

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN



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SHORT CUTS

No print version of Building Tradesman

For the extent of the COVID-19 crisis, *The Building Tradesman* will not have a printed version, but will offer an online version in a PDF format. It's available for download at www.michiganbuildingtrades.org.

Building trades step up for nurses

WASHINGTON (PAI) – In another instance of union and worker solidarity, North America's Building Trades Unions asked their members to donate their N95 protective masks to National Nurses United, whose RNs are on the frontlines battling the coronavirus pandemic.

The union accepted the offer with alacrity, while repeating the federal government should have moved months ago – before the pandemic got out of hand – to protect them and other frontline health care workers by requiring firms to make the masks, respirators, ventilators and other equipment needed to battle the spreading plague.

Without that protective equipment, the nurses and others get sick, too, and can't treat victims of the pandemic, NNU said. Building Trades President Sean McGarvey agreed.

"The health and safety of our members and their families is always job No. 1," he said in a statement. "All of North America is our family right now, and we stand ready to help... nurses, first-responders, and healthcare workers who are putting their lives on the line every day during this pandemic."

"Given the shortage of health supplies, we are asking our contractors and our own training centers to donate N95 respirators and other protective equipment like face shields and goggles as quickly as possible in their own communities," he said.

"We are beyond grateful to the building trades for their generous donation of respirator masks and other equipment to help protect nurses and other health care workers during the COVID-19 pandemic," said NNU Executive Director Bonnie Castillo, RN, using the official name for the coronavirus.

"Our nation's leaders have failed to protect us while we care for this country's sick, and we condemn their inaction. Working people always have each other's backs, even when our government does not."

The federal Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recently announced that in a pinch, even a bandana or scarf is adequate protection for nurses, triggering an upset NNU to post a very satirical graphic featuring nurses wearing bandanas.

"The CDC's guidelines are meaningless because they are based on inadequate stock, not on actual science about what protects nurses and other health care workers," said Castillo. "We need the highest level of protections – N95 respirator masks and other protective gear – not surgical masks or bandanas."

"The building trades unions are stepping up to help get us that equipment, as the government should have begun doing months ago."

–By Mark Gruenberg, PAI

Quotable

"All things pass...Perhaps the passage of time is a kind of healing, or a kind of salvation granted equally to all people."
–Mizuki Nomura

COVID-19 hits home 'Essentially,' construction continues, on hit or miss basis in Michigan

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

Categorizing the construction industry by governmental authorities as an "essential service" has kept Hardhats on the job on some jobsites in Michigan and across the nation during the COVID-19 crisis. But that rule is hardly the case everywhere – construction sites were fully shut down in Boston effective March 23 – the first major city in the U.S. to do so.

And in Michigan and elsewhere, interpretations of govern-

mental edicts, contractor/owner action (or inaction) toward shuttering operations and individual tradespeople making work/don't work decisions on their own have created a hodge-podge of open, closed, or reduced staff at project sites, union halls, and contractor offices.

That "essential" designation has kept many construction workers working across the U.S., unlike those laid off in a myriad of other occupations. The term appears in a document written by U.S. Department of Homeland Se-

curity Director Christopher Krebs, a "memorandum on identification of essential critical infrastructure workers during COVID-19 response." In it, Krebs designates "essential critical infrastructure workers" as being "essential" and not subject to mandatory layoffs during the coronavirus quarantine instituted in Michigan and other states.

"The attached list identifies workers who conduct a range of operations and services that are essential to continued critical in-

frastructure viability," Krebs writes, "including staffing operations centers, maintaining and repairing critical infrastructure, operating call centers, working construction, and performing management functions, among others."

The outline of who works and who doesn't during a quarantine by Homeland Security is advisory in nature; the ultimate authority lies with individual governors. And Gov. Whitmer has been content, so far, with allowing the construction industry –

(Continued on Page 2)

The COVID-19 crisis

Michigan grapples with a sickening foe that has brought a halt to life as we know it.

To file for unemployment benefits, the state recommends logging on to the state's Unemployment Insurance Agency website at www.Michigan.gov/UIA

Attempt to log on after business hours, because the system has been overwhelmed. Or call the UIA 1-866-500-0017 (see the graphic on Page 2)



ONE OF HUNDREDS of construction projects put on hold in Michigan is the \$380 million Wayne County Criminal Justice Complex at I-75 and East Warren. Managed by Barton Malow, the project had been slated for completion in mid-2022. The project includes an adult detention facility, office space and a courthouse.

THE COVID-19 Coronavirus is wreaking havoc, upending medical, financial, social, and employment norms in every corner of the world. Michigan has been among the hardest hit states, recording more than 3,000 cases and certainly more by the time you read this. By now you've read and seen the horror stories inside U.S. hospitals, where doctors are choosing between which patient lives and which one dies because of a lack of equipment. The economic impact of the virus is incredibly severe, with record layoffs around the nation – and at least a bad recession under way. In that environment, thousands of building trades workers have lost jobs, either through voluntary or forced layoff. Many – such as those trades performing necessary work on power plants, "critical infrastructure," or those who maintain HVAC, plumbing and electrical systems, might be more likely to remain employed – if they want to be employed. But thousands of other Hardhats are on the sidelines, leaving empty steel skeletons in place on some jobsites, and no doubt creating greater costs for owners and contractors by upsetting sequencing and leaving materials exposed to the elements. Labor giant Mother Jones said in 1902, "Pray for the dead, but fight like hell for the living." It's a good idea to pray for the living too, these days.



CONSTRUCTION HAS ALSO come to a standstill on the Detroit Medical Center's DMC Sports Medicine Institute on Woodward Avenue in Midtown Detroit. Located between Little Caesars Arena and the Mike Illitch School of Business, the \$65 million, 127,000 square-foot facility will be home to specialized clinical and rehabilitation teams and will serve professional, collegiate and recreational athletes.

COVID pandemic delays work on 45 percent of U.S. projects

For the U.S. construction industry, the coronavirus pandemic has ruined the start of a pretty good year.

A survey released March 27 by the Associated General Contractors of America found that the COVID-19 pandemic has caused "delays or disruptions" on projects for 45 percent of U.S.

construction contractors. And that number has certainly grown since.

"The coronavirus pandemic has the potential to undermine what had been a very robust construction market, threatening the livelihood of countless workers and the viability of many firms," said Ken Simonson, the

association's chief economist.

In a nationwide online survey conducted by the AGC between March 23 and 26, 45 percent of the 1,640 respondents reported experiencing project delays or disruptions. Shortages of material, parts and equipment, including vital personal protective

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Whitmer extends jobless benefits

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

LANSING – Gov. Gretchen Whitmer issued an executive order on March 16 expanding the eligibility of unemployment benefits in the state. The decree, of course, came in response to the ongoing effects of the coronavirus, COVID-19.

Under the governor's order, unemployment benefits would be extended to:

- Workers who have an unanticipated family care responsibility, including those who have childcare responsibilities due to school closures, or those who are forced to care for loved ones who become ill.

- Workers who are sick, quarantined, or immunocompromised and who do not have access to paid family and medical leave or are laid off.

- First responders in the public health community who become ill or are quarantined due to exposure to COVID-19.

"While we work together to mitigate the spread of coronavirus, we must do everything we can to help working families," said Whitmer. "This executive order will provide immediate relief to those who can't go to work, and who rely on their paycheck to put food on the table for themselves and their families. I urge everyone to make smart choices at this time, and to do everything in their power to keep themselves and their loved ones safe."

Whitmer's office said it is also seeking solutions for self-employed workers and independent contractors who traditionally do not have access to unemployment insurance.

Access to benefits for unemployed workers will also be extended:

- Benefits will be increased from 20 to 26 weeks.

- The application eligibility period will be increased from 14 to 28 days

- The normal in-person registration and work search requirements will be suspended.

Patrick Anderson, CEO of the Lansing-based Anderson Economic Group, which provides economic analysis for private companies, nonprofits and governments, predicted to *Bridge Magazine* that as many as 1.4

million of the state's 4.7 million workers will be displaced by the end of April.

Under the order, an employer or employing unit must not be charged for unemployment benefits if their employees become unemployed because of an executive order requiring them to close or limit operations.

Patience required in applying for jobless benefits in Michigan

LANSING – When it comes to applying for Unemployment Benefits from the Michigan Unemployment Agency (UIA), hang in there, and keep trying.

That's the word from Sean Egan, former business manager of IBEW Western Michigan Local 275, and now the state's deputy director- Labor, in the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity. Following are some excerpts:

"As you can expect, Michigan's Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA) is getting slammed pretty good right now," he wrote in a letter distributed to organized labor and elsewhere.

"The system is up and running, but due to volumes both online and via phone is bogged down to a degree. I can assure you that the folks at UIA are working hard to get every one they can. It is encouraged to file online, with phone as a backup. The phone system does provide a 'call back' option once you get through so you don't have to remain on hold.

"I would encourage everyone not to miss out on about other important benefits through DHHS and others that offer support with rent, healthcare, or other community resources. Certainly not all folks will be eligible, but they should check them out. You can find the easiest locator on the Michigan.gov/coronavirus page right at the top titled "quick links."

"I have been hearing of some apprentices on the construction side, and college students and tipped employees on the service industry side getting denials," Egan continued. "Don't let these folks get discouraged, they should appeal as appropriate. Our brothers and sisters should use the Michigan coronavirus page as a resource for information as this is what will be updated most often."

Spike in jobless claims is historic in Michigan, U.S.

By Marty Mulcahy, Editor

LANSING – Michigan's Unemployment Agency has been inundated with an historic number of jobless claims over the past several weeks. And Michigan's misery has company with every state in the nation.

During the week of March 16, there were 108,710 unemployment claims filed in Michigan, an increase of about 2,100 percent compared to a typical recent week. The Michigan Unemployment Agency said while there have been wait times in applying for jobless benefits, the state's Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA) benefits are set to be funded by a \$4.6 billion trust fund which has been built up over the last 10 years.

"We understand that COVID-19 has caused economic harm to our workers as sacrifices are made to protect all of our residents. Extending and expanding unemployment benefits has provided emergency relief to many Michiganders," said Jeff Donofrio, director of the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity. "Even though we've seen an unprecedented need for emergency financial assistance, Michigan's unemployment system, and its hardworking staff, continue to provide critical help online and over the phone. Michiganders impacted by the COVID-19 epidemic should continue to visit michigan.gov/UIA or call 866-500-0017 to apply for benefits."

(Continued on Page 2)

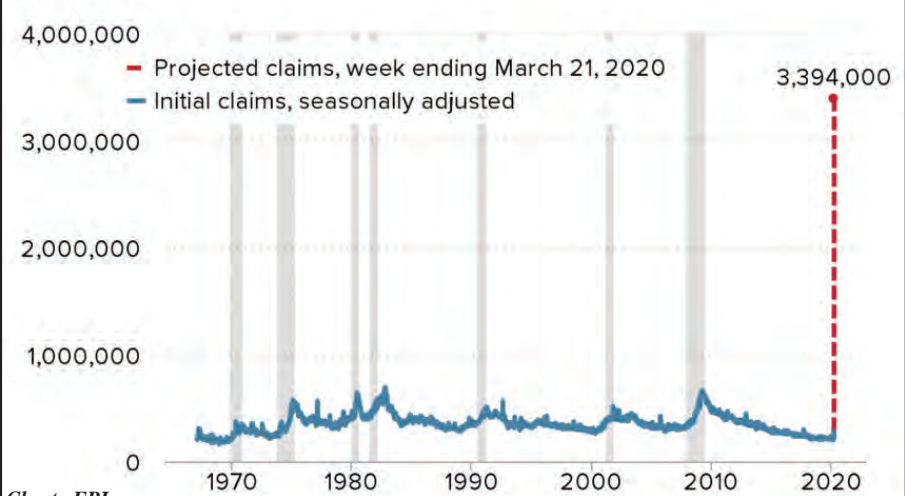


Chart: EPI

Viewpoints



This is sick

With the first cases of the COVID-19 virus diagnosed in Michigan, it is important to realize that some 1.5 million Michigan workers won't have the option to stay at home if they are sick – thanks to the actions of former Gov. Rick Snyder and Republican leaders in the closing months of 2018.

So, while quarantine, staying at home and don't go to work will be key advice to halt the spread of this pandemic, that's not really an option for one out of three Michigan workers.

Many of those are poorly paid workers, in restaurants or retail operations, who must work even when they are sick – spreading disease – because not working while sick could mean they won't be able to pay bills, buy food or make their rent and car payment.

Michigan had a chance to fix this. But in November 2018, Michigan's Republican state government leaders overturned a citizen-supported law that required businesses to allow their employees to earn paid sick leave.

Yes, I am politicizing this. I am weaponizing the virus, because the leadership of one political party weaponized the legislative process against working men and women. Because it deserves to be weaponized and used against the politicians, many of whom are still in office, who put Michigan at a greater risk than necessary.

Michigan lawmakers and their staff and most government workers can earn sick leave. Most middle-class workers can earn sick leave. If they are sick with the COVID-19 virus, they can stay home, confident that they will get a paycheck and they will not be forced to miss a car payment or lose their home.

But that's not the case for hundreds of thousands of Michigan workers. And as a result of the poor policy choices by our former governor and Republican legislative leaders like Sen. Arlan Meekhof and House Speaker Tom Leonard (both now lobbyists) Michigan may suffer an impact from COVID-19 that will be much worse than in 10 states and more than 30 local governments around the nation where earned sick leave is the law.

In early 2018, Michigan men and women gathered more than 377,000 signatures to put before the Legislature a law that required businesses to provide a path to earning sick leave.

The Michigan Legislature received the initiative on Aug. 27. On Sept. 5, the House and Senate passed the law, and Gov. Rick Snyder signed it. That prevented the voter-supported policy from going to the ballot, where it would have easily passed – polls showed it enjoyed support from 70% of voters.

Then, just days after the November election, the Senate, led by Meekhof, and the House, under Leonard, voted to gut the measure – taking away the protection for sick workers upping the chances they will expose others to illness by working. And once again, Gov. Rick Snyder signed the measure.

