take the form with you.  
I encourage everyone to use

Bill Pay through your bank to pay dues, it is a free service and can be set up for weekly, monthly, or quarterly. We have a few of our members who have already started this, and it seems to be working well. Please call the hall or contact your bank about how this works. If you start using Bill Pay, please let us know and we will call you when your first check arrives.  
The International has set up The Veteran Assistance Program to help veterans navigate the VA benefits they deserve. The email is [yap@iuec.org](mailto:yap@iuec.org) or contact Jason Gray, IUEC National Organizer @ 404-290-1012 or Ryan Donnell, EIWP National Coordinator @ 410-312-1474.

**If you move or your address changes, call the hall and make sure you fill out the address change form on the NEIBP website.**  
If you are going to be off with an injury (work related or non-work related), surgery or illness for a prolonged length of time, call the fund office and inform the hall. When you are off and go back to work.  
If you are off for a work-related injury, there is a separate form you must fill out. Call the hall with any questions.  
If you would like to sign up for Safety alerts, text (855) 957-1801 and sign up to receive Safety alerts via text and email.  
Once again, individuals with a Mechanic Exam Pass Date on or after Jul 9, 2022, must take a Mechanic Required (MR) Continuing Education course in 2024 to receive their scheduled pay raises Jan. 1, 2025. I highly recommend you take the course and keep up on it every year! We had 3000 members take the CE in 2023, 1100 required and 1900 grandfathered. We would like to see all our grandfathered Mechanics take this course in 2024, you will be paid 8 hours at mechanic's rate. If you aren't registered or are having problems getting registered, call the hall and we will help you.

If you start a new job in MOD/construction, you MUST call those jobs into the hall!! If you are going to be working a 4/10 job in construction or MOD, it MUST be submitted in writing to the Local Business Representative per Article VII Par. 2A. and Article VIII(A) Par. 2A.  
**Attention All Mechanics,** when filling out Probationary Apprentices OJTs, give them an honest evaluation, if you are having issues with them, state it on the OJTs. They will be evaluated at the JAC meeting, and if necessary, bring them in to try and correct any issues.  
**Attention All Apprentices,** if you are scheduled to sit for the Mechanic's exam, you must fill out your OJTs till you get your passing results. Kenny and I would like to thank all of you for keeping up on your OJTs, schooling, and commitment to your future. Check your NEIEP emails frequently. OJT forms need to be filled out COMPLETELY by the 9th day of the following month. **There is NO excuse for these to be late!**  
If you are eligible to sit for your State of Michigan or City of Detroit class A journeyman's license, study the code books and schedule a time to sit for them. If you pass your mechanic's exam and don't have your licenses you are not eligible to work in the State or City as a Mechanic without them. Getting your licenses and any certificates/training only makes you more valuable as an employee. If you need help with any part of the process, call the hall.  
**Attention All Temporary Mechanics,** your Temporary Mechanic's Agreement MUST be signed by the end of each month at the Union meeting. If you can't make the Union meeting (for good reasons) to sign your agreement, then come down to the hall the NEXT MORNING. If we continue to have problems getting these signed, you will be called down in front of the Executive board. If you are put back to Apprentice status, your personal tools MUST be taken off the job and notify the hall.  
**Attention All Retirees,** if you requested an Honorary Card and have not received it, please contact the Hall.  
**If you are NOT receiving my emails, contact the Hall so I can get you on the email list.** We would like to extend well wishes to all Brothers and Sisters on our sick list.  
Be safe and stay healthy!

**Local 174, con't**  
Kent Ionia Labor Council has recently moved from the building on Benjamin and will be rotating meeting locations monthly.  
**Training News:**  
**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 Thursday, May 9th, 2024, and Thursday, June 13th, 2024.  
**WCP:** The next weld test event will be Saturday, May 11th, 2024, @ 8:00 am. The capability demonstration will be on Thursday, May 9th, 2024, from 5:00p – 9:00p. Please call/text and sign up if you plan to test.  
**OPEN WELD:** Wednesday nights 5-9pm. Call ahead to notify us if you'll be late. We will continue to hold this providing there is enough interest.  
**PLUMBING CODE CLASS:** State prep class will be April 24th May 1st 8th 15th and 22nd. 5-8pm call to be put on list. Staff will be gone 24-28 for the Michigan Pipe Trades Apprenticeship Competition. Tyler Boomsma; HVAC, Conner Brown; Welding, Nathan Shoonover; Pipefitter, and Cody Terpstra; Plumbing. These men will be representing us at the competition. Wish them luck if you see them.  
We have a problem with people signing up for a class then not being available for the class or missing times during the course. These classes are afforded by the contributions of our members. If you sign up for a course, it is expected for you to make your schedule work for these classes.  
If you have a certification that has expired in the last few months and have questions regarding recertification, please contact the Training Office. Many certifications have extended grace periods on expiration dates. Please contact Chris Phillips or Nicole Schumaker if you have questions.  
Call the Training Office @ (616)837-0222 x16 (Chris) / Nicole @ (616)837-0222 x30. Or via text Chris (906)322-1592 / Nicole (231)206-4213.





## Local 514 Cement Masons & Plasterers

Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' Local 514

DETROIT - April's membership meeting is canceled due to the business managers' meeting. The next membership meeting is Tuesday, May 21, at 7 pm. There will also, be an Executive Board meeting the same day at 5:30 pm. Please make every effort to enjoy fellowship with your brothers and sisters and we will be holding a raffle for Detroit Tiger tickets!!

Please contact the local at 248-548-0800 or you can email your updated information to: [abest@opciami.org](mailto:abest@opciami.org) Please send your updated information in a timely manner.

Our deepest condolences go out to Bro. Kariem Ford & family, on the passing of his mother Mary Ford. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Our deepest condolences go out to Bro. Chris Richardson & family, on the passing of his wife Linda Blair Richardson. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

**Membership gold cards- Congratulations!** April Robert Blaylock Jr. -25 Years Thomas Earley-25 Years Brian Mlasko-25 Years

For any questions regarding the Apprenticeship program, contact Tommy Sanchez, the new Apprenticeship coordinator, at (313) 350-0389

**MUST Safety Awareness Training:** Please check the MUST website at [www.Mustsafe.com](http://www.Mustsafe.com) to see how many modules you have. Your username is your full social security number and your password is the first four of your social security number.

**Please activate your Blue Cross Blue Shield account.** To activate your Blue Cross member account online go to [bcbsm.com/register](http://bcbsm.com/register) and select register now.

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

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

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

**Attention all Apprentices,** now you will need to go to the website: [www.micementplastertraining.com](http://www.micementplastertraining.com) to enter your work hours. When you get to the website click the link "About" and then click on "Apprentice"

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

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

**Please refer to website for updated information.**

**O.P.C.M.I.A. Local 514 has a satellite office in Flint, MI. 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.**

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.muston-line.org](http://www.muston-line.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

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## Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

BAC Local 2 WARREN/LANSING - MAY 2024 CHAPTER MEETINGS. The May Chapter meetings will also include the Special Called meeting in all Chapters for the purpose of NOMINATION / ELECTION of Chapter Chair-



PAUL DUNFORD

man, Recording Secretary and Sergeant-at-Arms for each Chapter. If an election(s) is necessary in any of our Chapters, it shall be conducted by secret ballot election at that June Chapter meeting.

**METRO DETROIT CHAPTER:** Tuesday, May 07, 2024 at 5:30 PM, 21031 Ryan Road, Warren, MI 48091

**ANN ARBOR CHAPTER:** Tuesday, May 07, 2024 at 6:00 PM, 8225 Dexter-Chelsea Road, Dexter, MI 48130

**FLINT CHAPTER:** Wednesday, May 08, 2024 at 7:30 PM, 1701 W Genesee Street, Lapeer, MI 48446

**KALAMAZOO CHAPTER:** Thursday, May 09, 2024 at 6:00 PM, 11847 Shaver Road, Schoolcraft, MI 49087

**LANSING CHAPTER:** Monday, May 13, 2024 at 6:00 PM, 3321 Remy Dr., Lansing, MI 48906

**MARQUETTE CHAPTER SEMI-ANNUAL:** Saturday, May 18, 2024 at 10 AM, 119 S Front St., Marquette, MI 49855

**SAGINAW CHAPTER:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at 7 PM, 1300 W Thomas St., Bay City, MI 48706

**TRAVERSE CITY CHAPTER:** Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at 6:30 PM, 3912 Blair Town Hall Rd West, Traverse City, MI 49685

**UP RETIREE LUNCHEON.**

**WHEN:** Friday, May 17, 2024; 11 AM – 2 PM

**WHERE:** Vierling Sampling Room, 119 S. Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

**WHO:** Retired members ONLY  
**QUESTIONS:** Contact Adam Saari, Business Agent, at (906) 250-6971

**DEATH REPORTED.** Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Brother **Sebastiano Deangelis** (Bricklayer) who passed away on March 18, 2024. Brother Deangelis had been a member for 54 years.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Brother **Lloyd Krotzer** (Bricklayer) who passed away on March 02, 2024. Brother Krotzer had been a member for 66 years.

## Local 514, con't

are having your vacation checks mailed out. If you have moved, please contact the Local and we will change your addresses with all of the fund offices.

**Important Notice For Plasterers and Detroit Commercial Cement Masons:** You are able to find out more about Fund investments, change your investments, obtain your balances, and, during regular business hours, speak to a representative by contacting Principal either via its website, [www.principal.com](http://www.principal.com) or by telephone, 800-547-7754.

Access and make changes to y can contact the Fund Office for assistance at (248) 645-6550 or 30700 Telegraph Rd., Ste 2400 Bingham Farms, MI 48025-4524 The Fund Office's business hours are 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**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.

If you have questions concerning your pension benefits, **Road Builders** can call: Toll Free at 1-877-876-9357 or (517) 321-7502.

**Plasters and Commercial Cement Masons** can call: (248) 645-6550 for pension and annuity, and Toll Free 1-877-876-9357.

All Plasterers and Cement Masons can contact (517) 321-7502 for health & welfare information now through Outstate Michigan Trowel Trades Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan. For the INTERNATIONAL PENSION Call 1-888-880-8222 Toll Free or (202) 638-1996.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Brother **John R Wood** (Bricklayer & Stone Mason) who passed away on Oct. 17, 2023. Brother Wood had been a member for 75 years

**UNION DUES UPDATE.** Effective Jan. 01, 2024, the dues discount has changed. It is now pay 9 months, get 3 free. To receive discount, you must be current on dues. **Members will only be able to pay 2 years in advance.**

**TEXTING PROGRAM.** 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 text message. You must be signed up to receive these messages. You can sign up via the following:

Text **2MI** to **50607**

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!