This was an extraordinary cynical move, undermining the democratic rights of the people of Michigan to implement law through initiative. Whether it was legal is still in dispute, and a lawsuit on the matter continues to drag through our court system. As Senate Democratic Leader Jim Ananich said at the time, the process amounted to an "undo and screw" of hundreds of thousands of workers.

And as we see today, to literally millions of Michiganders, who now, thanks to the disreputable action of these men, are more likely to be exposed to a deadly illness.

The Michigan Legislature can still do the right thing. The Republicans in control of the House and Senate – Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey and House Speaker Lee Chatfield – could immediately allow consideration of legislation that would require all employers to offer earned paid sick leave to their workers. And Gov. Gretchen Whitmer would sign it, restoring the law.

Of course, the current legislative leaders were part of the group that voted to "undo and screw" last time. But they could change their position for the good of Michigan. In the face of a dangerous pandemic sweeping the globe, allowing workers who are sick to stay at home and still get a paycheck would be smart public health policy. That will benefit not just employees, but the millions of Michiganders who risk contracting COVID-19 from a hard working man or woman who had no choice but to come to work sick.

Danielle Atkinson
Royal Oak, Mich.

(The writer is the founder and executive director of Mothering Justice, a coalition of mothers advocating for affordable child care, birth justice, earned paid sick time, family medical leave insurance, raising the minimum wage and the safety net. Via the Detroit Free Press, March 11, 2020). The Building Tradesman welcomes your letters to the editor. We reserve the right to edit for clarity and to shorten them. Please sign the letter and include a way to contact you.

How to contact us –

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We're all in this together

By Jim Hightower

Suddenly, "social distancing" is our new national etiquette, abruptly supplanting handshakes, hugs, gatherings, and other forms of ingrained communal behavior by us humans.

It can be awkward. Disconcerting. Isolating. Yet as we frantically scramble to deter the health and economic ravages of Covid-19, we might benefit by pondering another form of social distancing that's made the contagion so disastrous.

For some 40 years, American corporations and governments have imposed economic, political, and social policies to distance the financial fortunes of the wealthy few from the well-being of the workaday majority.

Consider the interrelationship of multimillionaires with the unseen kitchen staff of restaurants where they dine. To further enrich themselves, such multimillionaires have forced low-wage policies on food preparers, denied them health coverage, and lobbied to kill proposals to provide paid sick leave.

So, a kitchen worker coughs because he or she is infected with coronavirus, but doesn't know it, since the worker has no health care coverage for testing. Even while running a fever, the staffer must come to work or lose the job.

A few days later, a multimillionaire coughs, because... well, Covid-19 doesn't distinguish between rich and poor.

The very proposals that plutocrats have been blocking for years – a living wage, Medicare for All, paid sick leave, family medical leave, free college and trade school, home health care, and others – are exactly what a sane government would adopt to avoid the consequences of inequality that now confronts every American.

The actual disease that's forcing social distancing on our country is not a pathogen, but the widening separation of rich elites from the rest of us – and the cure is a national push for renewed social cohesiveness.

As Progress Texas director Glenn Smith recently put it, The coronavirus "puts into focus a biological, psychological, economic, and socio-political fact that we too often deny: We are a species of completely interdependent beings." via www.otherwords.org

Spike in jobless claims

(Continued from Page 1)

An executive order by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer extended Unemployment Insurance eligibility in Michigan from 20 to 26 weeks, and expanded eligibility for first responders, sick workers and workers caring for loved ones.

The most recent spike in jobless claimants came at the lowest point of the Great Recession, more than a decade ago, when weekly claims peaked at about 60,000. During the week of Aug. 24, 2019, Michigan set a record for the lowest number of initial claims for unemployment insurance, with only 3,791 claims being filed.

The volume is "pretty much unprecedented," said H. Luke Shaefer, professor of social work and public policy at the University of Michigan, to *Bridge Magazine*. "That is, I think, as much a shock to the system as we've ever had."

The jobless situation is similarly ugly in the rest of the 50 states.

"A greater share of Americans filed for unemployment insurance in the week ending March 21 than in any prior week in American history," according to an analysis of news reports by the Economic Policy Institute. "Our best guess at this point is that the national economy could lose 14 million jobs by summer 2020."

The EPI, which said its data was extrapolated because some states haven't provided complete information, said the number of Americans filing for unemployment benefits jumped to a record-breaking 3.28 million claims for the week ending March 21. The previous record was 695,000 claims filed the week ended Oct. 2, 1982.

"This will dwarf every other week in history, as can be seen by comparing the projection against the trend in initial claims back to 1967," the EPI said.

For scale, the EPI said the initial spike in joblessness from last month represents a loss of 2.2 percent of all jobs in the economy. The largest monthly rise in the unemployment rate in American history was 1.3 percent in October 1949.

"Real joy comes not from ease or riches or from the praise of men, but from doing something worthwhile."

—Sir Wilfred Grenfell (1865-1940)

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UI 101 COVID-19

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AGENCY

HOW DO I FILE A CLAIM?

- Online at michigan.gov/uia using the MiWAM portal
- By phone 1-866-500-0017 Option 1 "to inquire about and to file a claim"

WHAT DO I NEED TO FILE?

- Social Security number
- Employment information for the past 18 months: employer name and address, first/last day worked/ gross earnings
- Your address, phone number, date of birth
- Non-Citizens Alien registration and the expiration date of your work authorization card
- Driver's License or State ID

WHAT'S NEXT?

How do I get paid?
In order to get paid, EVERY TWO WEEKS you must report (certify) that you are still unemployed by answering some questions.

How do I report?

- Online 24/7 through your MiWAM account.
- Phone MARVIN (1-866-638-3993) Monday-Saturday 8:00 am – 7:00 pm.

Payment posts within 2-3 business days from the date you report. Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays are not considered a business day.

There are two options for payment

- Direct deposit through your bank or credit union - You will need your routing number and account number
- UIA Bank of America debit card

QUESTIONS ON YOUR CLAIM?

- Visit michigan.gov/uia for tools and resources
- Access your MIWAM account 24/7
- Chat with an agent M-F, 8 am to 5 pm or
- Call our Customer Service line at 866-500-0017, M-F, 8 am to 4:30pm. TTY service is available at 866-366-0004.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AGENCY
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michigan.gov/uia | 1-866-500-0017

Construction hit or miss in Michigan

(Continued from Page 1) which is certainly "essential" in some areas of work and arguably less so in others – to basically set its own rules on the subject. In that environment, Hardhats have been laid off, either by a shutdown, layoff or by their own desire to "social distance" from other people.

A joint statement issued on March 21 by North America's Building Trades Union President Sean McGarvey and the Associated General Contractors CEO Stephen Sandherr called on state and federal lawmakers to exempt construction workers from regional, state and local work shutdowns. And for the most part, that's what has happened.

"Government officials at all levels should treat the construction industry and the work it performs as vital and essential to the critical industries that must remain in operation. Construction workers provide an invaluable economic service, maintaining and improving the nation's infrastructure, including critically important energy and communication systems, roads and bridges, and social infrastructure, including police, fire and health care

"People who say they sleep like a baby usually don't have one."

—Leo J. Burke

facilities. "Construction workers' unique skills are essential now and in the coming weeks to construct, maintain, and repair critical infrastructure, and to build temporary health facilities and retrofit and expand existing ones.

"Labor and management construction industry partners continue to monitor and provide guidance on all recommended health and safety job site precautions for construction workers so that proper measures are deployed to ensure a safe work environment for those on the job."

A statement by McGarvey individually cited safeguards issued by the labor-backed health and safety advocacy group, the Center for Construction Research and Training. "The health and safety of our members and their families is always job number one. By working together with great owners and contractors around North America, we can

lead by example and keep the construction industry safely operating without exposing our members to health risks in this dangerous moment.

"According to the Center for Construction Research and Training, essential safety measures include (1) Keeping at least six feet between workers by staggering crews to make sure there is no droplet spread on jobs; (2) Providing soap and running water so workers can frequently wash hands; and (3) Cleaning and disinfecting high touch areas like handrails, doorknobs, and portable toilets on a frequent and regular basis.

"Lastly, construction workers are now entitled to paid sick leave. We strongly encourage workers to use this safeguard when they feel ill. It is crucial that once proper safety precautions are taken that our members continue to work and provide for their families.

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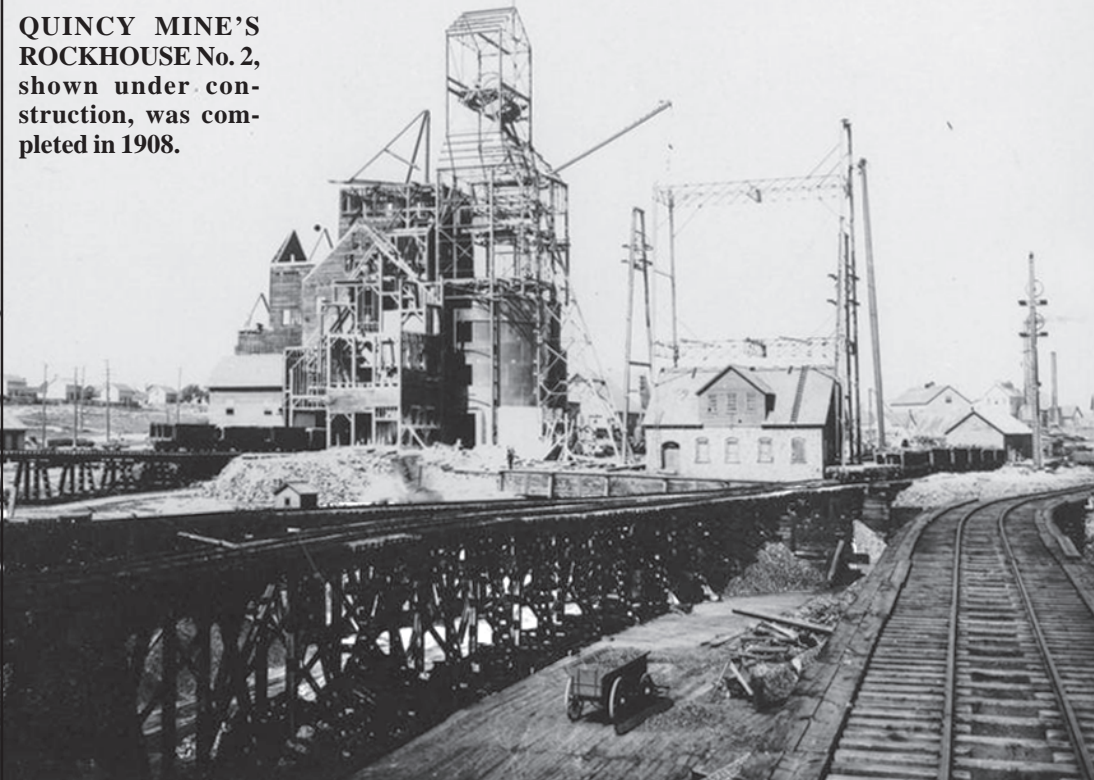
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BUILDING MICHIGAN!

Quincy Mine's innovative rockhouses

HISTORY IN THE MAKING By Marty Mulcahy

QUINCY MINE'S ROCKHOUSE No. 2, shown under construction, was completed in 1908.



Wheat has its chaff. Cotton has its seeds. Copper has its rocks.

A history of mankind could probably be written about the progress made from separating valuable materials from the less-than-useful. And so it goes in Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula, where a way of life was made a century ago in taking copper from the ground, and separating the valuable ore from everything else that came up with it.

The Quincy Mine in Hancock, which operated from 1846 to 1945, had its share of mining innovations that were later used worldwide, including processes which made the extraction and separation of ore faster and more efficient.

"The structure that you see today (Rockhouse No. 2) was built in 1908, during some of Quincy's most productive years," says a history of the Quincy Mine by the National Parks Service, which conducts tours of the mine, now a museum. "It's called a shaft-rockhouse because the construction of the building allows rock to be processed as soon as it's brought up from below. The 54-degree angle of the roof matches the angle of the copper-bearing lode underground. The height of the building allowed Quincy to use gravity to its advantage. Mine cars know as skips were filled with rock and hoisted from the depths. Rock was dumped from the skip car, through the sorting screens (or grizzlies) to rock crushers that broke ore into uniform pieces, and into the train cars below."

A stamping or rolling process separated the rock from the ore. As the rocks were pulverized, their size reached 3/16 of an inch, and the material passed over the tables that used gravity to separate the heavier copper from the rock. The rock was re-

moved to various dumps, and later, to re-fill old mine shafts.

The rockhouse concept began in at the Quincy Mine in 1892, when the company opened its "Pewabic" shaft on the northern part of its property. "This shaft became known as North Quincy No. 6, and featured Quincy's first shaft/rockhouse combination," says Copper Country Explorer.com. "This set-up was so successful that Quincy retro-fitted its No. 2 and No. 4 shafts to features these

shaft/rockhouse combos."

Thus began the construction of the rockhouse – tall, odd-looking structures in Copper Country.

"Quincy was well known for adopting advanced technologies for its time, often improving the efficiency of their operations," the National Parks Service said. "Many of the mining procedures developed here in the copper country contributed to the advancement of mining methods worldwide."



THE ELABORATELY scaffolded Quincy Mine Rockhouse No. 6 was a trendsetter in the copper ore industry. Shown here under construction in 1892, it was later demolished.



(This feature originally was published in 2012)

A MODERN VIEW of the still-standing Quincy Rockhouse No. 2. Photos top and bottom from the Library of Congress

COVID pandemic halts work

(Continued from Page 1)
equipment for workers such as respirators, were reported by 23 percent of respondents. Eighteen percent reported shortages of craftworkers, while 16 percent said projects were delayed by shortages of government workers needed for inspections, permits and other actions. Thirteen percent said delay or disruption had occurred because a potentially infected person had visited a jobsite.

The survey results show how quickly market conditions changed. On March 27 the AGC reported that construction employment had increased in 42 states in February, compared to employment in February 2019.

Michigan was one of those gaining states, seeing a rise of 10,800 construction jobs (+6.3 percent) compared to February 2019. That surged ranked Michigan No. 5 among the states in construction job gains.

The AGC said the \$2 trillion coronavirus bill adopted by the U.S. Senate last month will have limited benefits to the industry. "Providing additional tax credits and loans will help, but contractors also need the certainty that comes with infrastructure funding and improvements to the new paid and family leave measures" the AGC said.

Association officials said that while the Senate relief measure has loan provisions in the

measure to help offset declining demand, it doesn't include new funding for infrastructure projects and to protect the retirements and health care of construction workers in multi-employer plans.

They also called for additional fixes to measures enacted earlier this week that force employers to front the cost of newly mandated paid family and sick leave measures.

Simonson said that only 18 percent of respondents have been ordered to halt work by elected officials. "The sudden drop in demand stands in sharp contrast to the strong employment levels this industry was experiencing just a few weeks ago," he said.

Just joking

How old was your father when he died?"

"Who said my father's dead?" the man replied.

The doctor is amazed, "You mean you're 80 years old and your father's still alive? How old is he?"

"He's 98 years old," says the old Texas boy. "In fact he worked and hunted with me this morning. Then we went to the bar for a while and had some beers. That's why he's still alive. He's a Texas farmer. And he's a hunter and fisherman, too."

"Well," the doctor says, "that's great, but I'm sure there's more to it than that. How about your father's father? How old was he when

he died?"

"Who said my Grandpa's dead?"

Stunned, the doctor asks, "you mean you're 80 years old and your grandfather is still alive? He has to be the oldest man on earth!"

"He's 116 years old," says the man.

The doctor can't believe what he's hearing. "So, I guess he went hunting with you this morning too?"

"No, Grandpa couldn't go this morning because he's getting married today."

At this point the doctor is close to losing it, "Getting married! Why would a 118 year-old man want to get married?"

"Who said he wanted to?"

Governor expands jobless insurance under federal law

LANSING – Gov. Gretchen Whitmer on March 30 announced new programs for workers affected by COVID-19. The governor, under the federal CARES Act, signed an agreement between Michigan and the U.S. Dept. of Labor to implement Pandemic Unemployment Assistance and Compensation programs that grant benefits to workers who do not already qualify for state unemployment benefits. Workers include self-employed, 1099-independent contractors, gig, and low-wage workers who can no longer work because of the pandemic. The agreement also increases weekly benefits for all unemployed workers by \$600 a week for up to four months and extends benefit payments from 26 to 39 weeks.

The Michigan Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA) will provide additional guidance regarding eligibility and application details in the coming days as it implements these new programs.

Benefits Extended to Self-Employed, Low-Wage, and Other Workers Affected by COVID-19
Under the CARES Act, individuals who are not already eligible for Michigan's unemployment programs will now be provided a set amount of \$600 a week for up to four months on top of the state

benefit. Benefits are available for up to 39 weeks. These newly eligible individuals include self-employed workers, independent contractors, low-wage workers and those with a limited work history.

Benefits Increased for All Unemployed Workers. Under the CARES Act, weekly benefits for all unemployed workers will be increased by a set amount of \$600 a week for up to four months. This applies to workers already in the unemployment system and eligible employees about to apply. **These workers do not need to reapply and those about to apply do not need to take additional steps and should file as usual.** If a worker's application has previously been denied by the UIA in the past three weeks there is no need for them to reapply at this time. They will be notified by the agency with any additional action that may need to be taken.

The day or time of day in which a claim is filed will not impact whether a worker receives benefits or their benefit amount. Additionally, claims will be backdated to reflect the date in which a claimant was laid-off or let go from their job due to COVID-19. The eligibility window to apply has also been increased from 14 to 28 days from the date of their work stoppage.

New Filing Schedule:
Online Filing Schedule - Michigan.gov/UIA. Workers are encouraged to go online during off-peak times between 8PM-8AM

- Last names beginning with letters A-L are asked to file claims on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays.
- Last names beginning with letters M-Z are asked to file claims on Sundays, Tuesdays, or Thursdays.
- Saturdays will be available for anyone to accommodate those who could not file during their allotted window. Call Center Filing Schedule - 866-500-0017:
- Last names beginning with letters A-L are asked to call on Mondays and Wednesdays between 8:00am - 5:00pm.
- Last names beginning with letters M-Z are asked to call on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 8:00am - 5:00pm.
- Fridays (8:00am - 5:00pm) will be available for anyone to accommodate those who could not file during their allotted window.

For more information visit Michigan.gov/UIA
Information around this outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus and CDC.gov/Coronavirus.



THE CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY (CARES) ACT

SUPPORT FOR VETERANS

Veterans Benefits: The CARES Act expands resources to the Veterans Benefits Administration to ensure veterans continue to receive the benefits they've earned. Additionally, veterans and their families will remain eligible for pension and other income-dependent benefits, even if an emergency benefit paid by the government would have put them over the eligibility threshold. Veterans seeking to apply for benefits are encouraged to work with an accredited representative or apply through eBenefits.

Veterans Housing Assistance: Additional funding was authorized for programs that assist homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless veterans. Veterans in need of housing assistance should call the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at 1-877-4AID-VET.

VA Personnel: Pay caps have been waived for VA staff working overtime to respond to the Coronavirus pandemic, so they can be fully compensated for their hard work. VA has also issued a waiver to rehire retired VA health workers to bolster medical staff during this public health crisis. Retired physicians, nurses, pharmacists, laboratory technicians, respiratory therapists and other medical professionals can register online.

\$14.4 billion for essential medical and protective equipment including the purchase of testing kits, personal protective equipment (PPE), and medical supplies to support growing demand for health care services at VA facilities and through telehealth services. And language to:

- Require VA to provide PPE to all home health care workers serving veterans at home and in the community.
- Waive pay caps for VA staff working overtime during the COVID-19 pandemic, so they can be fully compensated for hours served.
- Enable VA to provide additional support for vulnerable veterans, including through programs to assist homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless veterans, as well as within VA-run nursing homes and community living centers.
- Provide flexibility for veterans and their caregivers in the home-based Veteran Directed Care program, preventing the need for institutional care.

If you have any additional questions about the federal resources available, please go to www.peters.senate.gov/coronavirus.



CPWR Initial Guidance on COVID-19
11 March 2020

Check back here often for updates to this information:
<https://www.cpwr.com/covid-19>

In response to the construction industry's questions regarding the COVID-19 outbreak, the following are steps everyone should be taking now:

- If you are feeling sick, do not go to work.
- Don't shake hands when greeting others.
- Try to stay three to six feet away from others in gatherings, meetings, and training sessions.
- Avoid contact with sick people.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Clean your hands often by washing them with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains 60%-95% alcohol. Soap and water should be used if hands are visibly dirty.
- It is especially important to clean hands after going to the bathroom, before eating, and after coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose.

Construction industry employers should also:

- Plan for office staff to have the ability to work from home.
- Provide soap and running water on all jobsites for frequent handwashing.
- Provide hand sanitizer when soap and running water are impossible.
- If you work in healthcare facilities, train your workers in Infection Control Risk Assessment—for information on this training program offered through CPWR, visit: <https://www.cpwr.com/training/infection-control-risk-assessment-icra>

Special guidance for travel:

Individuals at high risk for complications from COVID-19 should follow the current CDC's guidance:

- Currently, older adults and persons with underlying health conditions are considered to be at increased risk for severe illness and complications from COVID-19. People in high-risk groups should consult with their healthcare provider about attending large events. (See: [CDC guidance](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html))
- Older adults and travelers with underlying health conditions should avoid situations that put them at increased risk for more severe disease. This entails avoiding crowded places and avoiding non-essential travel such as long plane trips. (See: [CDC guidance for travel](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/guidance-business-response.html))

Additional links from our Federal Government Partners:
From OSHA: <https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/>
From NIOSH: <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/emres/2019-ncov.html>
From CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
From CDC for Employers about getting their businesses ready: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/guidance-business-response.html>





Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service Local 111

Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 111 UPPER PENINSULA - The next scheduled union meeting on April 30, 2020 @ 7:30 in the Escanaba hall is cancelled until further notice.

Condolences: To the family of member James Johnson who passed away on 3/21/2020.

The Escanaba and Marquette halls are closed to walk-in traffic. Please call either hall for any assistance you may need.

Condolences: To the family of member James Johnson who passed away on 3/21/2020. Also, to Dave Pedersen on the passing of his father Orville, who passed away on 3/21/2020.

Local 111 JATC apprenticeship classes, including open welding at the training center has been cancelled until further notice. Every training center across the country has done the same.

Reminder: It is your respon-

sibility 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.

Retirees: The Copper Country area retirees will not be meeting until further notice.

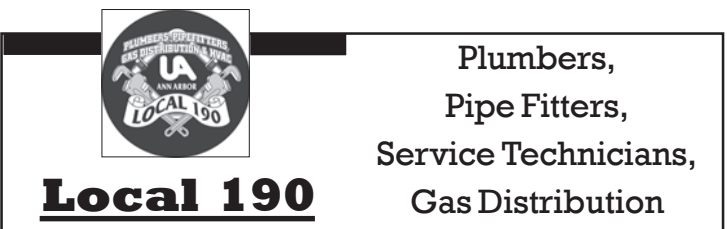
Important Information: Contact the hall with any changes with any of the following: E-Mail, address, phone number, a new birth, marriage, divorce, or death. For those of you who have an email address that we do not yet have on record, please call and give it to April or Ann.

Reminder to Welders/Welding Forms: The UA Welder Qualification Continuity Report forms are available on our website under Training or at the hall. Certifications expire every 6 months and it is YOUR responsibility to get your welding forms turned in on time.

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

Safety Training on Local 111 Web Site: When taking the on-line safety training, go to our web site ua111.com and click on Safety Links. Members must take these safety trainings for each site to work at each mill. Please take note they are valid for 1 year.

MSHA Training: The 2020 MSHA classes are cancelled until further notice.



Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 190

ANN ARBOR - UNION MEETING: The meeting on Monday, April 13th at 6:00 p.m. has been canceled.

MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION UNION MEETING: The April meeting has been canceled.

UNION HALL CLOSING: For the Easter holiday the office will be closing at 12:00 p.m. on Friday April 10th. Wishing you and your family a happy and safe holiday.

SCHOLARSHIPS: Local 190 Scholarship is now available at the union hall for distribution to members and their families. There are two scholarships available. One from Local 190, due back no later than July 10th. The UA scholarship will now only be accepted electronically, no later than June 7th https://uascholarshipfund.com/communityforce.com. You can contact the union office at (734) 424-0962 for further information.

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

The office will be closed daily from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. THE OFFICE IS CLOSED TO FOOT TRAFFIC UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. (PHONE CALLS ONLY)

2020 - MICHIGAN LICENSE RENEWAL: Plumbing license renewals are done online ONLY!!! For detailed instructions and requirements, please visit: www.michigan.gov/bcc. Feel free to stop into the Union hall and pick up a copy of the instructions.

UALocal 190 WEBSITE: www.ua190.org Current members will be able to log into the "Members Only" section using your last name and UA card number. We encourage all of you to check out our website.

PLEASE NOTE: Check out "TOP NEWS" for COVID 19 informaton.

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

LAI D OFF OR BACK TO WORK - IMPORTANT REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS: All members who get laid off or report back to work please immediately contact Karen (734) 424-0962 Ext. #210, to report the last day in which you worked or to report the day you went back to work.

INFORMATION - FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: VISION PROGRAM - EYEMED - IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

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

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

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

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

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

CLASS INFORMATION - TRAINING CENTER, THE TRAINING CENTER IS CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

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

RETIREMENT CONGRATULATIONS: Congratulations to Mark McMillen. Mark initiated on March 27, 1981 and retired March 1st. Mark was the Michigan Business Agent for UA Local 190 for the past 12 years. Wishing him best wishes for a happy retirement!

Our member Gary Symons initiated on May 5, 1997 and retired March 1st. Wishing you a long, healthy and happy retirement.

Our member James Van Every initiated on March 14, 1997 and retired March 1. We all wish you a well deserved and happy retirement.

RETIREE MEETINGS - PLEASE JOIN US (spade meeting/schedule change for May): Both Spades and Classic Cup meetings start at 9:00 a.m. All retirees are welcome to attend. THE CARD GAME AT THE UNION HALL HAS BEEN CANCELLED FOR APRIL.

The next breakfast meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 16th at the Classic Cup Café located at 4389 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor. Due to a scheduling conflict, the Spade meeting In May will take place on the second Thursday, May 14th at the union hall, after this spade meeting, they will continue to be the first Thursday of each month.

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



Plumbers, Pipefitters & HVAC Service Local 357

KALAMAZOO - COVID-19 UNION UPDATE: As we are moving into unprecedented times as it relates to the Coronavirus, please take precautions and be respectful of others. As events unfold, we will notify the membership of cancellations and, if possible, the rescheduled dates and times of those events.

As pertinent information becomes available, we will be using Facebook and email to keep you informed.

UNION MEETING: The next Union Meeting will be a Special Called Meeting on Monday, June 8th at 6:30 pm. Other meetings that day will be Finance Committee at 4:30 and Executive Board at 5:30. The allocation of the wage increase will be done at this meeting. Please make note of the meeting date change due to a conflict with the MI Pipe Trades annual convention. The Building Trades Paper serves as the memberships official notice. NOTE: April & May's Union Meetings are CANCELED.

MEDICARE RETIREE MEETING: Labor First was scheduled to have a follow up meeting with the Medicare/Medicaid eligible retirees on April 9th at 10:00 am. Due to the COVID-19 outbreak and MI State Mandate on Meetings, this will not be held. There will be additional information mailed to all eligible members when a new date has been scheduled.

PRE-RETIREMENT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 30th IS CANCELED.

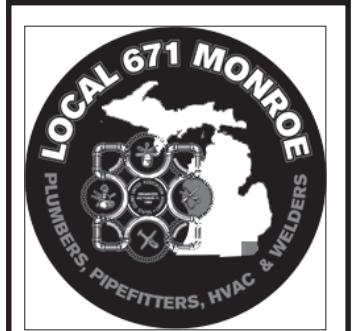
MEDICAL CLAIMS ISSUES: As a member, TIC International provides a dedicated team of member advocates to assist with the resolution of any and all medical claims issues. If at any time you experience an issue with your claims being processed and paid correctly, please contact TIC international at 1-888-281-3461.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

WEBSITE INFORMATION - FRINGES - TIC: Check out the website at www.ualocal357.com and the FACEBOOK Page @ www.facebook.com/UALocal357/. You should sign up for access to your fringe reporting done by TIC via the Union website. To gain access, click on the Members Access Your Information Here, then click on TIC International Corporation and then Register. This is where you will type in your Name, Email Address, UA Card # and Create your own password. Once you have completed all the information - click on the LARGE REGISTER button that is surrounded by a Blue Box. Your User Access will be granted the next business day.