**WEBSITE UPDATES.** Be sure to check out our new website at <https://www.bricklayers.org> and our app, which can be found in the IOS and Android app stores by searching for Bricklayers Local 2.

**CRAFTWORKERS NEEDED.** We need Skilled Bricklayers, Restoration workers and Caulkers in Metro Detroit.

If you are available for work, or know anyone who is skilled in our crafts, contact your Field Representative on their cell phone.

You can also have those who are interested call either the Warren office (586) 754-0888 or the Lansing office (517) 886-9781.

**SIGNING BONUS FOR SKILLED CRAFTWORKERS.** Local 2 will pay up to \$2,000 as a **Signing Bonus** for skilled Journey Level craftworkers who come to work for one of our Union Contractors.

**BAC LOCAL 2'S TRAINING CENTERS.** Both Local 2 Training Centers are open to our members. To make your appointment for your annual RESPIRATOR FIT TEST or for other scheduled appointments at the Warren or Lansing Training Center, please contact Howard Hipes directly at (517) 749-1102.

Go to <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org> to view the Apprenticeship and Training website and register for future 2024 online training classes.

**APPRENTICE WORKSHEETS.** Turning in monthly worksheets is a requirement of your apprenticeship. Apprentice Worksheets MUST be filled out completely and submitted online. They can be found at <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org/resources>. For more information on the Training Centers visit: <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org>

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

**PENSION AND HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION.** BAC of Michigan Health & Welfare Fund - (248) 828-6000 CALL-A-DOC - (800) 835-2362

Cement Pension & Vacation Funds - (248) 645-6550 International Pension/Annuity Fund - (888) 880-8222 or (202) 638-1996 ([bacbenefits.org](http://bacbenefits.org))

Metro Detroit Bricklayers Pension - (248) 641-4954 Michigan BAC Pension Fund (Outstate) - (800) 531-2244 Michigan BAC Vacation Fund - (248) 828-6000



INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS BAY CITY MICHIGAN IBEW Local 692

BAY CITY - Union Meeting. The May monthly membership meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> 2024.**

**Executive Board Meeting.** The May Executive Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024.**

**Message from the Business Manager.** Work in the jurisdiction remains incredibly strong. Please contact the hall if you are not currently working in your home jurisdiction and have interest of doing so. To continue to grow our market share, it is imperative to man the work our contractors have secured. Many calls have received little to no interest on the recorder as of late. As market share continues to climb, wages will be directly correlational.

Contract negotiations will continue through the Spring of 2024 on the inside wireman's agreement. As soon as a tentative agreement is reached the membership will be notified for a ratification vote.

**Work Report.** Ongoing projects in our jurisdiction that may require additional manpower include:

- Nelson Electric (Currently) GM Powertrain
- J. Ranck Electric - continuing work at SK Siltron semi-conductor chip manufacturing facility. Another \$560 Million was allocated by the Biden administration to SK. This phase should begin early fall.
- Master Electric continues Electrical installations on the new Isabella County Jail. More calls for this project are expected. Master also has projects at the Midland Armory and Midland ESA for this summer.
- Countyline has secured Airport Work. Countyline has a Michigan Sugar De-Sugarization Project and also a project at the Mt. Pleasant Water Treatment facility.
- Clements Electric Independence Bridge work continues along with Bay Carbon Project, and also work out to the Bay City State Park. Clements has also secured the next phase of work out to Mersen. Work on the 7 Mile grow for Clements Electric should resume any day.
- Conti Electric has many projects inside I-Park (DOW). Calls for a 6-8-week shutdown inside the I Park should start rolling in any day. Conti Electric has also secured a couple small projects inside Michigan Sugar along with a nice Fire Alarm Project on site at Michigan Sugar.
- Conti Electric also expects to assemble trailer city on their upcoming solar project near Rogers City April 1<sup>st</sup>. Conti expects the average manpower on this project to be around 50 peaking at 90. Zone 1 scale will be paid on this project along with \$ 50.00 dollars a day incentive pay being offered per Conti.
- Escon continues work on a nice project at Mersen USA in Bay City's south end. Much more work is to come out at Mersen with projects bidding as you read this article.
- Zone 2 also has another Solar project coming to the Lafarge Cement Plant. This Project could also start very soon. Northern Valley has secured this work.
- Another large-scale utility solar project is expected to break ground in Isabella County this year. As soon as more details are known I will share them.
- Superior Electric has a new line out to Bay City Powertrain along with a cooling tower project. Calls will continue for these projects. Rest assured both organizers and myself are working very diligently to secure whatever work is being bid in our jurisdiction for our membership.

Detroit, Ann Arbor and Lansing are currently having many calls getting into Book II if you are looking for work. Please contact the hall if you would like to sign any books.

**-In Solidarity, Ryan Charney, Business Manager / Financial Secretary**

**Organizers Report.** As always, 692 organizers continue to visit non-union job sites to speak with unrepresented electricians. We should never lose sight of the organizing mission that guided the birth and growth of the IBEW. Our founders built a strong union by organizing all qualified workers, which allows us to achieve higher union density and ultimately increases our bargaining power during negotiations.

Our union's best organizers are our members. Please do not shy away from reaching out to any electrical worker not yet represented by the IBEW. If you've recently been organized yourself, speak with your former coworkers to let them know how your life has improved. Let's do our best to not leave any potential members behind.

Agents have been working to expand our contractor base by generating new shop owners within our current membership and assisting smaller signatory contractors performing often overlooked work within our jurisdiction. Residential work, service calls and new commercial buildouts can and should be performed by IBEW wiremen.

As we expect local calls to pick up this spring and into summer, we remind traveling Brothers and Sisters the importance of manning our own work. Please continue to call the job line and consider all work opportunities available to you. Open calls do present an excellent opportunity to organize new members, but local job openings can serve the existing membership just as well. Our #1 goal is to always have local work available for our journeymen and apprentices.

An additional run of new stickers has been ordered and will be arriving shortly. Pencils, pencil clips and 2024 planners are available now at the hall. Local 692 challenge coins are scheduled to arrive any day. NEC significant changes quick-cards are available through the Training Center. Code update classes have yet to be scheduled. When classes are scheduled, members will be notified.

**Union Dues. PLEASE NOTE: Effective Jan. 1, 2024, dues will remain \$45.20 per month through June 2024. Effective July 1, 2024, dues will increase to \$46.20 per month.** This \$1 per capita increase was approved by the delegates of the 40<sup>th</sup> IBEW International Convention held in May of 2022.

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

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

2024 Dues (January 2024 thru June 2024): \$45.20 Monthly  
2024 Dues (July 2024 thru December 2024): \$46.20 Monthly

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



## Local 665

IBEW Local 665

**LANSING - WORK OUTLOOK:** Local 665 has OPEN CALLS and will need help from our travelling brothers and sisters. Call the hall for the most up to date information. 665 will be experiencing unfilled calls for all of 2024.

**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:** Local 665 has reached a milestone. We have just surpassed 700 members in the local, of which 140 are apprentices. With the new faces around please remember it is a Journeyman's job to teach first and empower the next generation to learn and grow.

**ELECTRICAL VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE TRAINING PROGRAM:** If you are interested in helping our local secure more work in the Lansing area it is critical, we sign up for this training. This program is looking to be required by the federal government to work on any large-scale electric vehicle charger stations. The program is online on your blended learning platform. Please email [Dale@lejatec.org](mailto:Dale@lejatec.org) or contact the apprenticeship office with questions or how to sign up.

**HARASSMENT TRAINING:** has been adopted as part of our new contract. It is required for all our members to complete it. Please reach out to the JATC to sign up for it. You can email [Dale@lejatec.org](mailto:Dale@lejatec.org) to receive instructions on how to complete it.

**APPRENTICESHIP APPLICATIONS:** We often get calls or emails on how and/or where to apply to Local 665's apprenticeship program. To apply, go to [www.lejatec.org](http://www.lejatec.org) and navigate to the application page on the website. Applications are accepted on the first Monday of each month.

**FIRST AID/CPR:** If you require First Aid/CPR. Contact the JATC for the next available date to sign up.

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

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS:** are on the third Monday of each month and start at 6:30 pm at the Hall.

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

**DUES AND DEATH BENEFITS:** Quarterly dues are due. We are on death benefit #349. Please look at your dues to ensure that you are current.

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

**IN REMEMBRANCE:** In remembrance of local 665 members who have passed away. May their memory be eternal.

Arthur "Dave" Benzing-er 03/28/24, James McDonald 2/22/24, Roger Carroll 12/13/23, Harry Baker 11/26/23, Mark McCrackin 10/02/23, Howard Shooltz 08/14/23, Gerald Loughlin 08/19/23, Walter Keith Sr. 07/12/23, Joseph Fussman 06/16/23, Eric Odle 05/15/23, Christopher Brown 04/12/23, Richard Farrington 03/12/2023.



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**IBEW Local 445**

IBEW Local 445 BATTLE CREEK – IBEW Local 445 Annual Golf Outing The 17th Annual IBEW Local 445 Golf Outing hosted at Binder Park Golf Course is scheduled for Saturday, July 13th, 8am shotgun start. Please contact the Hall for the individual/team registration/ sponsorship paperwork.

**IBEW Local 445 Member Picnic.** The Annual IBEW Local 445 Member Picnic will be at the Hall on Sept. 7, 2024, starting at noon.

**In Memoriam.** It is with a heavy heart that I inform you of the passing of Daniel Clemence and James Zeiter. Please keep their families in your prayers.

**Special Fund – \*IMPOR-TANT\*** This is a reminder that you may be required to supply proper receipt substantiation for your debit card usage.

Claims prior to Aug. 31, 2023, were issued a 1099 for unsubstantiated claims and no further action is needed for those claims.

For any claims after Aug. 31, 2023, may need substantiation. You will want to sign into the Special Fund website or App to verify if receipts are required.

If proper substantiation is not made within 63 days of the Debit Card usage, your card may be suspended until proper substantiation is provided or repayment to the Fund is made.