To access your account, once it is set up, all you need to do is access the Membership Button again - type in your email address and password - and all your information will be presented. As a member via the website, you will be able to keep track of all your hours and receive an e-mail when hours are posted to your account. This is very important as it is up to you to keep up to date on the hours being paid on your behalf by ANY CONTRACTORS.

CHANGE OF STATUS: If you have a change of status for example: married, divorced, remarried, birth, death, workers comp, address change, etc., please call TIC at the phone number above and Lori at the Union Hall. It is very important that we keep all our records up to date. There seems to be a continuing problem regarding notification of divorces. Note that you, the member, will be responsible for any bills incurred and paid on claims of an ex-spouse or dependents. (See Pages 6 and 27 in the Summary Plan Description Booklet for clarification) Time limits apply for reporting status changes so let the hall know ASAP!

TAX PREP INFORMATION: Dollar amounts WILL BE available February 7th, 2020 for 2019 withholdings & dues paid. If you sign up for the e-mail on the website, you do not need to call the Hall for your deductions because you can view and print out your own information. The (Continued next column)



Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 671

MONROE - The next Regular Union Meeting is scheduled for May 7th at 7 p.m. at the Union Hall. Per our By-Laws we cannot cancel this meeting because of the corona virus, but I do recommend that you do not attend. All apprentices are excused from attending this meeting. The next Executive Board meeting is cancelled. The Retiree's luncheon scheduled for May 28th is also cancelled.

Notice: The Union hall is closed to all visitors until further notice in response to covid-19 and practicing social distancing. We are manning the phones and conducting the necessary daily business. If you need to come to the Union office for any reason; please call ahead and we will make arrangements. If you have any health insurance issues please call the insurance line at 734-241-6180 and you will be connected with Carly or you can call TIC are 3rd party administrator at 517-321-7502.

Apprenticeship Application: The application process ended on March 20th. We will be scheduling testing for the applicants and going through the scoring process. Interviews will follow for those who qualified and will be notified by a registered letter when their interview is scheduled.

Fermi Outage: For all who are working the outage please be safe and make sure you get your rest and use good hygiene practices.

Mobile App: Our Mobile App titled "UA Local 671" is available in the App Store for I phone or Android. The Username for Local 671 Members is your last name and your book number (UA Card Number). The Password is your book number. Please download this app so you can keep up on current information that the hall needs to get out.

Health and Welfare: The special informational meeting regarding are new RX plans is currently postponed until further notice.

In Closing: We are living through some potentially scary circumstances with the development of the corona virus. These are unprecedented times with all the school closings, and now restaurants and bars. Please practice social distancing and be responsible to help slow down the spread of this virus. Be mindful of the elderly and those with compromised immune systems while you remain vigilant with your own family's hygiene. Stay safe and God bless.



Local 357, con't

information that we have is what the contractors have reported on the fringes. If you think there is a discrepancy, then you should check your own pay stubs.

NOTE: HEALTH INSURANCE IS PAID BY THE CONTRACTORS AND IS NOT DEDUCTIBLE.

The Local is donating the Hall to the Kalamazoo County Tax Counseling Initiative (KCTI). FREE TAX preparation along with E-filing returns has not been rescheduled yet due to the COVID-19 epidemic. Dates will be provided when they are known. To qualify, your household income MUST BE under \$55,000 along with various other requirements. Information is available by calling KCTI at 2-1-1. Due to limited availability, it is strongly recommended that you make an appointment. Appointment times fill up fast. Please call 2-1-1 to make an appointment.

CONGRATULATIONS: Congratulations to the family of Nathan Blount on the addition of a baby girl, Olivia.



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

Pipe Fitters 636 FARMINGTON HILLS - The April Union Meeting has been cancelled.

The Training Center is closed till further notice.

The Union Hall is closed to all foot traffic until further notice. Any Dues payments or SUB transactions can still be done via email or by phone.

If there are any Allocation recommendations please submit them before May 12, 2020, by mail to the hall ATTN: Terry Gilligan or you can email them to Terry Gilligan at tgilligan@pipefitters636.org.

Pipefitters Local 636 would like to extend our deepest condolences to the family of Brother Retiree Edward (Tom) Stempfen, Tom passed away March 25, 2020.

The Pipefitters 636 47th Annual Golf Outing will be held Saturday June 20, 2020 at the Links of Novi. It will be a four man scramble with an 8:00am shotgun start. Tickets are limited to 216 golfers, first-come-first-serve basis. Foursomes can be reserved at a cost of \$400. This will include a continental breakfast, range balls, 18 holes of golf with cart, lunch on the turn, soft drinks/beer, prizes and a buffet dinner immediately following completion of play. All ticket orders must be received no later than Friday May 29, 2020. Please contact Lance Pesci for tickets at 248-939-3421.

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

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

New Quarterly UA Password is: REGISTERED APPRENTICE-SHIP

Dues: If you do not pay your Dues by the end of each quarter, then you will be charged a Reinstatement fee of \$50 at the start of the month following that quarter. After 2 quarters go unpaid you will then be Expelled and have to be Re-Initiated and pay a \$200 Re-Initiation fee.

Defined Contribution Pension Plan: For those members who use the Voice Response Unit, VRU to obtain balance information and transfers funds in your Defined Contribution Pension, the number has changed. The new number for the VRU is 877-410-9984. Plan provider number is 7526.

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

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

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

Recovery Support Group: Pipe Dreamers, a Peer Support Recovery group for ongoing recovery. (Continued next column)



Plumbers & Pipe Fitters

Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 333 LANSING - April's union meeting is CANCELLED.

Notice: Local 333 will be considering the final phase of the Hall remodel at the March meeting. The proposed remodel will include a new Veterans Memorial Wall at the front entrance of the Hall. In preparation for such a tribute, I am asking that all Veterans from Local 333 call Debra at the Lansing Hall at 517-393-5480 and give her your name, military branch and years of service. If you know of a deceased member who was a Veteran, please help us with whatever information you may have. Thank you for your time and your service.

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

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

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

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

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

Lansing Board of Water & Light Powerhouse: All members must have their 18 MUST modules and a current drug test on file to get on site. Please call your Business Agent if you need assistance.

Foreman: Any journey member interested in Foreman opportunities please call your Business Agent. We have plenty of opportunities available.

Short sleeve, long sleeve and sweatshirts are available in all three regions.

You Are the Missing Piece.



Local 636, con't

covery from substance abuse and addiction meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 4:30pm at the office of "Work Life Strategies" 26789 Woodward Avenue, Suite 3105, Huntington Woods 48070. Call 248-545-8301 for details or any questions you may have.

Also, a Relations/Divorce Support Group meet on the second and fourth Thursday of the month at 6pm.

Worker Assistance Program: Work Life Strategies, LLC are available to our members and their families to provide personal counseling services and when needed, referral to other professionals. Call 248-545-8301 to talk to a counselor for issues relating to grief, alcohol and or drug addiction, bankruptcy, financial management, marital, depression, legal and family counseling. Consultations with Work Life Strategies are a service paid for by the Insurance Fund. Referrals to outside professionals, if needed, will be paid for according to the current health care plan benefits.



Plumbers Local 98

Plumbers 98
MADISON HTS. - **Open letter to the Membership of Plumbers Local 98**

Brothers and Sisters, I am terribly sorry for the short notice on closing of the Union meetings last month, not even our government, as we see every day on TV, can give the country an honest answer. As more Americans die every day our President has no clue what he is up against. This can be seen in his complete lack of reality and insane attacks on our nation's Governors to divert attention from his shortcomings. Like the rest of you I have my issues with our State's Governor but Gretchen and the others are only trying to head this disease off. This new Presidential Ostracism is proof he is not prepared to understand the full effect of this virus that is plaguing our world. My fear is this is just the beginning of a long battle with no quick end in sight.

It reminds me of another past President of our country who felt the AIDS virus was not a big deal, we all know how that went and the carnage that soon followed due to ignorance. Proof that history will repeat itself every time if we choose to let it.

Until further notice all E-Board meetings, Union meetings and Retiree meetings, will be cancelled. The Union Hall and our Training Center have been shut down to all foot traffic. Any MUST/MOST upgrades, continuities or letters of certifications will still be taken care of by Paul Baker or our Officers or Jean. The school will remain closed until we figure out a black board procedure or the state pulls restrictions.

While I am here, I recommend to the apprentices get your classes caught up at Washtenaw Community College, this virus may hamper going to school but not your obligation to the training center. At work I am in hope this social distancing and the constant scrubbing of hands, will help keep some of us safe, I realize this is sometimes impossible but do the best you can. I have to announce our training center is closed down as well, there is no foot traffic allowed. Please check all of our media outlets like the 98 Web page, Face Book or call the hall to see if there is any new information.

It's that time again for your **2020 Plumbing License Renewal**, it can be done **ONLINE ONLY!** For detailed instructions and requirements, please visit www.michigan.gov/bcc. Or call 98's training Center and they will assist you.

Our Local 98 PAC committee has come out in support of past V.P. Joe Biden for President of the United States. With all the twisted things that Washington and our great state has done to the working class and every Local Union in this country, it did not take long to come to this conclusion. That does not mean in any way shape or form we have shut the door on the Republican Party. We will work on a list of candidates your PAC committee is recommending soon on our web page, we will always back anyone who stands with the working people of our state of Michigan and this country just like we have done in the past. You stand with us or against us!

All working 3rd thru 5th year apprentices should have received a new open enrollment form to change your insurance coverage to a different plan. If you are happy with your current plan you do not have to do anything. BeneSys is still our plan manager and feel free to contact Jon or myself at the hall for any questions you may have or that may arise from the mailing you received.

We have currently frozen any new apprentice applications at our Training Center as we try to figure out a potential start date for a new class.

Superintendents and Foreman, if you have laid off Pre-Apprentices send the information to the agents with a letter pertaining to their work efforts, someday we will get back to normal. To lose these young men and women would be an injustice.

We had started to clean up the Out of Work List and now, not so much, we are back to over 400 Brothers and Sisters out of work. I have informed our contractors when they are given the green light you may return for that same contractor you were laid off from. Your only responsibility is to notify the Union upon returning to work. Right now, the world has learned about the world of sanitary conditions, when you do return to work don't let the generals go back to unclean work conditions like over flowing Porta Jon's or a lack of hand wash station by them.

Don't let just one person bitch - YOU all should be in union. If you were unavailable to work or did not return a call you have been moved to the stay list or injured list. Please keep your Safe to Work Modules current as we have a lot of automotive work on the horizon.

We are looking for Residential and Service Plumbers at this time, so if you know anyone working Non-Union or is a past member that may be interested in us. Have them call 98's Organizer Rob Moses at the hall or on his cell phone 248-763-2187.

The new U.A. Union cards are available at the hall when you pay your 2020 Union dues, these cards are good for 2020, 2021 and 2022. If by chance you are in arrears and you are struggling financially, please contact the hall and make arrangements. We do not want to fine anyone for something that can be avoided. Sorry to say but we have run into problems with the new UA cards as there is no way to know if a person is current. Jon has been able to make a second card to be carried to our meetings as well as job sites, this second card can now be stamped monthly or yearly as we have done in the past.

Now all of our members and stewards on the jobs will not have to waste time calling the hall to see if another member is current. Our hope is this will not only stop accidental reinstatement fees from occurring but this will help examining board members at union meetings who are at the door checking cards to lessen any confusion.

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

The new Log books are in so grab only what you need for your job. It figures now that work is slow the new contract books have arrived, agents can distribute to a parking lot or open area if needed. **Triage units at Wayne State, the Piston Center and TCF (Cobo Hall) are being set up, anyone that has Med Gas and are interested in working please, call your Business Agents.**

-In Brotherhood, Carlo Castiglione Business Manager Plumbers Local 98

Condolences. Our deepest sympathies go to the family and friends of Norma Boyer, who passed away February 20, 2020. Norma is the mother of Retiree James P. Boyer.

Our deepest sympathies go to the family and friends of Kay Burgin who passed away March 20, 2020. She and Life member Fred Burgin were married for 66 years. Also, mother of member Mike Burgin and brother-in-law of Bill Briggs, Sr. and Bill Burgin.

Hanging Up Their Bibs. Congratulations to the members who will retire effective March 1, 2020: Tim McCabe, thank you for your service and enjoy your retirement.

Retiree Meeting: Cancelled

Northern Retiree Meeting: Cancelled

Thumb Area Meeting: Cancelled

Workers Assistance Program, Recovery and Relationship/Divorce Support Groups. This program is not only for medical and/or personal issues, please call C.J. Harrison, Work Life Strategies at 248-545-8301 for an appointment.

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

"An onion can make people cry, but there has never been a vegetable invented to make them laugh."

-Will Rogers (1879 - 1935)



Local 174 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & Service Trades

West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters & Service Trades Local 174

COOPERSVILLE--MEETING CANCELLED**:** As per the recommendation of the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and after consulting with the Executive Board we have decided the **CANCEL THE APRIL UNION MEETING AND CANCEL THE APRIL RETIREE BREAKFAST.** We feel this is in the best interest of protecting the health of our members. We are also asking that the members try to take care of dues payments and other administrative tasks online and over the phone. The offices will remain open, but we are trying to limit foot traffic.

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

PLEASE CALLEXT. 17: If you are laid off, taking a leave or separated from your employer for any other reason please call extension 17 and put your name on the out of work list. If you do not wish to be called for other jobs please say you'd like to be unavailable during your message. We need to track the number of members who are out of work.

Sub-Pay: The board of trustees voted to temporarily raise the maximum sub pay credit from \$130 to \$260 from March 23rd until the end of April. To file for sub-pay, fill out a sub-pay form. You can find a form on the members only section of the website under the "forms" tab on the lefthand side, or you can call the Union office and we'll mail you some. Mail or fax the completed form along with verification that you received an unemployment payment to TIC. If you prefer to email the forms, please email them to Cami at cburris@ua174.org and she will submit them to TIC.