**Wilson-McShane** has replaced TICI for our benefit administration as of June 1, 2023. Please have a little patience as the transition has had some bumps that they are smoothing out. You can visit [www.michiganelectrical.org](http://www.michiganelectrical.org) to create a new account under the Member Portal tab.

You should have received new Special Fund cards that are white. Please dispose of the old blue cards as they will no longer work.

The website to access your Special Fund is <https://ibewmichigan.lh1ondemand.com/Login.aspx>. There is an app you can download from your app store **MI IBEW Special Fund**.

You can find both links on [ibew445.com](http://ibew445.com) website under Resource Link.

**Local Website** - Please check the Local 445 website for the latest information, including job postings. The Local 445 web address is [IBEW445.com](http://IBEW445.com). Make sure you check out the Resource Link page for important related websites.

**Reminder about Health Plan Advocate** This is a reminder about the Michigan Electrical Health Plan Pharmacy Savings Program. Health Plan Advocates is working with the MEEHP to help the fund and the members to save money on costly prescriptions. If your prescription is over \$400.00, the HPA will check for copay savings cards to get members a \$0.00 payment for that prescription. If you receive correspondence from HPA, either via mail or email, you MUST respond to them to get enrolled. If you don't contact HPA, you could encounter a high deductible/co-pay when you fill that RX on your next refill.

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

**2024 Personal information** Please keep your address, phone number and email address up to date at the Hall. Also, contact the Hall with marriages, births of children and divorces. You have a limited time frame to add/remove dependents. Beneficiary cards and forms are also available at the Hall when you need to update them.

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

**Retiree Breakfast:** The Retiree monthly breakfast at 9am at Lux Café at 2587 Capital Ave SW. Mark your calendar for the third Thursday of each month to attend.

*Respectfully Submitted, Wanda Secrest Recording Secretary*

*"Perhaps too much of everything is as bad as too little."*  
–Edna Ferber (1887 - 1968)



**IBEW LOCAL 557**

IBEW 557 SAGINAW – UNION NEWS- Local 557's contract negotiations have been a tough process. The membership's idea of a fair deal and the contractors' idea of a fair deal are very different these days. At this point, three meetings have taken place. Please keep an eye out for more information to come soon on this matter.

**CODE UPDATE**– Code update classes scheduling has begun for 2024. Right now, Local 557 is scheduled for an in-person class on the weekend of April 27 & 28. Class will run from 8am – 5pm both days with an hour lunch period. If you would like to attend, please call the hall and sign up with your name and license number. Another in-person class will be offered at Flint's local May 7, 8, & 9. This class will run from 4:30pm to 9:30pm each day. If you wish to sign up for this class please contact the apprenticeship office in Flint. In the future, at-home class options will be available through our on-line teaching system. More information on this to come soon. In-person classes will also be offered again this fall.

**PROJECT PHOENIX**– Work is finally kicking off at the mega project happening across the street from Hemlock Semiconductor. The job has been labeled Project Phoenix. Some calls have come in with plenty more to come.

**PROJECT PHOENIX** could provide this Local with an amount of work that has not been seen in this area in a long, long time. There is the potential for an even more massive amount of work that could spin off from the first expansion. If our Local is to see the full benefit of all this work, there is only one way that can be accomplished – our members will need to come home to man the work. Local 557's membership should be depended on heavily for the success of the project. It will take all of us to make it work. It can not be understated how important this work could possibly be to the future of the Local. Please start thinking about where you may fit into this project.

**WALLEYE FESTIVAL**– The Freeland Walleye Festival will run on the weekend of April 26th. Union Night is back again due to popular demand. The Local has agreed to co-sponsor this event again. Special discounts for Union members will be available at the Festival on Friday the 26th. We will also be looking for volunteers at the parade walking and handing out candy. If you are interested in this please reach out to someone with the Renew committee or the Union Hall.

**GOLF LEAGUE**– Golf League Night at Twin Oaks is back. April 25th is the official start of the golf season. Tee times start shortly after 6pm on Thursdays. Poker night is also scheduled for this same day. If the weather is bad, poker will happen at the Hall. If the weather is good, we hope to see you on the golf course.

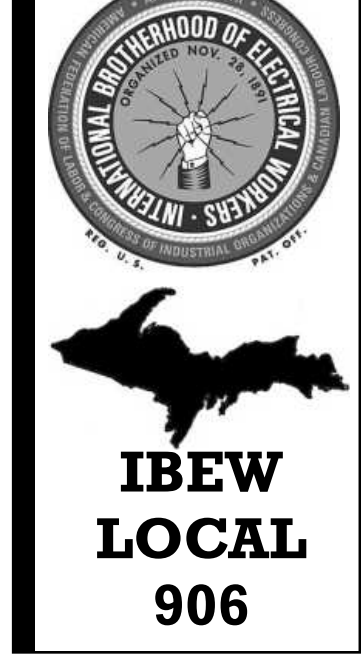
**MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS**– The next membership meeting is May 7th at the Hall at 5:30pm.

**ORGANIZING**– Please contact Brother Gus Voisine for any organizing issues. If our members have any questions, please reach out to him on his cell: 989-941-8046. If you know someone in the electrical field that would like to join our membership, please reach out to them. The new member incentive program is still ongoing, and it could mean a bonus for you, as an existing member as well. The opportunities in front of us in the IBEW are plentiful now and should be for a good period of time. The IBEW is all about changing lives and we will continue to do so.

**UNION HALL OPERATIONS**– Normal Business Hours are Monday-Friday 7-4:30pm.

**BOOK SIGNING**– If you are a Local 557 member and receive a lay-off, please come to the hall and sign Book 1 in person. Many Locals throughout the State of Michigan will continue to accept fax/email initial book signings. If you are interested in this reciprocated benefit and would like to be on some out-of-

*(Continued next column)*



**IBEW LOCAL 906**

IBEW Local 906 UPPER PENINSULA – Meetings- 7pm local times Marquette unit- First Tuesday

Iron Mountain unit – Second Tuesday Escanaba unit – Second Wednesday

Brothers and Sisters, The May General Membership meeting is scheduled for Saturday May 4 at 1pm at the Masonic Lodge in Marquette, 128 West Washington St. We will be voting on wage allocation. If you have any proposals please bring them to the meeting. If you have any questions concerning the allocations, please reach out to the hall.

**Code update classes:** The JATC is still working on the scheduling of online and in person classes. More details to follow. Code update for our members working for Billerud is scheduled for June 6 and 7 at the mill.

The 39th Annual U.P. Building Trades Golf Outing is scheduled for Saturday, June 22 at Wawonowin Country Club. The body has approved sponsorship for teams. If you would like further details or to sign up please call the hall.

Reminder: Renew committee meets the first Thursday each month at 7pm. If you would like to attend please contact Dejian Dean at [dejiandean906ibew@gmail.com](mailto:dejiandean906ibew@gmail.com)

Reminder: Our retiree luncheon is the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Vierling Restaurant on Front Street below the hall in Marquette starting at 11 am.

**Local 557, con't**

town Books, please call the hall to arrange this.

**WORK OUTLOOK**– Initial calls for Project Phoenix have come in. Work continues at Solar projects in the area. If you are interested in these jobs, they should be available for Book 1 and Book 2 members. Members of other Locals can sign Book 2 by contacting their Hall for a simple email to be sent on your behalf, if in good standing. Weinstein Electric from Local 948 continues work on the new Bavarian Inn Waterpark in Frankenmuth. Master Electric has also secured a job at SVSU. Local contractors continue to work on various projects at schools, hospitals, some auto plants and other various jobs.

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

**WEX APP**– You will need to download the new WEX app for your phone. Search for "MI IBEW Special Fund" in the Google or Apple store. After doing this step, it will work the same as the old app, only more efficiently.

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

**STAY CURRENT ON DUES** Please check to see if you are current. The Hall can accept credit cards. The credit card service can accept payments for dues, merchandise, apprentice book payments and other purchases.

**CONTACT NUMBERS**– Michigan Electrical Employee Pension fund and Michigan Health Plan (855)633-4584. Website is: [www.michiganelectrical.org](http://www.michiganelectrical.org)  
**In Solidarity, Evan Allardyce, Business Manager**



**IBEW Local 498**  
"Powering Northern Michigan Since 1949"

IBEW Local 498 TRAVERSE CITY – Meetings.

**Regular E Board**– The next regularly scheduled E-Board meeting is set for Monday, May 13, 2024 @ 5:30pm.

**Regular Meeting**– The next regularly scheduled membership meeting is Scheduled for 7pm Monday, May 13, 2024.

**Negotiations**– \*Important Meeting Notice – At the next regular meeting on May 13, we will have a ratification vote and a wage disbursement vote. As per the IBEW Constitution and By-Laws, only Journeyman Inside Wireman will be allowed to vote for these 2 items. If any CE Premium brothers or sisters want to reallocate any or part of their package, that will be available for them as well. Please let Dave know so we can make an example wage sheet that reflects your request.

**75th Anniversary of Local Union 498** – The April 27, 2024 Celebration schedule is as follows:

5pm: Doors open, bar opens, registration opens

6pm: Dinner is served, bar closes, quick service awards and speech.

7pm: Bar reopens  
8pm: Bar closes  
9pm: Event ends

Bar is free and it will include beer, wine, and liquor/mixed drinks. We will have a chicken and beef option for dinner. The dress will be business casual or close. We are at full capacity at this time and we have 498 members on a standby list. So, if you or your guest who has registered can't make it to the event, please let us know ASAP.

We look forward to seeing everyone and getting a chance to reconnect with brothers and sisters we haven't spoken with in a while. Any questions, comments, or cancellations feel free to call or text Dylan Odwyer at 231-649-9157

**Code Update Class** – 2023 NEC 15-hour Code Update.

Option 1: Online class for Local 498 members only \$70.00 Call TCJATC for details. 231-943-4193

Option 2: In Person class, 3 sessions scheduled  
May 16 & 17, 2024-Class is Full

or June 13 & 14, 2024 or Sep 12 & 13, 2024

\*must pre-register by mail. Member fee \$20 by check or cash. Make Check payable to "TCJATC"

**Resale Items** – We still have a few select sizes of Local 498 t-shirts, as well as Beanie Hats for resale. Proud Union Home signs are in and available at the hall. Free to members in good standing

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

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

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

**Important numbers for you to write in your address book:**

MEEHP (Health) 1-855-633-4584 Fax 1-952-854-1632 Website: [www.michiganelectrical.org](http://www.michiganelectrical.org)

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

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

IO Pension 1-202-833-7000 DUES RATES

Jan 1, 2023 – Dues increase to \$152.10/Quarter.  
July 1, 2024 – Dues increase to \$155.10/Quarter.