Unemployment: The Michigan Unemployment system has been overwhelmed for the last two weeks due to the number of filings. The state has released the schedule below in an effort to more effectively serve Michigan citizens filing ONLINE. Last names A to L:
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
Last names M to Z:
Tuesday, Thursday, Sunday
Saturday: Make up day
Members have had the most success filing between the hours of 8pm and 8am.

School Work: Several school districts were successful in passing millages this fall. We are looking for families who live in the district of, or graduated from the schools below to possibly join us at a school board meeting or sign a letter of support. For Hudsonville, Ludington, Oakridge contact Ryan. Kent City and Tri-County contact Jason. Rockford and Lowell contact Nathan.

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

Wild Game Dinner: THE WILDGAMEDINNER WILL BE

POSTPONED TO A DATE YET TO BE DETERMINED.

Save the Dates:

Union Picnic, Saturday July 11th 11am-4pm, The Meadows at Millennium Park, 1415 Maynard Ave, Walker.

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

November Union Meeting: **MONDAY** November 2nd at 7pm.

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

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

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

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

Jason Finch (231) 670-4482: 2/24/20 to 3/9/20

Nathan Phillips (616) 916-0667: 3/10/20 to 3/22/20

New insurance carriers: Active and NON Medicare Retirees

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

Organizing Update: Please contact Chris Pelton if you know of any jobsites with a non-union plumbing or mechanical contractor or if you are interested in actively assisting with our organizing efforts. There are plenty of opportunities available, ranging from a one-day ride-along with a Business Agent or Organizer all the way up to full blown salting.
Dues: Please keep your monthly window dues current. You can find your dues balance on the website or by calling the Union office. Remember that if you are expelled from the UA that you are no longer eligible to attend Local Union events, such as meetings, picnics, awards banquets and Christmas parties.
Jurisdiction: Remember to always call into the local you are traveling to. Don't rely on anyone else to call in for you. They will not get into trouble. It's the member who is working in another local who has not checked in that gets into trouble. Please contact Ryan Bennett if you see another local's contractors/members working in our jurisdiction.

Contact Info: Please make

sure we have your updated contact information. Check your info on the website or by calling Cami at the Union office.

Retiree Breakfast: THE APRIL RETIREE BREAKFAST IS CANCELLED. If you are a retiree and in need of assistance please contact the Local Union Office.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Forms: The forms for Dollar Bank Reimbursement and Sub Pay are on the www.ua174.org website under the Members Only section and Forms and Links tab.

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

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

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

Training News: **ATTENTION: Due to the recent developments related to COVID-19, the Training Center is currently closed until further notice as a

(Continued next column)



Sprinkler Fitters Local 704
FARMINGTON - The next regular meeting, and Executive Board meeting, scheduled for April 8, 2020, have been cancelled.

Please check the Local 704 website regarding information about COVID crisis. www.local704.com

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.

NFPAA All Access is available for all 704 members. Please contact the Local 704 Training Center for username and password. Phone numbers to remember: NASI is 1-800-638-2603 for information regarding Health and Welfare or Pension fund questions.

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

Remember to keep your information updated with the Local Union Hall.

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

"The best years of your life are the ones in which you decide your problems are your own. You don't blame them on your mother, the ecology, or the President. You realize that you control your own destiny."

-Albert Ellis

"My idea of an agreeable person is a person who agrees with me."

-Benjamin Disraeli (1804 - 1881)

"Make your life a mission - not an intermission."

-Arnold Glasgow



Local 174, con't

proactive measure to help mitigate the transmission of the Coronavirus. This decision was based partly on the Governor's order to close public school districts statewide, the UA cancelling all regional training through May 1 and adhering to the social distancing guidelines as outlined by the CDC.

All current classes and exams scheduled are postponed and will be rescheduled accordingly. We are actively monitoring the situation and will continue to provide updates as more information is obtained in the days to come. When possible, day-to-day business will be conducted by phone or email. **Please direct any and ALL questions to Training Coordinator, Jeff Rumsey.** The best way to reach Jeff is to call/text his cell phone (231)923-8140.



Over 40 years of quality Administrative Services

To each of our Members, Clients and Vendor partners impacted by COVID-19, our thoughts are with you. Rest assured knowing that BeneSys is working hard on your behalf while we navigate these difficult circumstances together.

THE FULL SERVICE BENEFITS ADMINISTRATOR

- Health and Welfare Plans
- Defined Benefit Pension Plans
- Defined Contribution Pension Plans
- Claims Processing
- Supplemental Unemployment Plans
- HRA's, HSA's, FSA's
- Vacation Plans
- Eligibility Processing
- Trust Fund Accounting
- VEBA Administration
- Web Applications
- COBRA Administration
- HIPAA Compliance

With over 800 experienced and technical professionals on staff, BeneSys stands ready to assist Trustees in providing exceptional service to Plan Participants. BeneSys has clients across the U.S. and 23 regional office locations.

- | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Boston, MA | Milwaukee, WI | San Diego, CA |
| Bridgeton, MO | Omaha, NE | San Ramon, CA |
| Columbia, MD | Phoenix, AZ | Seattle, WA |
| Denver, CO | Pleasanton, CA | Troy, MI |
| Des Moines, IA | Portland, OR | Washington, DC |
| Hagerstown, MD | Riverport, MO | West Covina, CA |
| Las Vegas, NV | San Jose, CA | Youngstown, OH |
| Louisville, KY | Salt Lake City, UT | |



Local 370 Plumbers & Pipe Fitters

Plumbers & Pipe Fitters Local 370
FLINT – Our April 14 membership meeting has been cancelled. Committee and board meeting are also on hold.

The Union Hall office is temporarily closed to members. Dan and I are manning the office and conducting regular business by phone. If you get laid off or have any questions, please call the hall at (810)720-5243 and leave a message with your name and number. We will return your calls. You do not need to come to the hall to sign the out of work list. We are putting members on the list in the order they call.

We do have a lot of DOL defined Critical infrastructure jobs. **Scholarship Applications** for the 2020-2021 school year are now available at the hall. The applicant must be a son or daughter of a member in good standing of UA Local Union 370. Complete lists of qualifications are available at Local 370 Hall.

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

Upcoming Night Classes: on hold

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

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

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

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

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

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

Remember to keep your dues current. Any member failing to pay for 3 months shall stand suspended, unable to vote for a period of 1 year or run for office for a period of 2 years and subject to a \$50.00 reinstatement fee. Dues must be paid in 3-month increments according to our bylaws. Dues will be accepted up to 6:45 on union meeting nights.

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

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



Local 85 Plumbers & Steam Fitters

Plumbers and Steamfitters 85
SAGINAW – The next Union Meeting is postponed until further notice.

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

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

Jamie Badour, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 15
jbadour@ualocal85.org

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

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

Bobby Anderson, Organizer (989) 799-5261 x 12
rjanderson@ualocal85.org

Kristin Tuthill, Office Professional (989) 799-5261 x 11
ktuthill@ualocal85.org

Feather Reige, Office Professional (989) 799-5261 x 10
freige@ualocal85.org

The next Northern Meeting has been cancelled for April 1, 2020. The next Northern Meeting will be scheduled at a later date when we have a better handle on this situation.

The health and safety of all members of United Association Local 85 is the utmost importance for me. As most of you have been following as well, I have been closely monitoring the developments of this unprecedented coronavirus. In order to keep you safe from any possible spread of the virus, many meetings and events have been postponed and/or canceled. All apprenticeship and night classes have been canceled until further notice. Future classes are also in jeopardy, for the time being we are not going to make decisions on day and night classes until I am certain the risk has been minimized.

I personally want to assure you all protocols are being taken to keep the membership and staff healthy during this time of uncertainty. Take care of yourselves and each other and we will get through this together. It is my commitment to you that this Local will do everything in our power to provide for the sick and needy. Should you come in contact or contract this virus, please let us know. I have worked closely with the State of Michigan on unemployment benefits, and I am trying to design a way to further provide by utilizing our SUB benefit. Together we will prosper through this wearisome time. Please rest assured your leadership will do everything we can to help, with that said we can't help if we don't know. God Bless Organized Labor.

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

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

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

Training Center News:
Congratulations: to our newest Journeyman Adam Card!
SUB Fund:

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

Where to submit documents: Address: UA Local Union 85 SUB, P.O. Box 6547, Saginaw, MI 48608 Fax: (989) 791-3468 Email: SUB@ualocal85.org

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

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

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

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

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

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

Website Address: Please visit www.ualocal85.org.

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

RETIREE LUNCHEON: The next retiree's luncheon is postponed until further notice. Please check the ualocal85.org or Facebook for all up to date information.

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



Local 514 Cement Masons & Plasterers

Operative Plasterers and Cement Masons Local 514

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

Local is now accepting applications for a Plasterer Business Agent. Please send resumes to: O.P.C.M.I.A. Local 514, 1154 E. Lincoln Ave., Madison Hgts., MI 48071. Attn: Henry Williams

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

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

Effective September, 2018 every member in Good Standing will only be allowed to use the Hall twice per year, also effective January, 2019 there will be a \$100.00 refundable deposit required for any cleaning and/or damages that may incur.

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

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS: If you are a Military Veteran contact the Local so we can update our records. (248) 548-0800.

The Local's new website is now up and running!! Please go to www.opcmiami.org.

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

Any questions or concerns regarding the apprenticeship contact the Local. (248) 548-0800

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

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

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

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

If you have questions concerning your pension benefits, **ROAD BUILDERS** can call: 1-877-876-9357 or (517) 321-7502. **PLASTERERS AND COMMERCIAL CEMENT MASONS** can call: (248) 645-6550 for pension and annuity, and 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 or (202) 638-1996.



Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

BAC Local 2
WARREN/LANSING - Based on Governor Whitmer's Executive Order 2020-21, BAC Local 2 MI has transitioned a skeleton crew at both our Warren and Lansing offices. The health and well-being of our employees and continuity of service to our members families is our highest priority. In response to the evolving COVID-19 pandemic, both Local 2 Training Centers are closed to our members until the Executive Order - Stay Home Order is lifted.



CHUCK KUKAWKA
The IUBAC and Local 2, MI will keep our essential critical operations going during this crisis. We are here to answer questions and assist our members in any way we can. We take the COVID-19 outbreak seriously and recognize the importance of minimizing the spread of the virus. So, while we continue to provide services to our members, we will not be able to let anyone into our buildings during this period based on the Governor's Executive Order.

While providing services to our members remains our primary consideration, there may be some temporary delays, but we do not anticipate significant disruption to critical services. If you have any questions, please contact either the Warren office, (586) 754-0888 or the Lansing office, (517) 886-9781.

We continue to monitor the situation and will update you to ensure we all get through these events with as little disruption of service to BAC members as prudently possible. Please visit our website for updates: www.bricklayers.org

ALL CHAPTER MEETINGS FOR APRIL HAVE BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19.

DEATHS REPORTED: Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Brother Walter Babboni** (Finisher) who passed away on March 15, 2020. Brother Babboni had been a member for 72 years.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Brother Vincent Graniti** (Tile Layer) who passed away on March 14, 2020. Brother Graniti had been a member for 62 years.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Brother Mike Junkin** (Bricklayer) who passed away on November 16, 2019. Brother Junkin had been a member for 22 years.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Brother Richard Orłowski** (Bricklayer & Cement Mason) who passed away on February 27, 2020. Brother Orłowski had been a member for 66 years.

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

Important Notice Regarding Union Dues All Local 2 Members who are current on their dues are eligible for a Union Dues discount. **We are making available to ALL Local 2 members the opportunity to pay for 6 months of union dues and receive credit for 12 months. An entire year for half the price!!**
DETROIT IMI TRAINING

Only members working on **Essential Critical Infrastructure Work Projects** are able to come in for RESPIRATOR FIT TESTING at this time. To make your appointment in the Metro Detroit Training Center, please contact Tom Ward directly at (734) 552-7066.

TMT RTI CLASSES ALL BEMT RTI CLASSES HAVE BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19.

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

LANSING TRAINING CENTER: Only members working on **Essential Critical Infrastructure Work Projects** are able to come in for RESPIRATOR FIT TESTING at this time. To make your appointment in the Lansing Training Center, please contact Howard Hipes directly at (517) 749-1102.

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

MEMBERSHIP ASSISTANCE: The IUBAC Member Assistance Program has a number of services available for free or at a discounted rate to BAC members and their families. These confidential services can be seen at <http://bit.ly/MAP-BAC> and are also available via telephone at (888) 880-8222 and ask for membership assistance Monday - Friday 8 am-8 pm. These services were established and are intended to help get us through difficult life situations.

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

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

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

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

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

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

International Pension/Annuity Fund (Brick, Cement, Tile, Marble & Terrazzo) (888) 880-8222 or (202) 638-1996

PRIORITY LIST
#1. A Safe and Healthy Workplace

Local 370, con't

lars each. Hooded sweat shirts and long sleeve pocket tee shirts are available. The sweat shirts are \$30 and the long sleeve tee shirts are \$15. Golf polo and golf wind shirts are available for \$25.

If you shop on the internet, SHOP UNION MADE, log on to www.shopunionmade.com. T.I.C. fringe administrators' toll free number is 1-888-797-5862.

Tax Time?

When it's tax time, it's time to call Kuderik at 248 835 7755.

- Over 20 years experience in Union worker returns
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Local 80**Sheet Metal Workers**

Sheet Metal Workers Local 80

SOUTHFIELD – FOR INFORMATION AND UPDATES REGARDING COVID-19 PLEASE REFER TO OUR WEBSITE SMW80.COM

This paper serves as official notice for all meetings and elections.

****REMINDER**** Meetings are no longer held at the Plumbers Hall and are now held at Local 80's Union Hall.



TIM MULLIGAN

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The general membership meeting on March 24th is ****CANCELLED**** MEETINGS WILL RESUME IN APRIL. **APRIL MEETING WILL BE APRIL 28, 2020 at 5:30 pm.**

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: The next executive board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday April 21, 2020 at 5:00 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2nd Floor, Southfield, MI

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

RETIREE MEETING SCHEDULE: 2020

Meeting Schedule: CANCELLED - April 20, Meetings will resume as follows: June 15, August 17, October 19, and December 21. The meetings begin at 12:30 pm and are held at the Royal Oak Elks Club located at 2401 E. Fourth St. Royal Oak. Any questions regarding joining the Retirees Association please contact Steve Murzen at 248-652-0593. We also have applications at the Hall if you would like to apply and we will forward it on to Mr. Murzen.