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



**IBEW Local 131**  
Serving Southwest Michigan Since 1916

IBEW Local 131 KALAMAZOO – The next General Membership Meeting will be held on May 6, at 6 p.m.

The next Renew meeting will be held on May 20, at 5 p.m.

The next Executive Board meeting will be held on May 20, at 5 p.m.

**The Veterans Committee** Meeting will be held on May 2, at Union Hall, at 5:00PM

**Brotherhood night** is the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at CJ's from 3:30 to 5:30PM.

**5th Year golf Outing** is on May 18, at Pine View Golf Course, Three Rivers. For more information go to the Local 131 website.

**Softball Team** is forming now. Please contact Trevor Pryson at 269-615-7409 for more information. Yes, you can join the team. Yes, it would help if you know how to play.

The **Work Outlook** continues to be steady. We have 10 open calls for Moore, Champion Services, and Hi-Tech. We have crews working on the Pfizer, Zoetis, Gun Lake Casino and Palisades. It was announced on March 28 that the Federal government was loaning Holtec \$1.5 billion to reopen the Palisades Nuclear plant. Yes, there will be work in our area for anyone who wants to work. As Walt Kelly once said, "We are confronted with insurmountable opportunities." Remember it is your job as a journeyman to teach and enable the next generation to be successful. Train the apprentices, encourage their involvement in the local. Remember to have fun at your job.

**Negotiations** have continued for the next contract. We found out that the Healthcare cost will go up .25 cents. We ended the day with a 3-year, 6%, .5%, and 5%, and apprenticeship raises. The contractors countered with 5%, 4.5%, and 4.5% and apprenticeship raises. We did not accept. I feel the minimum acceptable raise was the 6%, 5% and 5%. The next step in negotiations will be mediation and then arbitration with the CIR in Washington DC. Please let the contractors know how you feel.

**Organizing** needs your help. If you know any electricians in your social circle, please encourage them to reach out to our organizer, Ryan. There is a lot of work coming to our local and we will need all the help we can get.

**NEBF** is increasing for those who retire after January 1, 2025. The change will increase the benefit from \$32.00 to \$33.00 per service year credit. For those who are currently retired, a 13th check will be sent out in November of 2025. Go to our website for more information under the "Retirees" tab.

**Retiree Lunches** at the following locations:

May 15, Lunch at Judy's Restaurant, 120 W Allegan St. Otsego, 49078 @ 11:00.

June 19, Nob Hill Bar & Grill, 4218 S. Sprinkle Rd. Kalamazoo, 49001 @11:00.

Every Tuesday, a smaller group of Retirees meets at Uncle Ernie's Pancake House, 4005 Portage Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49001 @ 10 a.m.

On the last Friday of each month a group of retirees and others meet at Jac's Cekola's Pizza, 3112 South Ninth Street, Kalamazoo, MI. 49009 @11:30.

**RETIREMENT**: NEBF and IBEW PBF application takes at least 3 months to process but can be filled out as early as 6 months before your planned retirement effective date. If you are nearing retirement, please call the hall and set up an appointment with Christine. You will need to submit copies of your social security card, birth certificate, marriage certificates and divorce decrees for you and your spouse(s) with your applications. Important numbers for you to write down:

NEBF 301-556-4300 • IO Pension 202-833-7000

Sign up for a **Code Update** class. Classes are scheduled for May 4 and 5. Call the hall or email [mapplebey92@gmail.com](mailto:mapplebey92@gmail.com) to reserve a spot. Classes are limited to 25. There will be classes in the fall.

**Three Months** or more behind in counter dues payments *(Continued next column)*



**IBEW LOCAL 948**

IBEW Local 948 FLINT – Meetings.

**Membership Meeting** – Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will be May 13th, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

**Retiree Meetings** – Retirees will continue to meet on the first Tuesday of the month.

**Party Committee** – For interest in participation please contact President Phil Steele.

**AFL Educational Meetings** – Attention all members. Before every monthly meeting at 5 PM, our hall will be hosting educational meetings presented by the AFL - CIO. These meetings aim to further educate our members on core regulations, acts, and laws that play a key role in our careers. For any questions or concerns please contact Jenny Wallace.

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

**Work Outlook** – Our work outlook is slow with a gradual increase in calls projected post-strike. Steady calls have been available for GM centers. Long term calls for service truck drivers have been made available. For further details on job information please ensure the hall has your email address for our job calls and re-signs.

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

**Seeking New Membership** – As always, we are actively seeking to organize new membership. For any questions, concerns, or interest please contact Organizer Kellogg Dipzinski.

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

**Thank You to Carly Rose** for your informative speech on the importance of unemployment reform. We greatly look forward to working further with the AFL-CIO in this coming election season.

**Thank you to Sherriff Swanson** for attending our latest meeting to speak with our membership. We support and wish you luck on the campaign trail.

**Congratulations to Eric Crites** on being hired as our latest Organizer. We look forward to having you as an agent of the hall.

**Tiger's Party Bus** – Attention membership, we are seeking interest in booking a party bus and potentially a sweet to a Tiger's game later this year. Plans will not be made unless sign ups are secured so please contact Jenny Wallace for any interest.

**New Membership** – Welcome to our latest members: Cole Dominick, Kenneth Manwell, Corey Adamczyk, Mohammed Ahmed, and James Jacobs. We look forward to working with you and hope to see you in the field.

**Retirees** – Congratulations to Marvin Carlson, Michael Poisson, and Charles Reid on your pension applications. The membership would like to wish you a healthy and relaxing retirement.

**Draping of the Charter** – Our condolences to the families of Stan Puchez and Dan Schmidt. We are tremendously sorry for your losses and will continue to keep these Brothers in our hearts.

*"War is a cowardly escape from the problems of peace."*  
–Thomas Mann (1875 - 1955)

*"Take time to deliberate, but when the time for action has arrived, stop thinking and go in."*  
–Napoleon Bonaparte (1769 - 1821)

**IBEW 131, con't** are the following suspended members: Robert Derhammer, Stephen Gay, Bret James, Mark Johnson, Noah Lee, Jody Mansfield, Jermiah Pojar, Steven Sunlin and Thomas VanOosten.  
–**Morris Applebey, Business Manager**



## IBEW LOCAL 58



### IBEW 58

**DETROIT – The next General Membership Meeting** will be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2024. Dinner begins at 5:30 and the meeting will start at 6:30.

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

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

**IBEW Local 58 Brick Pavers** are available for purchase, if you would like to purchase a brick, please contact the Union Hall for an Order Form. 7x9 brick pavers can have up to 6 lines of lettering and 17 spaces per line. \$100.00 Donation per Brick.

**NOTE:** No symbols or clip-art can be added to brick pavers. To purchase or for questions about the brick pavers please contact Stacy at the Union Hall 313-963-2130, extension 3015.

**Local 58 Dues Department** – Look at your Dues Receipt – if your paid-through date shows 09-30-2023, you have lapsed and need to call the hall to set up an appointment for the Executive Board to be reinstated. If your dues receipt is 3-30-2024 you owe the \$30.00 reinstatement fee and will lapse the end of 2nd quarter if dues are not paid. It is your responsibility to pay your dues on time – this could affect your retirement and death benefit.

You can pay on the APP/ Website, send a check, or call and pay over the phone. We ask that you keep the Local up to date with your address, email, and phone number. Thank you.

**Detroit Electrical Workers Benevolent Fund (DEWBF):** Next Benevolent fund meeting is Tuesday, May 7, 2024. Our next event is the Walleye tournament on Saturday, May 4, 2024, on the Detroit River. All members, family, friends, and other trades are welcome. Please see the flyer included in this paper. New this year will be a Battle of the Trades. Any questions or Rules and Registration info please contact Mike Bellhorn 586-612-5964. Weigh in and fish fry and food will be back at Local 58 union hall. The John Mayernik Scholarship winner will be awarded at the April Membership Union meeting on Tuesday, April 16, 2024. The 23rd Annual Gaudi Open golf outing will be Friday June 7, 2024. Registration details are coming soon. Get your team and money together now because it sells out fast!

**Members of the Community Service Committee:** The next committee meeting will be Tuesday, May 14, 2024, at 5:30p.m. The Wobbly Kitchen (Sundays in the Park) will be the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, starting at the union hall and then traveling to Cass Park. We are asking volunteers to show up at the hall at 8:00a.m. to help with food prep, organization, and loading. Questions can be directed to Ray Kujawski at (248) 496-1916 (call, text, leave a voicemail). Local 58 is very active with community service in the Metro Detroit area and has a variety of upcoming projects that require the help of volunteers and helping hands. Contact the Union Hall (313) 963-2130 or Ray Kujawski (number above) for further information about volunteering or participating.

**Members of the Entertainment Committee:** The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 14, 2024, following the Community Service Committee meeting that starts at 5:30 p.m.

**EWMC of southeastern MI** – The next chapter meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 20, 2024, at 6pm. This will be an in-person meeting with a ZOOM option. Please make

sure your cell phone number and your email address are up to date. The meeting information will be sent out as soon as available. If you are not receiving the notices, please make sure that your information is updated here at the hall. Please bring any suggestions that you have for EWMC involvement and engagement. We have a lot of events and projects on the horizon this year and we need all hands-on deck. Tickets are available for our quilt raffle. We need to do sales on the jobsite and at the membership meetings. The Casino Night is set for Saturday, July 27. More details to come. Stay tuned for more volunteer opportunities soon. Volunteers will be needed as we continue with our efforts.

**The RENEW Committee meeting** will be on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 5:00 PM.

**The Safety Committee meeting** will be on Monday, May 13, 2024, at 5:30 PM.

**The Veterans Committee** - will now be meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 15 starting at 5:30 pm.

**The Political Action Committee (PAC)**- If you have any questions or concerns or would like to attend our next PAC meeting you can reach out to our registrars at [registrar@ibewlocal58.org](mailto:registrar@ibewlocal58.org). Political Action Committee Meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of the month via Zoom and in person at the hall at 5:30 PM.

**Local 58's Women's Committee**- Our next meeting will take place on April 25, 5:30pm at the Hall and also on Zoom. If you have questions, please contact Committee Chair Angela Panicucci (586-291-8014) or Co-chair Liz Gorski (586-921-3087), Email at [58womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org](mailto:58womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org)

**Local 58 Women's Softball team the Live Wires** is open to women players for the 2024 season. Monday nights at Claude Allison Park Redford starting April 29. If interested contact Grace Trudell @ 517-715-7563, we would love for you to join us for camaraderie, sportsmanship, and Sisterhood.

**Local 58 Motorcycle Group:** Open to everyone and all riders are encouraged to join us! Requirements need to be met for patched membership. For more information, please visit our Facebook page for planned rides and updates @ IBEW Local 58 Motorcycle Group. Contact Vice President Anthony Anderanin @ 313-999-3829, [aanderanin@gmail.com](mailto:aanderanin@gmail.com) or Grace Trudell @ 517-715-7563 for more info. Join us at our upcoming meetings to plan for next year's events and rides.

**Wiremen's Golf Association (WGA) Members:** This year the 2024 Wiremen's Golf Association Tournament will be hosted by Local 8, Toledo, OH on August 13th, 14th, 15th, and 16th 2024, with the optional scramble being held on Tuesday August 13th. The golf courses being utilized for the tournament this year are Carrington Golf Club (Monroe, MI), Giant Oak Golf Club (Temperance, MI), Maumee Bay State Park Golf Course (Oregon, OH) and the optional scramble at Brandywine Country Club (Maumee, OH). The host hotel/tournament headquarters for this year is the Renaissance Toledo Downtown Hotel, 444 N. Summit Street, Toledo, Ohio. The phone number to the hotel is: 419.244.2444.

There will be a meeting at the Local 58 Union Hall in the basement classroom on Thursday May 2nd at 6:00 PM regarding the Tournament. Entry fees (\$250 per man for the Tournament and \$75 per man for the optional scramble) will be collected and Tournament information will be available at this time. They are anticipating a large showing in Toledo so it will be imperative to have your entry money for the tournament turned in ASAP this year. **All monies must be received by June 1st.** If you are mailing your payment please mail to: Ron Krajenke, 20244 Edinberg Drive, Macomb, MI 48044. Please remember that your entry fee must be RECEIVED before June 1st – if you do not have your entry fee taken care of by that date you will not have a spot in this year's tournament – no exceptions. Any WGA member who is planning on participating in the 2024 Tournament or anyone looking for information or to join the WGA this year

should plan on attending this very important meeting. If you have any questions call Ron Krajenke at 313-475-0487 or Brad Garrity at 313-850-1837. We look forward to seeing you there!

**Local 58 Senior 55+ Softball Team 2024** is getting underway. The games start in May 2024, with practices running through April. Anyone interested in playing or maybe coaching a base or being a scorekeeper, please come on out! We are also going to field a team for the IBEW Midwest tournament this year. It is being held August 9-11, 2024, at the Canton softball complex in Canton MI. Those who cannot join the league games but would like to participate in the tournament are welcome. We need a full roster and you do not have to be 55+ for the tournament. We will be getting together for practice once a month until the tournament. For more information call Dave Baldino, 586-747-2446; Gerry Cassani, 586-804-8026; or Jim Miles, 586-933-3551.

**IBEW LOCAL 58 Retirees Association:** The Annual Pin Party Luncheon is set for Saturday, April 27th 2024 at the union hall, doors open at 11, lunch is served at 12:30. We had a bit of a snafu with the invitations to this party, and letters of invitation were confusing at best. New letters went out last week, and we hope this clarifies things, and that honorees will join us for their celebration. Please RSVP as soon as possible, as the luncheon is fast approaching. Members who are receiving pins this year are our guests at this celebration. Honorees are welcome to bring guests, \$25 per person.

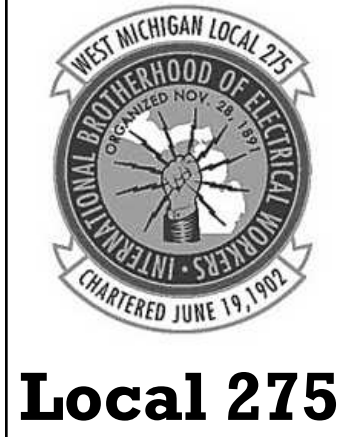
FYI, this celebration takes the place of the April Luncheon, and anyone who would like to join us, certainly can, you don't need to be an honoree or a guest, just come have lunch (\$25 per person) and enjoy visiting with folks who are being feted for their years of IBEW Membership. Be sure to put the Pin Party on your calendars. Checks (made payable to the Retirees Association) and reservations, send to IBEW #58, Attn Retirees, P.O. Box 32756, Detroit MI 48232-0756, questions call Elaine Crawford 313 408-5885. This is our only event that happens on a weekend, come, and join us, you will be glad you did!

**Local 58 Retiree's Association Fall Bus trip:** The Retirees Association Bus trip is Thursday, Sept. 12, 2024, through Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2024. Traveling to Boston, Salem and Cape Ann. Total cost of the trip is \$845 per person, based on double occupancy. A deposit of \$75 per person, is due when you Sign up for the trip. Made payable to the Retirees Association. Balance will be due July 5th. Insurance provided by TRAVEL CONFIDENT INSURANCE is recommended, which is a separate payment made payable to the insurance company, which is \$72 per person to join the trip, send your \$75 checks, per person, To Dave Riley, 22700 Grove St., St. Clair Shores 48080-1878. Questions: call Dave at 586 206-8075. **DON'T WAIT, SEND YOUR DEPOSIT TO HOLD YOUR SPOT.**

**Local 58 IBEW Senior Golf Outings 2024:** begins Thursday, May 16, 2024 at Tyrone Hills Golf Club, 8449 Old US 23, Fenton, MI 48430, tee time 9:30 am; Thursday, June 13, 2024, 4335 Elizabeth Lake Rd, Waterford Twp, MI 48328, tee time 9:30 am; Thursday, July 11, 2024, Sycamore Golf Club, 48787 North Ave, Macomb, MI 48042, tee time 9:30 am, Thursday, September 12, 2024, TBD as of right now; Thursday, October 3, 2024, Tanglewood Golf Course, 22805 Country Club Dr, South Lyon, MI 48178, tee time 9:30 am. Call Art DeCoste at 248-887-3396, two weeks in advance for a headcount due to the security deposit at most of the golf courses. Come on and join the golf outings! This is a great opportunity to catch up with some old friends, to make new friends, and to go out and enjoy the camaraderie!! Remember, All IBEW Local 58 members are welcome to participate!! Call Art with questions or concerns.

**Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings** take place every Wednesday at the IBEW Local 58 Union Hall, (1358 Abbott St, Detroit, MI 48226), starting at 6:00 pm. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. All trades welcome.

**Electrical Workers Credit Union** – Our website is <http://www.ewcu.net>



### Local 275

**IBEW 275 COOPERSVILLE** – The work outlook continues to be very busy, with the potential of several large projects kicking off this Spring and Summer in addition to the work our contractors have already secured. We've had various open job calls for some time and plan to have more over the coming weeks and months. Call the recorder each night to avoid missing a call you may be interested in.

With the tremendous amount of work right now, the Local has been organizing new members of all levels to fill calls and grow the Local. If you've been to a Union meeting recently, you'd know we've been swearing in several new members every month for the last several months. We can use all the help we can get, so if you know any electricians in your social circles and/or communities, please encourage them to reach out to one of our organizers, Walter or Geoff.

If anyone is interested in upcoming volunteer opportunities, we have the Earth Day Cleanup on Saturday, April 28th in Muskegon and the Annual Postal Workers Food Drive on Saturday, May 11th also in Muskegon. Please reach out to Walter at the Union Hall if you'd like to volunteer. Both events will qualify for community service credits and volunteer reward points.

Planning for the Local 275 Annual Picnic has begun and we are looking at a tentative date of July 27. Please mark that date in your calendars and if anyone is interested in volunteering for the picnic, please reach out to Geoff at the Union Hall.

Local 275 will be hosting a Euchre Tournament on May 18 at the hall. Money raised will go to our annual picnic and will have prizes for winners as well! Please look for more information on this in the coming weeks.

Please be informed that there will be a memorial service for Richard Briggs, Brother Kurt Brigg's father, at the Union Hall on Saturday, May 11th from 2-4 pm. Come out and show support for Brother Briggs and his family in this time of loss.

### IBEW 58, con't

**WWW.EWCU.NET (313) 963-6060.** In the market for a loan? Check out our low rates! New auto as low as 5.75%. Give us a call today to find out how to apply or go online at <http://www.ewcu.net>. Who's your Beneficiary?

Here are some tips to help make sure your account is up to date with us. Review your beneficiaries periodically, especially if a life change occurs. Be sure the wording is correct, especially if you name more than one beneficiary. Give us a call and we can check who you have listed. State of Michigan Escheat Law: The law states that any deposit account with no activity for 3 years must be turned over to the State. What can you do? Contact us today to find out your account status. Conduct a transaction by either deposit or withdraw (any amount). Close account.

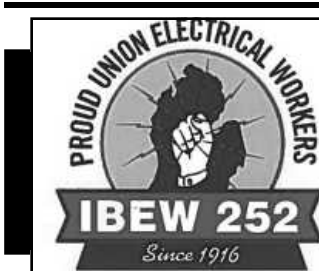
**Be sure to keep the Union Hall** updated with any changes to your phone number, address, and email.

**IBEW Pension:** Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: Robert J. Cedroni, Ronald R. Mullins, Stephen C. Tyner, and William H. Westerman.

**Members that have Passed Away:** Philip Baschal, Pension member, 64-year IBEW membership; Carol Donnelly, Wife to Pension member Michael Donnelly; Joseph P. Kelly, Apprentice Inside Wireman of IBEW Local 58; Benjamin Kemp, Pension member, 70-year IBEW membership, Father to Pension member Benjamin Kemp Jr.; Robert Rowland, Pension member, 66-year IBEW membership. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss.