SUB CHANGES: Effective immediately you will need to start sending your unemployment proof to smw80subfund@gmail.com or fax it to 248-557-0297. Your unemployment proof needs to be in by 2pm on Tuesdays to be paid on that Friday. Local 80 will be handling all of your proof now. If you have any questions call us at 248-557-7575.

THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE Garry D. Sanchez, Patrick J. Turner, William C. Harding, Michael Wescott, Thomas G. Ashley & Joseph W. Ackerman.

GOLF OUTING: Tickets are now available for members only until May 1st! Please join us on July 11 at Cracklewood Golf Club in Macomb Twp. Tickets can be reserved at a cost of \$90 a ticket for members and \$125 a ticket for non-members. Your ticket will include coffee, donuts & danishes, a bloody mary bar, lunch at the turn, open bar up until 1 hour after golf, beer & pop available on the course and a wonderful steak dinner. Please contact the hall with any questions you may have or to reserve your ticket!

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

RETIREMENT CLASS: Saturday, April 25, 2020 at 9 am we will be hosting a FREE retirement education class with Greystone Consulting. This will give you the opportunity to ask questions about your retirement plans. Call the hall to RSVP 248-557-7575. Spouses are welcome.

BENEFICIARY REMINDER: Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice on all of your Local 80 and international benefits. The law requires that in the event of an untimely death your benefits go to your spouse first and if there is no spouse to your children UNLESS you designate otherwise in writing with each specific benefit. Depending on your classification you could have benefits due to your heirs from Local 80 pension, insurance, annuity and from international and SASMI. Each individual benefit needs to have a designated beneficiary unless you want it to go to your spouse or children. As always seek the advice of an attorney.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH AND DISMEMBERMENT INSURANCE FROM OUR INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Members who have their dues paid in advance (prior to the month of the accident) are eligible for accidental death and dismemberment benefits up to \$7,500. This benefit comes as a dues paying member of SMART International.

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

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

LAY-OFFS: All members must report to the Union Hall immediately upon lay-off, even if you only work one day. These are the By-Law rules for the Out-of-Work List. Your name will be removed from the list 14 days after receiving an assignment. It is very important to report to the union hall immediately after your layoff. Members get confused because the S.U.B. Fund allows you a period of up to seven days to apply for S.U.B. benefits after lay-off.

LAY-OFF SLIPS/TERMINATION NOTICES: Lay off slips must accompany all applications for sub pay. Without lay off slips you cannot collect sub pay. It is **the member's responsibility** to make sure they get one from the contractor when laid off. Your application cannot be submitted without one. It is the contractor's responsibility to issue one in accordance with our contract.

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

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

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

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

SAVE THE DATE:

Building Trades Wage Allocation Vote April 28 @ Union Hall

Residential Wage Allocation Vote May 7 4:30pm @ Union Hall

Service Wage Allocation Vote May 7 5:00pm @ Union Hall

Nominations for General Election May 26 @ Union Hall

General Election Vote June 23 @ Union Hall

Golf Outing July 11 @ Cracklewood Golf Course

Picnic August 8 @ K of C Picnic Grounds

**Local 292****Sheet Metal Workers**

Sheet Metal Workers Local 292

TROY – MEETING NOTICE: APRIL MEMBER MEETING HAS BEEN CANCELLED.

The next general membership meeting will be held on **May 13, 2020.**



PAUL GUALDONI

Member meetings are held every 2nd Wednesday of the month at The Knights of Columbus in Clawson. Check out the calendar tab at www.sheetmetal292.com for the location and date.

The **E-Board/Stewards** next meeting will be held **May 26, 2020.**

FROM THE BUSINESS

MANAGER: In an effort to keep our members and staff safe during the current COVID-19 crisis, we are taking the following actions and limiting access to the union hall for the foreseeable future. The union hall will remain open during normal business hours, Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. All staff will be available via telephone for any questions. Please do not come to the union hall for non-essential business. Pay all dues online or by mail. A receipt will then be mailed to you. Please take all precautions designated by the CDC and State of Michigan to keep all of our families safe.

RETIREES NOTICE: The retirees luncheon will be held **Thursdays** at: Tavern on the Main, 235 S Main, Clawson MI 48017. (248) 588-1696. It is located 3 blocks south of 14 Mile on the east side of the street. Looking forward to seeing all retirees, new and old! Next meeting: **June 4, 2020** at 12:30 pm. **THERE WILL BE NO LUNCHEON IN APRIL.**

2020 meeting dates are as follows: **June 4th, August 6th, October 1st and December 3rd.**

Please contact Fred Engelman at fred_e1@yahoo.com if you would like to be added to the retiree email list.

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

SAFETY MODS AND DRUG TESTS: To access your MUST account, please go to www.mustonline.org or access it through the "links" tab at www.sheetmetal292.com. Members please note that if you cannot access the MUST site to complete your safety mods you need to contact Laura or Lee Ann at the Union Hall. With the amount of upcoming in-town work, all current Journeymen and Apprentices should ensure they have **18 safety mods completed and drug test should be current.**

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

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

SUBSTANTIATION RE-

QUEST: Many members have been receiving Substantiation Request letters from the Local 292 Benefit Fund office. IRS regulations require that every use of the

Benny Card be substantiated or validated as an eligible covered expense under the Plan. This validation is required by the IRS, the Fund cannot make exceptions. It is the member's responsibility to ensure all requested documentation be returned to the Fund office in a timely manner.

By not responding to the Substantiation Request letter, your Benny Card may be suspended until all requested documentation has been received. If you have any questions, contact BeneSys at 248.641.4992 or the Union Hall.

DUES: Membership dues are required to be **paid in advance of the month for which they are due.** The union hall is not open on Saturday or Sunday, therefore, if you pay dues on either of those days, it will not be processed until Monday. If you are on suspension warning, your dues are **60 days late.** To avoid suspension, dues must be paid online or at the union hall by **4:00 p.m. on the last business day of the month.** Payments received after **4:00 p.m.** on the last business day of the month will not be processed and you **WILL** go suspended. All members are responsible for making sure any required fees, i.e. late fees or service fees, are included if paying online (sheetmetal292.com).

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

OUT OF WORK: If you become laid off, you **must** complete an Out of Work List Registration /SUB form. SUB forms are available at the Union Hall and also through all shop stewards. This is the only way your name will be added to the Out of Work List.

TEXT BLAST NOTIFICATION. Please sign up to receive text message notifications from Local 292. These messages will include information such as dues and meeting reminders and/or other pertinent information. If interested, please call the hall or give your contact information to your steward, to add your name and phone number to the Text Message Notification list.

FACEBOOK & TWITTER: Be sure to check our website – www.sheetmetal292.com; Facebook page - Sheet Metal Workers Local 292 and Twitter - @SMW292, for updates and information.

NOTARY PUBLIC. For your convenience, we now have a Notary Public on site at the union hall. Notary services are free of charge to our members.

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

Attention all Welders! Saturday weld classes are cancelled until further notice.

These classes would be for members that are ready to try and obtain a AWS welding certification, learn how to weld, or just need to practice welding.

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

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

APPRENTICE APPLICATION NOTICE. SHEET METAL WORKERS LOCAL 292 APPRENTICE TRUST FUND, 64 PARK ST. TROY, MI 48083-2752

www.smw292jattc.org
NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY. The Apprentice Training Program operated by Sheet Metal Workers Local 292 Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee (JATC) admits qualified applicants without discrimination because of race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, age, sex, disability (except to the extent that such disability actually affects the

(Continued next column)

\$2.2 trillion COVID-9 bill: lots of pro-worker cash, little pro-worker policy

By Mark Gruenberg
PAI Staff Writer

WASHINGTON (PAI) – The \$2.2 trillion coronavirus economic impact bill Congress sent to GOP President Donald Trump on March 27 contains a lot of pro-worker cash – and very little pro-worker policy.

It wasn't for lack of trying, at least by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif. She produced an alternative with the same spending – but festooned with pro-worker sections.

That version had items ranging from mandates on firms getting federal funds that they (a) limit executive pay and (b) pay their workers at least \$15 an hour, to repeal of Trump's anti-federal worker executive orders, and even, Pelosi said, pension reform. But her measure got sidelined. On the other hand, Pelosi, rightly, called McConnell's original business-weighted bill "a non-starter."

AFL-CIO President Richard

Trumka, appearing on Fox Business – had a mixed reaction. "The (Senate) bill makes many important investments" but "it falls short in protecting front-line workers and does nothing to preserve America's pensions," he said in part.

Service Employees President Mary Kay Henry agreed, calling the measure "a good first step to address the economic and health problems faced by working people of all races and ethnicities." But it's "no substitute" for coordinated administration action.

"We still need to do more," she said. "Congress should immediately begin work on a new bill that ensures every working American has paid sick days, everyone can get coronavirus testing and treatment free of charge, no matter their immigration status, and working people continue to come before corporations."

Their comments came after Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., reached a bargain with Senate Democrats, and senators passed it. Headline items for workers are the \$1,200-per-adult and \$500-per-child checks, four months of extended and expanded jobless benefits and a strict independent check on the \$500 billion corporate "slush fund" Trump proposed. The Senate GOP tried to cut the jobless benefits, but failed on a 48-48 tie vote.

"If we err on the side of giving a hardworking family an extra \$1,000 or \$2,000 because of our approach, so be it. No apologies," Minority Whip Dick Durbin, D-Ill., told Sen. Tim Scott, R-S.C.

Pelosi promised the House would pass the \$2.2 trillion bill on March 27. She had little alternative. After the Senate got done, McConnell – unbelievably – sent the Senate into recess for three weeks, leaving Pelosi and House Democrats with their own "take it or leave it" vote.

"We held the line against so many of the ideological issues the Democrats and specifically the

News analysis

Speaker of the House tried to put into this legislation," Sen. John Barrasso, R-Wyo., crowed during floor debate.

Not all was lost for workers. Sens. Maria Cantwell, D-Wash., and Bernie Sanders, Ind-Vt., pointed out traditional jobless benefits apply only to workers whose firms pay Social Security and Medicare payroll taxes, and importantly, jobless benefits lies, on their behalf.

That leaves out millions of misclassified "independent contractors," as well as gig economy workers and other workers such as home health care aides. The coronavirus economic aid bill doesn't.

"For all kinds of absurd reasons having to do with Republican attacks on workers for many years, fewer than 50 percent of workers today are eligible for unemployment benefits," Sanders said.

"What this bill does, rightly so, is say that in the midst of this terrible economic crisis where...some economists are estimating that by June, unemployment could be 20% or 30%, and what this bill does say is that whether or not you are eligible for unemployment today, you are going to get unemployment compensation."

"And that means many of the gig workers, many of the waitresses and waiters who make starvation minimum wages, many so-called "independent contractors" will be eligible for the extended unemployment benefits. And that is exactly the right thing."

In an ironic twist, the coronavirus economic aid bill was attached to a pro-worker piece of legislation, S748, the permanent repeal of the so-called "Cadillac tax" on high-value, high-cost health insurance plans.

The coronavirus economic aid bill is supposed to be temporary, with many expiration dates on or before Dec. 31. The lead Senate Democratic bargainer, Minority Leader Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., predicted it won't be.

"This legislation will be with us not for days and not for weeks, not even for months, but probably for years. To improve this legislation was worth taking an extra day or two, improving it after the Republican leader just put it down without consulting us and tried to say 'take it or leave it,'" he said.

And its jobless benefits section is "unemployment insurance on steroids," he added.

Pelosi told reporters on March 26 the Dems won't give up, when she started looking forward towards passing the next coronavirus economic aid bill – but not before refuting Barrasso and McConnell.

"We did jujitsu on it," she said of McConnell's measure. "It went from a corporate-first proposal the Republicans put forth in the Senate to a Democratic workers' first legislation."

Sheet Metal Workers 292, continued

applicant's ability to work at the trade or craft), marital status, or other classification protected by federal, state or local law or ordinance. (You must be 18 years old at the time of application.)

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

Applications for Apprenticeship are accepted all year every business day, however we have scheduled a testing day for Saturday, May 9, 2020 beginning at 10:00 A.M. If you would like to be considered for the Apprenticeship, you must take the exam. The last day to make out an application for this test day is Thursday May 7, 2020 at 2:00 P.M. Any application not submitted by that time will put in the next available test day, which has not been scheduled at this time.

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

All applications must be filed in person at the Training Center and a copy of your High School diploma, or GED certificate, along with a picture ID must be submitted with the application or it will not be accepted. At the time of filing you will be registered for a written test at Macomb Community College, at a cost of \$60 (Non-Members Only) which you must pay at time of testing. Cash only will be accepted. If you have any questions, call Dave at (313) 623-9390 or visit www.smw292jattc.org for more information.

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IBEW LOCAL 58

IBEW 58
DETROIT – The next **Regular Membership Meeting** will be **April 21, 2020 at 6:30 PM** at the Union Hall.

The Board of Trustees of the Electrical Workers' Insurance Fund has approved improvements to coverage for its participants. Please be on the lookout for a mailing from the Benefit Office regarding these improvements. The letters are scheduled to be mailed by March 27th.

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

Disbursement from the Vacation Fund is targeted to be transferred to your PNC Bank Stored Value Card or if you selected, Direct Deposited into your checking or savings accounts on May 20, 2020, representing contributions from pay week ending October 5, 2019 through pay week ending March 28, 2020. Please check the listed contributions from your employers with your pay records for accuracy. A list of contributions may be obtained from the Benefit Office Website, www.ewjbt.org by logging into your personal information and clicking My Benefits then Vacation Benefits.

If you require a paper statement, please contact the Benefit Office for a printout. If there is an error, contact the Benefit Office at (586) 575-9200 ext. 212. **ATTENTION - TO UPDATE BANKING INFORMATION THE FUND OFFICE MUST RECEIVE CHANGES BY APRIL 24, 2020.** You may check your Stored Value utilization history by logging on to www.pncpaycard.com and by entering your 16-digit card number listed on the front of the card and the last four digits of your Social Security Number, also referred to as your Account Access Code (or AAC for short). Customer Service can be reached by telephone at (866) 453-5071.