*"Get not your friends by bare compliments, but by giving them sensible tokens of your love."*

–Socrates (469 BC - 399 BC)



**IBEW Local 252 ANN ARBOR – THE MAY MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE NOTIFIED FOR DISCUSSION OF THE HEALTH REIMBURSEMENT ACCOUNT.**

**BE SURE TO KEEP BENEFICIARY FORM UPDATED:** A friendly reminder that beneficiary forms are available at the fund office AND at the hall for anyone that may need to update beneficiary information. If your information needs to be updated, it needs to be updated at BOTH. **TRAINING CLASSES 2024: ALL CLASSES START AT 5:00 PM**

CPR/First Aid Tuesdays, June 4th, 11th, September 3rd, 10th, December 3rd, 10th

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

**There will be a code update required in 2024 for 2025 license. We have 4 sessions this Winter, Spring and will have six more in the fall. Sessions are limited to 50 people each.**

**JATC INSTRUCTOR OPENING:** We will be taking applications for a full-time instructor April 1 thru May 31. Turn in resume and cover letter to the Ann Arbor Electrical JATC, located at 13400 Luick Dr., Chelsea, MI 48118, or email to Hope Salyer at [hopes@aeajtc.org](mailto:hopes@aeajtc.org). All applications will be kept confidential.

**2024 UNION 4 LIFE GUN CALENDAR:** Purchase your 2024 USA Union Sportsmen Calendar and enter the USA's 2024 2-Guns-A-Week Sweepstakes for 104 chances to win a firearm in 2024! Beginning Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2024, prize winners will be drawn each week for 52 weeks.

Sweepstakes entrants are eligible to win multiple prizes! These calendars make great Christmas gifts for the hunters/gun enthusiasts in your life, or just treat yourself for a chance to win! Online calendar registration is available until April 15, 2024. Only mail-in registrations will be accepted after that date. Entries registered after Jan. 1 will only be included in drawings that occur after the registration date. Calendars are \$35 and can be purchased from an apprentice, the training center, or online at [www.union4lifecharity.com](http://www.union4lifecharity.com).

**BLOOD DRIVE:** American Red Cross will be at the Union Hall on April 24, 2024 from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. For an appointment, log onto [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) (sponsor code Jeremy), or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Walk-in donations are also accepted. Please take time to honor Jeremy Loy's memory with your donation.

**SURPRISE PARTY:** There will be a 60th surprise birthday party for Brother Randy Payne on May 11, 2024 from 4-8 p.m. at 9741 Gillett Rd. in Clark Lake. Please RSVP to (517) 920-5518.

**PICNIC:** This year's picnic will be held at the Apple Creek Campground, 11185 Urban Rd., Grass Lake, MI 49240 at noon on Aug. 17. Please contact the campground at (517) 522-3467 if you wish to reserve a site. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Dan Beck, (810) 858-0033.

**DETROIT TIGERS UNION DAY:** We are organizing a bus trip to the Detroit Tigers game against the Baltimore Orioles on Sept. 14. Tickets are \$30 and include entry to the game, bus transportation, and \$10 Fun Money to spend at the park. To RSVP, contact the Union Hall at (734) 424-0978.

**RETIREES' CARD GAME:** The first Thursday of every month Local 252 and UA 190 retirees meet at the Union Hall for card games and donuts. The games start at 9 a.m. Please come join the fun.

**RETIREES' BREAKFAST:** will take place the second

## IBEW LOCAL 252

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

**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.

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

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

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

**RETIREMENT:** NEBF and applications take 3 months to process but can be filled out as early as 6 months before your planned retirement effective date. IBEW PBF applications usually take 3 months to process but are running a couple months behind. IBEW PBF applications can be filled out 6 months before your planned retirement date. If you are nearing retirement, please contact Alana at the Union Hall to start your paperwork at least 3-6 months before your planned retirement date. You will be asked to submit copies of social security cards, birth certificates, marriage certificate, divorce decrees, etc. for you and your spouse with your applications. For a full list of required documents please contact the Union Hall.

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

**CREDIT CARDS:** The Local is now accepting credit cards to pay union dues. We accept Visa, Master Card, American Express and Discover. There is a fee of 3% to use your card.

**DUES PAYMENTS** – Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 3/2024, your dues are not current. "A" members pay \$131.25 for second quarter 2024. "BA" members pay \$67.80 per quarter for 2024. Please mail your check to 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Your first quarter dues (January through March) are due now. **Payments for second quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Friday, June 28, 2024.** Future Dues Increases:

**Effective July 1, 2024:** A Members will pay \$134.25 per quarter.

**Effective Jan. 1, 2025:** A Members will pay \$140.25 per quarter.

**Effective July 1, 2025:** A Members will pay \$143.25 per quarter.

*"Next to trying and winning, the best thing is trying and failing."*

–L. M. Montgomery (1874-1942)

*"Wisdom is what's left after we've run out of personal opinions."*

### CASH FOR \$CRAP METAL

Aluminum - Copper - Brass  
Nickel - Alloys - Carbide  
Radiators - Lead - Batteries

<p><b>McNichols</b> Scrap Iron &amp; Metal Co. 6500 E. McNichols (near Mt. Elliott) <a href="http://mcnicholsscrap.com">mcnicholsscrap.com</a> <b>(313) 365-6100</b></p>	<p><b>Detroit</b> Iron &amp; Metal Co. 8300 Dix (corner Lonyo) <a href="http://detroitironandmetal.com">detroitironandmetal.com</a> <b>(313) 841-5100</b></p>
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## Local 149 Roofers and Waterproofer

**Roofers 149**  
DETROIT – Attention. This paper is to serve as an official notice to the membership.

**General Membership Meeting.** The general membership meeting is scheduled for Tues., May 7, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

**Executive Board Meeting.** The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., May 7, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

**Mid-Michigan.** The Mid-Michigan informational meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2024 at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420. At the April 9, 2024, meeting, we will be voting on administering the \$3.00 raise.

**Notice of Election – Detroit Negotiating Committee.** The election result for the 2024 Detroit Negotiating Committee will be as follows: Joe Gilliam, Jonathan Crosby, Tom Jaranowski, Joe Zsembery, and Gary Johnsen

**Vacation and Holiday Check Direct Deposit.** Members have the option to have their Vacation and Holiday check direct deposited in their bank account. This includes all contracted areas.

To get your Vacation check direct deposited, members will need to complete a direct deposit agreement. The form will be available at the Detroit and Mid-Michigan Union Hall.

**Scholarship Grant Program.** Local No. 149 and the Roofing Industry Promotion Fund (RIPF) are working together to offer college scholarship

*“I pay no attention whatever to anybody’s praise or blame. I simply follow my own feelings.”*  
–Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 - 1791)

*“Man is equally incapable of seeing the nothingness from which he emerges and the infinity in which he is engulfed.”*  
–Blaise Pascal (1623 - 1662)

*“It is an interesting question how far men would retain their relative rank if they were divested of their clothes.”*  
–Henry David Thoreau (1817 - 1862)

grants to worthy individuals. This year the program offers four (4) scholarship grants in the amount of \$1000 each, to those eligible individuals who are attending or are planning to enroll at an accepted College or University. **Previous winners will not be eligible.**

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

A. Three (3) scholarships offered to those persons who are dependents of Active Roofers Union Local #149 Members, and B. One (1) scholarship offered to those persons who are dependents of RIPF member contractor or office employees. Dependents of company owners or principals are not eligible.

**HOW TO WIN.** Those individuals interested in obtaining one of four (4) scholarship grants, should 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?

**DEADLINE.** All essays MUST BE RECEIVED (NOT POSTMARKED) at the RIPF office by mail, fax, or email no later than Friday, June 2, 2023. Essay should be type written, and be accompanied by the “Application Form”, which includes the applicant’s name, address, telephone number, college applied to, selected study major, parent or guardians name, and parent or guardian employer.

**NOTICE OF AWARD.** Winners will be notified by mail. The Roofers Union Local No. 149 – Roofing Industry Promotion Fund Scholarship Committee are the sole judges of essays.

For additional information, contact the Union Hall at 313.961.6093

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

Dues must be current in order to enter the Training Center. If you are interested in any of these classes, contact the Training Center, 248-543-3847.

**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.

**Outdoor Life.** If you have any hunting and fishing pictures that you would like to see in the Journeyman Roofing & Waterproofing magazine, please contact the Union Hall at 313.961.6093 ext. 0, for additional information.

**MID-MICHIGAN AREA – Clio Office.** The Mid-Michigan informational meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2024, at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420. At the April 9, 2024, meeting, we will be voting on administering the \$3.00 raise. The polls open at 5:00pm. The proposals are as followed.

P-1 - \$1.87 on the check, \$0.10 H&W, \$0.90 Pension, \$0.10 Working Dues, \$0.03 Ed. Res.

P-2 - \$2.94 on the check, \$0.03 Working Dues, \$0.03 Ed. Res.

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

The publication above is as 4/15/2024, 1:00p.m.

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



THE FINAL STRUCTURAL steel sections are seen atop the Hudson’s tower. Photo credit: Bedrock

## 685 feet up, trades top out steel on Hudson’s Site tower

(Continued from Page 1)

and chairman of Bedrock. “We are proud of their individual contributions that will make this a generational development and will surely enhance the city’s skyline for Detroiters and visitors for decades to come.”

The Hudson’s Site tower, being built along Woodward Avenue on the footprint of the namesake demolished department store, tops out at 685 feet, making it the second tallest building in Detroit (the Renaissance Center’s center tower rises 727 feet). Iron workers Local 25 members and Operating Engineers Local 324 members have placed 10,500 tons of steel at the site.

The overall project is actually two side-by-side buildings: a 49-story skyscraper and a wider 12-story “block.”

Upon completion, perhaps in late December, the Hudson’s development will introduce more than 1.5 million square feet of new retail, office, dining, hospitality, residential and event amenities to the 1200 Woodward Avenue block of downtown Detroit. The tower will provide unique city views at every level



and an indoor-outdoor space will help anchor the ground-floor retail.

Iron Workers Local 25 member Hope Hinderer advanced from working as an apprentice to a journeywoman during her two-and-a-half years as part of the construction team, where she has focused on structural welding. The project has given her the opportunity to make some of the biggest welds in her career: 5 feet tall and 0.75 inches thick.

“It is the biggest project I’ve ever worked on,” Hinderer said, adding: “Driving into Detroit, Hudson’s rises from the skyline.”

The lead tower crane operator at the Hudson’s Site, Matt

**THE HUDSON’S tower and “block.”**

Menchaca of Local 324, said he has witnessed the tower’s ascent from the ground up through the final beam placement. “I always wanted to be involved in something this big,” Menchaca said. “To say I was a part of it, and to see it when I am old and retired; it’ll put a smile on my face.”

Following the topping off milestone, the Hudson’s Site construction will continue in a phased approach. Crews will install the remaining elements of the glass façade and construction will progress throughout the year.

“We are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this historic site and build a project that transforms the downtown Detroit landscape,” said Ryan Maibach, Barton Malow president and CEO. “This is an important moment that represents another big step towards completion and a momentous occasion for the city.”

(Bedrock provided the information for the article.)

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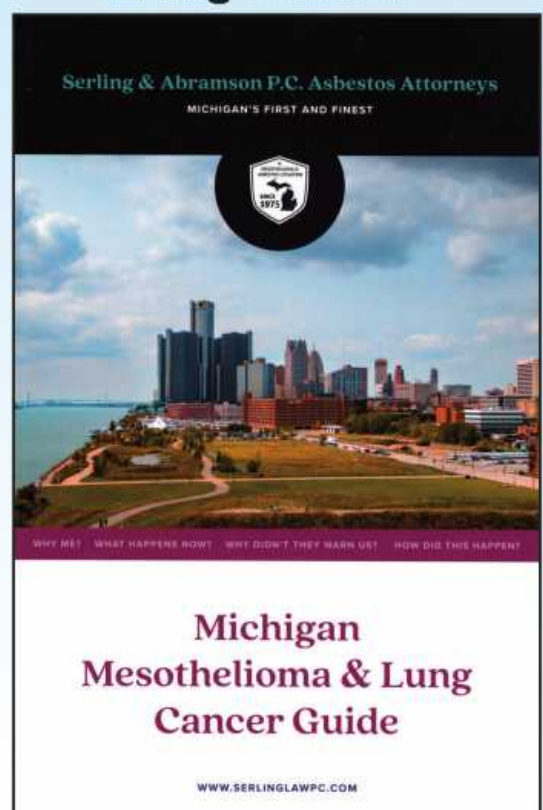
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## Local 25 Iron Workers

### Iron Workers Local 25

NOVI – The May Union meeting (DATE CHANGE) will be Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm and will be in person and zoom. All are invited to join us!

The results of the Vote for the By-Law Proposal and the wage allocations are posted on our website: [www.ironworkers25.org](http://www.ironworkers25.org) in the member only section. They are also posted on the APP.

**Steward meeting(s):** The Saginaw Steward meeting will be Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. The Lansing Steward meeting will be Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. The Flint Steward meeting will be Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. All are welcome!

All Halls closed form Memorial Day on Monday May 27<sup>th</sup>.  
Communications Alerts & E-mails; sign up via our website ([www.ironworkers25.org](http://www.ironworkers25.org)). We continue to communicate through the **PUSH NOTIFICATIONS**. You can download our APP for android on google play or for iPhone at the APP store just search "Iron Workers Local 25" Martinez web shop.

**IMPORTANT: Dependent Eligibility Verification for Health Insurance Benefits coverage is in its final round. PDA Verification Team from Livonia MI is conducting this audit.** All members who have dependents (spouse and/ or children) on their health care must comply. If you missed the mailing somehow, watch your mail for this final mailing coming soon!!

**PLEASE RESPONDRIGHT AWAY WHEN YOU RECEIVE YOUR LETTER AS THIS IS VERY TIME SENSITIVE AND CRITICAL TO YOUR CONTINUED COVERAGE IN THE HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN.** ANY QUESTIONS CALL 833-902-4649

**HRA/Benny Card Audit is under way and has been mailed out – please respond if you have been contacted.**

**Congratulations to this years Dennis O'Dowd Scholarship Winners:** Alexander Eplin son of Juan Eplin #1566291; Avery Garrett daughter of John Garrett #1313734; Luke Hurlburt son of Kevin Hurlburt #1313742; Madison Keller daughter of John Hall #1353559; Maggie McIlhargie daughter of Jason McIlhargie #1252618; Kylee Moran daughter of Daniel Moran #1197177; and Camryn Zimmerman daughter of Matthew Zimmerman. We wish you all the best in your educational pursuits!

**New Apprentice Applications are being accepted BUT you MUST go to [ironworkers25.org](http://ironworkers25.org) where you can now make your application appointment & pay the application fee online; you must have an appointment to turn in your application. No walk-in foot traffic.**

**Apprentices:** Fill out your monthlies online at the website or mobile app located under the apprenticeship tab "Monthly Report Sign-In" this gives you the ability to electronically submit your monthlies. Also, located under the Apprenticeship Tab you will find "Make-Up Days" & "Welding Test Certifications". You can now electronically schedule your make-up days and welding tests. **To view classes at the Local 25 Apprenticeship School,** please go to the [ironworkers25.org](http://ironworkers25.org) to view the 2024 Block Schedule, Roster and Raising Gang Training Schedule. If you have Facebook or Instagram, please give us a follow. **The Wixom Training Center – Phone: (248) 960-2130**

**24/7 CREDIT-DEBIT CARD processing for Union Dues:** Pay via our APP or website [www.ironworkers25.org](http://www.ironworkers25.org). **The phone number is 866-635-2826.** Or pay union dues with personal check or money order and mail to: Iron Workers Local 25 – P.O. Box 965 – Novi, MI 48376-0965. Pay union dues in person at the Novi Union Hall (M-F) from 8 am to 3 pm (NO Cash).

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

Check your HRA Balance: [my.wexhealthcard.com](http://my.wexhealthcard.com)  
Check your online benefit

information: [ourbenefitoffice.com/iw25/benefits/](http://ourbenefitoffice.com/iw25/benefits/)

**BENEFIT FOR NEW CHILD:** Any member who has a new born child, or a new dependent child through marriage **MUST NOTIFY the Fringe Benefit Office of your new dependent within 31 days; otherwise wait until the next open-enrollment period (April 1-April 30).**

**BENEFIT FOR LIFE CHANGE:** Any member experiencing a divorce or a new spouse **MUST NOTIFY the Fringe Benefit Office within 31 days; otherwise wait until the next open-enrollment period (April 1-April 30).**

**The Iron Workers' Local 25 Retirees' Club:** The Retirees' Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday May 7, 2024 at 8:30 am. The Retirees' meeting/luncheon will be Tuesday May 21, 2024 at 10:00 am in Novi. All are welcome.

**The West Michigan Chapter Retirees breakfast** will meet Tuesday May 7, 2024 at 9:00 am at Red Rock Grille & Café, 228 N. Ball Creek Rd, NW, Kent City, Michigan 49330. All are welcome.

The next quarterly meeting for the **Bay City Chapter** will be July 18, 2024; **NEW LOCATION:** at the Iron Workers Local 25 Saginaw Union Hall, 11 Bridgeview S. Saginaw MI 48604 at 1:00 pm. All are Welcome.

**The Downriver Chapter.** The next quarterly Retirees breakfast will be 9:00 am on July 19, 2024 at Mom's Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, Michigan, 48183. All are welcome.

**Local 25 Retirees' Club 2024 Scholarship. Completed applications due by 5pm April 30, 2024. Contact John Miller: text/call (734) 812-8036.**

**Blue Cross Blue Shield Michigan:** [www.bcbsm.com/behavioral-mental-health/](http://www.bcbsm.com/behavioral-mental-health/) Resources on the home page including In-Person Crisis Care options in many locations throughout the state. BCBS Michigan 877-627-1041, Blue Care Network 800-482-5982 for Substance-use-disorder.

**FindTreatment.gov where you can search by zip code/city. Or call SAMHSA 800-662-4357.**

**MentalHealth.gov provides information & programs about mental health**

**Dial 988 (National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) For help 24/7 in a Time of Crisis.** Call 988 if you or someone you know is in danger of suicide or experiencing a mental health crisis. Whatever you are struggling with, help is available – its free & confidential.

**Suicide Prevention Resources on IMPACT:** <http://www.impact-net.org/safety/suicide-prevention-resources>. US Crisis Text Line: Text HOME to 741741 from anywhere in the United States, anytime, about any type of crisis. A live, trained Crisis Counselor receives the text and responds, all from our secure online platform. A volunteer Crisis Counselor will help you move from a hot moment to a cool moment.

**The IRONWORKER Magazine** To subscribe to the digital edition please use the following link: <https://www.ironworkers.org/s/ironworker-digital-sign-up>

**In Memory:** Richard "Dick" Draves passed away on Sunday March 17, 2024 at the age of 80. He was the father of JIW Dennis Draves #1234824. Rodney "Rod" Fassett #548180 passed away March 31, 1994 at the age of 95. He was a member of Local 340/25 for 69 year and is survived by his brother Jerry Fassett #685517. Mark Morton #849521 passed away April 10, 2024 at the age of 73. He was a 53-year member. *Our deep condolences to all of the family and friends as you mourn the loss of your dear loved one(s)!*

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (April 15, 2024 12 pm E.S.T.).

*"It is impossible to enjoy idling thoroughly unless one has plenty of work to do."*

–Jerome K. Jerome (1859 - 1927)

*"When Solomon said there was a time and a place for everything he had not encountered the problem of parking his automobile."*

– Bob Edwards

*"Forever is composed of nows."*

– Emily Dickinson (1830 - 1886)



## Local 169 Boilermakers

### Boilermakers Local 169

ALLEN PARK – Our next membership meeting will take place on **May 10, 2024**, at 8PM. This meeting will be at the Boilermakers Local 169 Union Hall. The address is 1755 Fairlane Drive, Allen Park, MI 48101.

It's that time of year! Spring has sprung and summer is right around the corner, along with our traditional Union picnics. Bring your family and friends to a picnic near you.

There is always lots of food, fun, and prizes at these family friendly events. Food and beverages are provided. Feel free to bring a dish to pass if you can.



**BOB HUTSELL**

As always, volunteers are needed. Journey-men & apprentices are encouraged to participate. Contact the Union Hall to volunteer. Please remember, a union is only as strong as its weakest member. Show your union pride by participating in union activities with your union Brothers and Sisters!

**Area 1 picnic** at Camp Dearborn, July 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Area 2 picnic** in Muskegon following the Labor Day Parade.

**Area 3 picnic** at Sanford Lake Park, June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Area 4 picnic** date to be announced soon.