Local No. 58 Benevolent Fund: The next Benevolent Fund meeting will be Tuesday, April 7, 2020 5:00 pm.

The 12th Annual Local 58 Detroit River Walleye Tournament HAS BEEN CANCELLED.

Members of the Community Service Committee: The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 14, 2020 at 5:00 PM. Every member is invited to attend and to bring their ideas about our Local's involvement in our communities. Anyone interested in helping at Cass Park can show up at 8:00 AM every second and fourth Sunday of the month.

Members of the Entertainment Committee: The next meeting of the Entertainment Committee will be Tuesday, April 14, 2020 immediately following the Community Service Committee which starts at 5pm. We will be discussing the annual family picnic.

The Zoom Meeting ID is 209-489-882. Zoom Meeting is an App that can be downloaded to your computer, tablet or smartphone by going to your App Store and entering Zoom Meeting in the search of the App store. After downloading the App on the device of your choice, a screen will come up asking you to register or sign on. If you don't want to register, hit cancel and another screen will open for Join a Meeting, push on the blue button and then type in the zoom meeting ID on the next screen. This will take you to a waiting room where the Host can admit you to the Zoom Meeting.

EWMC of Southeastern MI – The next monthly meeting for the chapter is scheduled for Monday, April 20, 2020 at 5:30. Please bring your ideas for service projects, fundraisers, and outings to the meetings. Please make sure your cell phone number and your email address are up to date. That way we can share information outside of our regular meetings and put out a call to action if necessary. Due to recent circumstances beyond our

control, we will have to do things differently for the time being. We can put our meetings on Zoom but many in person events will have to be cancelled or rescheduled at a later date. We will do our best to keep all informed. Please continue to stay safe at work, home, and in the community.

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

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

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

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

Local 58's Women's Committee- The next gathering will be 6:00 pm, April 23, 2020 at our union hall. Bring a sister or a brother with you to our next session. We look forward to seeing you there. **ARC Scholarship Daily 3 Raffle Tickets** are all turned in. Tickets are drawn Monday Thru Friday at \$100 each day! If you have any questions, you can contact Angela Panicucci @ 586-291-8014, Diana Wright @ 734-934-9029 or Karlee Maier @ 313-963-2130.

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

The ARC Awards seek to recognize outstanding contributions by our members dedicated to embracing the mission of the Women's Committee. All ARC Award recipients are nominated by their peers and have positively impacted both the union and the Brothers & Sisters they work and serve with throughout many areas of our Local. The Women's Committee at IBEW Local 58 shares a commitment with our members to equality, diversity and personal growth and is proud to establish the ARC Awards as a tradition of recognizing outstanding achievements for decades to come. The ARC Awards and Scholarship dinner has been scheduled for May 30, 2020 at the hall, more information will be following soon.

Help Wanted - The Women's Committee will be opening up the bid process for caterers, photographers, band/deejay and other vendors for the ARC Awards. If you know of vendors interested you can contact Angela Panicucci @ 586-291-8014 or Diana Wright @ 734-934-9029 for further information.

Applications and Nominations Forms Now Available - Head over to the IBEW Local 58 Website, www.ibewlocal58.org. After the log in process click on the dropdown header for Committees. Under the Women's tab you will find options for the Arc Scholarship application and the ARC Awards Nomination application. Applications will also be made available at the membership union meeting. The deadline for scholarship applications and awards nominations has been extended to February 29, 2020. Email us at: 58Women'sCommittee@ibewlocal58.org. Follow us on Instagram @ibewomen58, Check us out on Facebook.

The Retirees Association Fall motor coach trip will be a seven day, six night adventure to Charleston, S.C. The dates are Sept. 13-19, 2020. Cost will be \$790 pp. dbl. occupancy; single \$1105. For more info contact Rick Koerber @ rick_dona@hotmail.com 248-421-2636.

IBEW Local 58 Retirees Association: It is essential for anyone attending any of our activities & luncheons to notify Ray Owen (248) 348-3626 ahead of time. Make checks for all activities payable to "The Retirees Association" Ray Owen, 428 Welch Rd., Northville, MI 48167.

Please be advised that the (Continued next column)



IBEW LOCAL 948

IBEW Local 948
FLINT – Our April Union Meeting is cancelled.
 Our April Executive Board Meeting will be held on Monday, April 27th, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. at the Union Hall.

The May Retiree Club Meeting is cancelled till further notice.
 Governor Whitmer has ordered a stay at home in place till April 13th, 2020, please see the following link addressing the order. https://www.michigan.gov/whitmer/0,9309,7-387-90499_90705-522626--,00.html
 That being said the Pension/Health meeting on March 31st and the Union meeting on April 13th have been canceled till further notice.

The union hall will be closed but we will be available to members via email and phone.
 Don't forget to check our website for new content. Be sure to log in to see all the new content. www.local948.org.

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

2020 – Monthly Dues – Journeyman \$43.70 a month – Apprentices, CE, Sound Tech \$40.70 a month
 2019 – Monthly Dues – Journeyman \$42.70 a month – Apprentices, CE, Sound Tech \$39.70 a month

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

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

Gregory Remington
Business Manager

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

Local 58, con't

Retirees Pancake breakfast on March 28, 2020 has been cancelled and the Annual Luncheon, Pin Party/Spring Fling on April 25, 2020 due to the current environment involving the Coronavirus.

This decision coincides with the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services Guidelines.

Board Meeting's convene in the "Bill Rushford Room" located in the lower level of the Union Hall, at 10:00 AM, May 13, 2020; June 10, 2020; July 8, 2020; August 12, 2020; September 9, 2020; October 14, 2020; November 11, 2020; December 9, 2020.

Luncheons: *Price Increase* Due to rising costs, our luncheons will increase from \$15, to \$20 per person beginning with the June 2020 luncheon. Reservations for luncheons NEED to be confirmed by the Sunday prior to the date of the luncheon please. Please keep your email address updated with the Union hall and the Retiree Association. Send your email address to 58retirees@ibewlocal58.org. This will help communicating within the association and so you don't miss out on events.

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

IBEW Pension: Congratulations to the following members who has been placed on International Pension: Russell Dueweke (February 2019); Kevin E. Green (April 2020); David Herrst (April 2020); Scott Meldrum (April 2020); Brian Wozniak (April 2020).

Deaths: Allen Lewis, pension member, 53 year IBEW membership, Father to JIW John & Pension member Randy Lewis, Grandfather to JIW John A. Lewis, Uncle to JIW Robert Lewis, Brother to the late Pension members Charles & George Lewis. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss.



IBEW LOCAL 906

IBEW LOCAL 906
UPPER PENINSULA—MEETINGS
MARQUETTE UNIT—First Tuesday
IRON MOUNTAIN UNIT—Second Tuesday
ESCANABA UNIT—Second Wednesday

All Unit meetings for the month of April have been canceled. Our next scheduled meeting will be a General Membership Meeting in May. This meeting will be held in Marquette. The time, date and location will be passed on in a future correspondence.

Work has slowly ground to a halt across the U.P. We have very few critical work sites available. Our sister local 158 in Green Bay has open calls on several job sites deemed critical. One can get on their book with a phone call and a paid up dues receipt.

All wiremen and apprentices that have been laid off, furloughed or are just hiding in the weeds must sign the out of work list. If the unemployment office calls we would like to be able to answer that you are on the book and available for work. Also we do not know where this is headed. Will your contractor call everyone back? When? Protect yourself and inform the hall of your status.

PLEASE PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS BY KEEPING 6 FEET OF PHYSICAL DISTANCE. FOLLOW THE GUIDELINES ON HAND WASHING AND WIPING DOWN SURFACES. BE SMART, BE SAFE.

The Gladstone Supervisors settled their agreement. The group accepted a 4 year deal. Wages were increased by \$1.00 per hour in each of the 4 years. Vacation days were increased along with a health buyout for the membership.

The NEBF has ruled that a retiree can work up to 600 hours this year and still draw pension. This ruling proposes to help offset the shortage of manpower in the electrical trade. Apparently they have never tried to get a Yooper retiree to put down his fishing pole, park the boat and go to work. The last one I asked laughed at me for 20 minutes before I gave up and disconnected the phone call.

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

If you have any information you would like to see noted in this article or something you believe should be published please email the Hall with your request. lbew906@gmail.com

"At times one remains faithful to a cause only because its opponents do not cease to be insipid."
 – Friedrich Nietzsche (1844-1900)



IBEW Local 131
KALAMAZOO – The **General Membership Meeting** for **April 6th**, has been canceled. The **RENEW Meeting** for **April 6th**, has also been canceled.

The **Executvie Board** will handle the business of the Local Union on April 20th, at their regularly scheduled meeting.

The **RENEW Committee** is holding a Sporting Clay Shoot on May 16th, at the Gun River Skeet & Trap Club. The cost of the round will be \$25, there will also be raffle drawings for some great prizes. Please call the Hall for more information or to sign up.

Dues pricing - The price of dues for 2019 is \$39/month. The price for dues in 2020 will increase to \$40/month. If you're unsure about your balance, please call the Hall for the exact amount or email Christine. If your dues ticket reads paid thru, Dec. 2019 your dues are not current, please call or stop by the Hall.

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

If you're interested in receiving updates from the Hall, please email Christine at cbhoms@ibew131.com to get your email address added.

FROM THE APPRENTICESHIP:

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

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

The COVID-19 Pandemic continues to disrupt our lives and daily business in ways I could never have imagined. It is crucial in times like these to remember, the intent behind all of the Executive Orders and Social Distancing is to save lives. While many of our members remain on the job, working on projects deemed essential, make your safety a priority. If any member feels job site safety is not what it should be, please contact the Hall.

Additionally, for members displaced by this Pandemic, we understand there have been problems with the UIA and filing for unemployment. I sent out a lot of material over the last week, one specific to filing for unemployment. If there continue to be problems and a member cannot find a resolution to the filing, please contact my office, we will do what we can to help members work through these challenge times.
Brian O'Donnell
*Business Manager/
 Financial Secretary*



IBEW Local 665
LANSING – **LEJATC APPRENTICESHIP APPLICATIONS** – Applications for apprenticeships are only available online and only on the first Monday of every month. Information about our apprenticeship programs can be found online at: www.lejatec.org.

REACH out and ENGAGE NEXT-gen ELECTRICAL WORKERS (RENEW) MEETING – Typically meets the last Thursday of the month. **April Meeting is canceled.**

The RENEW Initiative: RENEW is an IBEW-wide initiative dedicated to creating opportunities for younger members and helping them develop the skills necessary to become active in the local union and play a role in shaping its future. The goals of the RENEW program is to educate the next generation of workers about the benefits of the IBEW, to provide a space for younger members to discuss issues relevant to their workplace and community, and to encourage their participation in programs that are focused on strengthening the local union and the labor movement.

IBEW Local 665's RENEW committee sets its own goals based on the needs of our local union and the interests of our members. The RENEW initiative is an opportunity to better understand younger workers while continuing to engage members of all ages to foster proud and active union members.

Mission Statement: The mission of the RENEW initiative is to inspire the next generation of IBEW workers to become active in their local union by focusing on issues important to younger workers, providing education about the IBEW and the labor movement, and fostering relationships with members and local union leadership.

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE (PAC) MEETING – Typically meets the first Monday of the month at 4:30 p.m. at IBEW Local 665. **April Meeting is Canceled.**

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING- The next union meeting is April 20th, at 6:30 p.m. at IBEW Local 665's Union Hall which is located at 5205 S. Pennsylvania Ave in Lansing, MI.

(Due to covid-19 the union meeting is subject to change. Please pay attention to your emails for updates on the union meeting and other important information).

"Emergencies have always been necessary to progress. It was darkness which produced the lamp. It was fog that produced the compass. It was hunger that drove us to exploration. And I took a depression to teach us the real value of a job."
 –Victor Hugo (1802 - 1885)

"Keep on going and the chances are you will stumble on something, perhaps when you are least expecting it. I have never heard of anyone stumbling on something sitting down."
 –Charles F. Kettering (1876-1958)

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IBEW Local 692

BAY CITY – Union Meeting. The next regular membership meeting will be **Monday, May 4, 2020 at 7pm.**

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

Message from the Business Manager. As Business Manager, there have been some very difficult decisions to make in regards to the membership and the effect of Covid-19 lately. First and foremost, the health and welfare of our membership is my number one concern. This is not just lip service as we see way too often in today's construction industry. We belong to a Brotherhood and I feel that collectively there is nothing more important than each and every one of us looking out for the greater good of our brothers and sisters.

After all of this being said, I have cancelled the April 6, 2020 union meeting. We continue to service the membership on a daily basis; however, the hall is closed to traffic in and out. If there is anything a member needs in person please call and we can set up an in-person meeting. We are here every day answering the phones and returning emails along with carrying on the business of the brotherhood. Covid-19 and the pandemic in which it has created is like nothing any of us have ever seen before. The changes and the effect of this virus that occur on a daily basis are head-spinning. Our International President has come out with a new working agreement (National Disease Emergency Response Agreement) to protect the health and welfare of the membership.

Both the State and Federal government have expanded unemployment benefits including an additional six hundred dollars a week for displaced workers. If you as a member have any questions about either the NDERA or have an unemployment question that should arise please do not hesitate to contact your union hall. We will do our personal best to help with anything you may need.

We continue to visit and talk with every contact we have to help secure projects for the membership and their families. Please help spread a strong, positive Union message within your community.

As far as a work report I am going to do a reset and will rewrite that for the May Building Tradesman. It would be very unfair for me to give you a work report at this time as every job we currently have continues to change by the day. The future of work will also be reshaped as we determine Covid-19 and the effect it has on the economy. It is my belief that we will come out of this stronger than before as we are a Brotherhood of great resolve! Please stay safe and look out for your fellow brothers and sisters.

COVID-19 Guidance from The Center for Construction Research and Training. In response to the construction industry's questions regarding the COVID-19 outbreak, the following are steps everyone should be taking now:

- If you are feeling sick do not go to work.
- Don't shake hands when greeting others.
- Try to stay three to six feet away from others in gatherings, meetings, and training sessions.
- Avoid contact with sick people.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.