Current Union dues for 2024 are \$55.85 in accordance with the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers Constitution. The Union Hall accepts Visa, Mastercard, and Discover. Payments can be made both at the Union Hall and over the phone.

In an effort to assist our active members, the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers has waived any increase in dues for the upcoming 2024 year. Dues will remain at \$55.85.

**OSHA 10 and OSHA 30 safety training** can now be taken online. Please visit our website – [www.boilermakerslocal169.com](http://www.boilermakerslocal169.com) for more information.

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

**Retiree luncheons:** Area 1 Retiree luncheon is 11 am the first Wednesday of every month at the Brown Derby Bar, 10661 West Jefferson, River Rouge, MI.

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

Area 3 Retirees luncheon is the 3rd Wednesday of the month. The next lunch will be April 17 at 11 AM at The Remus Tavern, 118 W. Wheatland Ave., Remus, MI 49340. All area boilermakers and retirees are welcome to attend.

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

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

The upcoming MSHA training schedule is available at [www.boilermakerslocal169.org](http://www.boilermakerslocal169.org) or on our Facebook page.

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

Any member needing the services of a Notary Public can do so at no charge at the Boilermakers Local 169 Union Hall. Please call ahead to ensure availability.

Any current apprentice eligible to utilize their G.I. Bill should contact their branch of service regarding this benefit. Your apprenticeship training qualifies for reimbursement under the terms of the G.I. Bill. I advise all apprentices who qualify to take advantage of this well-deserved benefit.



**WOMEN WORKING** to construct the Ultium Cells battery plant near Lansing were recognized by Barton Malow and a host of other contractors at the site during Women in Construction Week.



## Barton Malow recognizes women constructing Ultium battery plant

(Continued from Page 1)

building the plant know that their on-the-job presence – and their skills – matter. The program included presentations, lunch, and \$3,200 in raffled gifts, courtesy of the sponsorship of 17 companies working on site.

"Today, ensuring women are recruited, trained, and – most importantly – treated equally to men is an area crucial to Barton Malow's future growth and success," a statement from the company said. "It also reflects the core values at the center of Barton Malow culture: integrity, partnership, and empowerment. That's why Barton Malow for many years has supported women in all facets of the construction industry."

"Whether coming from a former career in corrections, medical billing, human resources, or epoxy manufacturing, the women on site at the Ultium Cells project in Lansing, Michigan, found their way into construction and aren't looking back. The project boasts a greater-than-usual number of women on site in varied functions across the project, which has been encouraging for veterans and women new to the industry alike."

Grace Griffin, the future Ultium plant manager, was the keynote speaker and encouraged women to pursue positions of leadership and celebrate the changes and improvements being made for women in the industry.

Another speaker at the event, National Association of Women in Construction-Lansing President Rita Brown, said "women have long since been an integral part of successful projects, but with limited opportunity to connect and fewer in numbers than their counterparts in the workforce population. But that is changing. Not as quickly as it needs to be, but definitely changing."

"Participating in spotlighting the accomplishments and sheer grit of women in construction is a real privilege. Kudos to those employers who recognize the experience and talents of this grow-

ing sector of our workforce." According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, as of 2023 there was a nearly 53 percent increase in women in the U.S. construction industry compared with the previous decade. Today there are 1.28 million women in the industry, from skilled trades and management to transportation and sales.

North America's Building Trades Unions said while the number of women apprentices in the trades has doubled over past decade, women still amount to only about 4 percent of the nation's skilled trades workforce.

Barton Malow said there are currently 1,200 workers on the Ultium site every day. Approximately 100 are women.

Jenna McFarland, a 10-year member of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 333, has worked at the Ultium plant for the past year for John E. Green. She said although the concept has been around for years, "this was the first project I know of that has

even acknowledged Women in Construction."

"This is such a huge site," McFarland added, "and it's really refreshing to work with so many women. And it's also nice to see the higher-ups recognize us and acknowledge that we're here."

Carrie Talbott, a 24-year member of Lansing IBEW 665 working at the Ultium plant, also attended the event, held March 4. A fire alarm forewoman employed by Superior Electric Great Lakes Co., Talbott said she and others appreciated the "Women in Construction" recognition and the opportunity to get together with her sisters in the trades.

"There are a lot of ladies on this project, but this project is so big you don't always see each other day to day," Talbott said. "We really appreciated what they did. It was an opportunity to enjoy a little solidarity with sisters, meet others for the first time, learn what they're working on, make those connections and basically know that you're not alone."

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# Outdoors

## Rare locomotive restored



By Barry James  
Historian, Michigan History Center

On the morning of Oct. 6, 2023, a covered flatbed truck eased into the parking lot of the Michigan Iron Industry Museum in Negaunee. After three years of painstaking restoration work in Pennsylvania, the rare, single-boiler locomotive that carted iron ore out of the Jackson Mine in the 1860s and '70s was home.

While museum staff, restoration professionals and rigging experts discussed the plan to delicately off-load the 13,000-pound engine and move it into the museum, the truck's driver retracted the cover on the flatbed to reveal the restored locomotive.

"I gasped when I saw it on that truck," said, Tobi Voigt, director of museums for the Michigan History Center. "I had seen the locomotive before it left and in images throughout the restoration process, but seeing it fully restored was literally breathtaking."

Against a backdrop of peak fall colors, two forklift operators carefully lifted the artifact off the flatbed and worked in tandem to slowly shuttle it inside the museum. The moving process took the better part of a day, a short but significant step in the more than 150-year journey of the "Yankee."

**About the Yankee.** Shortly after the Civil War, the Jackson Iron Co. sent its pragmatic manager Henry Merry to Europe to study the region's mining methods and technology. Merry was impressed by the European's use of steam-powered locomotives and knew his staff could improve and increase production at the Jackson Mine.

Merry purchased a small locomotive from the Alexander Chaplin Co. in Scotland. The engine was ideally suited to work the terrain of the Jackson Mine, which it serviced from 1868 to the 1890s.

With the Yankee and its American-built twin, the John Bull, the industrial revolution swept through Michigan's iron



**THE RESTORED YANKEE** locomotive, built circa the 1860s, is shown at the Michigan Iron Industry Museum in Marquette County.

mining industry. Companies like the Jackson Iron Company prospered amid the enormous growth in the national market for iron products.

In the 1890s, the Yankee was retired in a local field, where it sat for decades. As a relic of an earlier time, it drew the attention of locals and tourists. They took family photos on the engine and scavenged and removed parts as souvenirs.

In the 1930s, a local movement to preserve the engine gained momentum. The Cleveland-Cliffs Iron Co. partially restored the engine and proudly displayed it outside one of its shops. When the Michigan Iron Industry Museum was built in 1987, Cliffs donated the Yankee to Michigan History Center, where it was placed on the new museum's grounds.

**Restoring the Yankee.** The deteriorating artifact was given new life in 2020. The Michigan History Center applied for and received a federal grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to fund the conservation and restoration of the Yankee.

B. R. Howard and Associates



**THE RESTORATION CREW** used historic photographs, like this one of the Yankee in use at the Jackson Mine, to rebuild the locomotive.

(Photo courtesy of Superior View Studio).

of Carlisle, Penn., spent three years restoring the locomotive to its original appearance. When the Yankee arrived at the company's workshop, the restoration team completely disassembled the artifact to thoroughly assess the work that needed to be done.

"Disassembly was the first major task, taking over two months to completely break it down," said B. R. Howard in its final report. "Each part was labeled or bagged and photographed.

Due to the heavy corrosion found throughout each component, each required careful separation. Historic images indicate that a number of these parts were not accurate or original."

The B. R. Howard team also discovered that several significant parts of the locomotive were missing. Team members consulted with Michigan History Center historians, researched the few existing similar locomotives, visited train and locomotive mu-



**PRIOR TO RENOVATION**, the Yankee on display on the Michigan Iron Industry Museum grounds. The Yankee is thought to be one of only three surviving Chaplin locomotives in the world. The Yankee is made from cast and wrought iron, steel and a mix of soft and hardwoods. It is just over 12 feet long, about 9 feet high. The locomotive had been amateurly restored in the late 1930s by employees of the Cleveland-Cliffs Iron Co. and exhibited outdoors, near the company offices, until being donated to the Michigan Iron Industry Museum in 1986.

MDNR photo

seums to see similar examples and studied historic photographs of the Yankee to identify and fabricate its missing original pieces.

They made wooden patterns for missing parts, like the fire box door, connecting rods and brackets for the boiler. Once correctly sized and shaped, the wooden templates were used to make molds for iron casting. The restoration team then milled and refined the metal pieces on a lathe to ensure precise fittings during reassembly.

The B. R. Howard team also repaired some of the Yankee's large original parts. Two of the locomotive's wheels had significant structural damage. They welded large cracks with nickel electrodes, and they built back damaged edges to their original shape.

After years of detailed work, the hundreds of individual metal and wooden parts of the locomotive were reassembled. All metal surfaces were treated with two coats of acrylic paint, and the mahogany surfaces were stained to project the appearance of age.

"When we received the engine at the workshop, it weighed about 10,000 pounds," said Collin Howard, lead restorer on the project. "When we loaded it to bring it back, it weighed 13,000 pounds."

B. R. Howard had added nearly 3,000 pounds of new and fabricated pieces to the Yankee to bring it back to its historic

appearance.

With new life, the restored Yankee returned to the Michigan Iron Industry Museum for the next chapter of its story.

"Ever since the museum was built, it was a goal to have the Yankee restored and brought inside. The 2004 addition to the museum was designed specifically to allow access and house the engine," said Troy Henderson, historian at the Michigan Iron Industry Museum.

The Michigan History Center is currently developing an exhibit that tells the story of the Yankee and how it ushered in a new era of iron mining in Michigan. For now, the locomotive is prominently displayed near the entrance to the Michigan Iron Industry Museum.

"It's a perfect time to visit the museum to see the Yankee," said Henderson. "You can walk all around it and take in all the amazing detail."

The Michigan Iron Industry Museum, at 73 Forge Road in Negaunee, is located on the Carp River, 8 miles west of Marquette, at the site of the first iron forge in the Upper Peninsula. It is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesdays through Sundays. Admission is free, but a Recreation Passport is required for vehicle entry to the grounds.

Learn more about the museum at [Michigan.gov/IronIndustryMuseum](http://Michigan.gov/IronIndustryMuseum)

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