•Clean your hands often by washing them with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains 60%-95% alcohol. Soap and water should be used if hands are visibly dirty.

•It is especially important to clean hands after going to the bathroom, before eating, and after coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose.

Construction industry employers should also:

- Provide soap and running water on all jobsites for frequent handwashing.
- Provide hand sanitizer when soap and running water are impossible.

Local Union Dues. Effective January 1, 2020, dues payments increased to **\$41.20 per month.** Please make note of this increase when sending in payments. **Also, if you have automatic bill pay from your bank or credit union, please make sure to notify them of this change.**

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

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

2020 Dues (Effective January 1, 2020)

Monthly \$41.20
Quarterly \$123.60
6 months \$247.20
Yearly \$494.40

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

Summer Softball League. If you are interested in playing softball and representing IBEW Local 692 through the Bay City summer league, please contact the Hall.

Retirees Lunch. All retirees lunches have been postponed.

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

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

Organizing. Brother Brian Klele has been appointed as the new Local 692 Organizer. Brother Klele has served the local in a number of different capacities. He has been elected by the membership to serve on the executive board four different terms, been involved in two separate contract negotiations, and was also elected as President of the local. Finding a member with more qualifications to be Organizer would have been a difficult task.

Brother Klele is a second-generation wireman with the IBEW, and to say the IBEW is in his blood would be an understatement.

We as a local have done a tremendous job in making sure the principles that the leadership of Local 692 instilled so long ago are still followed today. As we continue to visit jobsites both on a daily and weekly basis, we try to keep these principles in mind while communicating with the unrepresented worker, making sure they have a voice in the labor movement. If you know of a non-signatory contractor doing work in your neighborhood please contact Organizer Brian Klele 989-252-9225.

Ryan Charney
Business Manager / Financial Secretary

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

www.ibew692.org
Health Plan 517-321-7502
www.mielectricalhealth.org
Michigan Pension Fund, 517-321-7502
www.michiganelectrical.org

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

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

"The highest proof of virtue is to possess boundless power without abusing it."

—Lord Macaulay

"If at first you don't succeed, find out if the loser gets anything."

—Bill Lyon

TRaverse City – Meetings. Regular E Board- will be held on Wednesday, April 8th, 2020 at 5:30 pm and will be a telephonic meeting to address meeting requirements by the federal government.

The next regular meeting that was scheduled to be held on **Wednesday, April 8th, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. has been CANCELLED DUE TO COVID 19 meeting requirements.**

Meeting Date Change – A motion was made and supported to change the meeting date for the May meeting to **May 6th, 2020** to add an extra week between meetings to assist getting Ballots prepared and mailed out. As of today March 30th, 2020, we are still holding to this schedule, the chances are likely that this meeting date may change if the Covid 19 pandemic continues. Please stay tuned for further updates.

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

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

Election of Officers – Nominations, Pending Covid 19 rules, will be in May of 2020 at the May 6, 2020, union meeting. If you are thinking about running for an office or helping with the election please plan on attending. Get involved. Remember to be eligible for an elected position for the Local Union, you have to have been current on dues with no reinstatement fees assessed for 2 years prior to nominations. We have sent out a mailer with eligible members listed on it for ease of nominating a member by mail. Please call me at the hall if you have any questions about the process that the Executive Board came up with to address the Pandemic and our meeting dates. This is to alleviate exposure to Covid 19 at an in-person meeting and still try to keep our election on course per US Department of Labor Requirements that Covid 19 is NO EXCUSE for union members to not keep an election schedule. Apparently the USDOL thinks union members are immune to Covid 19.

Nominations and Election dates subject to change to address COVID-19 response.

ELECTIONS - In Accordance with Article 16 of the IBEW Constitution and Article 3 of the Local Union #498 Bylaws, there will be a special order of business during the Regular membership meeting of Wednesday May 6, 2020.

The purpose of the special order of business is for the nomination of Local Union #498 Officers, Delegate, and Alternate to the International Convention. Officers will be elected to three-year terms, commencing July 8, 2020 and concluding July 12, 2023.

A member must have two years of continuous good standings in the local immediately prior to being nominated and must be present to accept the nomination, or must submit, to Recording Secretary Ryan Lautner, not later than noon of May 6, 2020 their written willingness to be nominated.

The written notice of nomination shall specify a single office that they are willing to be nominated to. No member may be a candidate for more than one office.

No Apprentice shall be eligible to hold office in the Local Union as stated in Article III, Section 8 (e) of the Local Union bylaws.

Nominations shall include President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Business Manager/Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Executive Board (six to be elected), Examining Board (five to be elected) and Alternate to the IBEW Convention.

An election judge and tellers will be appointed at the close of nominations. None of these may be a candidate for any office.

Ballots are to be mailed on May 15, 2020 and will be picked up for counting at noon on June 10, 2020 from the post office and counted at the union hall. The election results shall be announced immediately after all ballots are counted.

In the event a run-off election is required ballots will be mailed no later than June 16, 2020 and will be picked up at noon on July 1, 2020 from the post office and counted at the union hall with the results immediately following.

All officers shall be installed and begin their 3 year terms at the regular meeting of the Local Union on July 8, 2020.

Any member who believes a protest of the election is warranted is urged to contact the election judge within a few days after the ballots are counted. Further protests of the election may be filed in writing with the International Vice President of the 6th district within 30 days following the election. The decision of the International Vice President shall conclude the processing of a protest within the IBEW. In the event the protesting member is not satisfied with the decision of the International Vice President, the member may submit his/her protest to the U.S. Department of Labor. Get involved and run for an office. Even if you only serve one three-year term you will gain a much better understanding of how the Union is run and a much greater appreciation for the members that serve us.

Nominations and Election dates subject to change to address COVID-19 response.

JB Webb East Negotiations– Local 498 members of Diafuku East came to a tentative 3-year agreement in January. I hope to have the final checks on the language done soon so we can have the new contracts printed and back to the members. A big thank you to the negotiating committee for their hard work in this process.

COVID-19 response – As you are aware of the issues we have with the Corona Virus and COVID-19, we are taking steps at the union hall to keep everyone safe, the office will be closed until further notice to walk in traffic as is the JATC. As things progress, we will try to keep members updated the best we can in this article, on Facebook and on the website. Caroline and myself will be available if you call the hall if you have questions.

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

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

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

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

Resale Items – Stickers, pencil & pens are in. New shirts are in. We also have new Local 498 Beanie Hats for resale. Stop in to get yours today! Proud Union Home signs are in and available at the hall. Free to members in good standing.

Meeting Cookouts – will continue for the foreseeable future. A motion was made and supported & passed at the August 2015 meeting to continue them for now. Bring a dish to pass or nothing at all, do encourage your coworkers to come. Retirees are invited also.

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

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

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

Made in America Websites – www.theunionbootpro.com - 100% American made/union made. Union member discounts 27%
(Continued next column)

SAGINAW – Membership meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. at the Union hall, located at 7303 Gration Rd.

APRIL MEMBERSHIP MEETING CANCELLED – Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, the regularly scheduled April 7th Union meeting has been cancelled. This was approved by IVP Ruhmkorff on March 20th.

UNION HALL LOBBY CLOSED – The Union Hall essential staff continues to work as part of the Labor Union critical staff exemption. The Union Hall lobby still remains closed in accordance with the State order mandating operations must temporarily suspend in-person operations that are not necessary to sustain and protect citizens. If you need to make a dues payment you can either pay over the phone with a credit or debit card (including a processing fee) or mail in a payment. Myself and Renee are here to assist with other transactions either over the phone or email. Many locals have adopted either fax or email book signing policies for the members to utilize while offices are closed. Please do not attempt to come to the Union Hall.

IBEW Local 557 takes all threats to members and the general public seriously and stands ready to assist those in our communities when dealing with the coronavirus outbreak. IBEW members, including those working on job sites, production shops, and other work environments interact with the public on a daily basis and are at a heightened risk of contracting communicable diseases. Everyone should be following the steps below if you are continuing to work as part of the essential workforce:

- If you are feeling sick, don't go to work
- Don't shake hands
- Try to stay 3 to 6 feet away from others.
- Avoid contact with sick people
- Clean your hands often, with soap and water if available. If not, utilize hand sanitizer.

•It is especially important to clean hands after going to the bathroom, before eating, and after coughing, sneezing, and blowing your nose.

APPRENTICESHIP CLASSES – If you are an apprentice, please continue to monitor your emails regarding class closure. In the very near future online classes will be set up so our students do not get too far behind and remain on track to complete the school year as close to normal as possible. If you are an apprentice and not receiving emails from the school with these updates, call the Training Center today to update this information. That is your responsibility as an apprentice.

2020 ELECTION – The overwhelming majority of Local 557 is registered to vote. If you are not registered you should do so immediately. The 2020 Election will impact us in so many aspects of our lives. As informed IBEW members we can not afford to sit out this election. I strongly encourage all members to apply to vote via ABSENTEE BALLOT. Skip the long lines at the precinct in what is expected to be a record year for voter turnout. If you are working on the road or the possibility exists you may be working on the road in November, this is a great way to ensure you get your votes in. Information for this is available at the Union Hall as well as online under the Secretary of State at www.michigan.gov/sos.

RETIRES MEETING SUSPENDED – Until further notice, the Retirees meeting previously held at Timbers has been suspended. For further details please either contact the Hall or John Clemens.

HEALTH CARE – Help keep the cost of Health Care down. Schedule your annual physical with your doctor today if you have not done so recently. Registering on the Blue Cross/Blue Shield website is highly recommended. Please take the time to visit www.bcbsm.com. Upon registering you can take the Free Health Assessment test and find instant results that can lead to living a healthy lifestyle.

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

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

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

STAY CURRENT ON DUES – With the new year beginning some members have fallen behind on their dues. Please check to see if you are current. The Hall has the ability to accept credit cards. The credit card service can accept payments for dues, merchandise, apprentice book payments and other purchases. There is a fee to use this service. Credit card payments to pay dues can also be accepted over the phone to ensure you stay current on your dues.

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

IBEW Local 498, continued

off. Use this code when ordering. Be0498mD or order toll free 1-800-723-5384.

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

Important numbers for you to write in your address book:

MEEHP (Health) 1-855-633-4584 or 1-517-321-7502 Fax# 1-517-321-7508
MEEPP (MI Pension) 1-517-321-7502
(New address Michigan Pension and Health Plan)

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

DUES RATES

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

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

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

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CASH FOR \$CRAP METAL
Aluminum - Copper - Brass
Nickel - Alloys - Carbide
Radiators - Lead - Batteries

McNichols Scrap Iron & Metal Co.
6500 E. McNichols (near Mt. Elliott)
mcnicholsscrap.com
(313) 365-6100

Detroit Iron & Metal Co.
8300 Dix (corner Lonyo)
detroitironandmetal.com
(313) 841-5100



IBEW Local 445
BATTLE CREEK – The General Membership Meeting is the second Monday of each month and starts at 5:00 p.m. at the Hall.
April 13, 2020 General Membership Meeting has been canceled in compliance with Governor Whitmer’s Executive Order through 11:59 pm on April 13, 2020.
Nominations will be held at the May 11, 2020 General Membership meeting. Please consider being active and involved in your Local! There are many offices that you can run for. If you are unable to attend the Nominations, you may submit in writing an acceptance of nomination to the Hall.
A Special Called Meeting for Wage Allocation will be called

in May 2020. The date will be announced at a later date.
 The **Local 445 Golf Outing** date has been set for July 18, 2020 at Binder Park Golf Course with an 8 am start.
 The **Executive Board** meets the fourth Monday of each month starting at 4:30 p.m.
Local 445’s “Night of Baseball” has been approved for Saturday, August 1, 2020 at C.O. Brown Stadium for the Battle Creek Bombers. Additional information will be released closer to the date.
 The **Retiree** breakfast is the third Thursday at 9:00 a.m. and is held at the: Lux Cafe, 2587 Capital Ave SW, Battle Creek. No reservations are needed to attend.
PLEASE HELP!! – Please make sure you have updated the Hall with your current address and phone number. Also, if you have had any life changes such as a marriage/divorce/new child, please contact the Hall to ensure your benefits are correct.
Local Website - Please check the Local 445 website for the latest information, including job postings. The Local 445 web address is **IBEW445.com**.
Local Food Pantry – Donations to help fund the Local 445 Food Pantry are still being accepted.



Local 665
IBEW Local 665
LANSING – LEJATC APRENTICESHIP APPLICATIONS – Applications for apprenticeships are only available online and only on the first Monday of every month. Information about our apprenticeship programs can be found online at: www.lejatc.org.
REACH out and ENGAGE NEXT-gen ELECTRICAL WORKERS (RENEW) MEETING – Typically meets the last Thursday of the month. **April Meeting is canceled.**
The RENEW Initiative: RENEW is an IBEW-wide initiative dedicated to creating opportunities for younger members and helping them develop the skills necessary to become active in the local union and play a role in shaping its future. The goals of the RENEW program is to educate the next generation of workers about the benefits of the IBEW, to provide a space for younger members to discuss issues relevant to

their workplace and community, and to encourage their participation in programs that are focused on strengthening the local union and the labor movement. IBEW Local 665’s RENEW committee sets its own goals based on the needs of our local union and the interests of our members.
 The RENEW initiative is an opportunity to better understand younger workers while continuing to engage members of all ages to foster proud and active union members.
Mission Statement: The mission of the RENEW initiative is to inspire the next generation of IBEW workers to become active in their local union by focusing on issues important to younger workers, providing education about the IBEW and the labor movement, and fostering relationships with members and local union leadership.
POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE (PAC) MEETING – Typically meets the first Monday of the month at 4:30 p.m. at IBEW Local 665. **April Meeting is Canceled.**
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING – The next union meeting is April 20th, at 6:30 p.m. at IBEW Local 665’s Union Hall which is located at 5205 S. Pennsylvania Ave in Lansing, MI.
(Due to Covid-19 the union meeting is subject to change. Please pay attention to your emails for updates on the union meeting and other important information)

IBEW Local 131
KALAMAZOO – The General Membership Meeting for **April 6th**, has been canceled. The RENEW Meeting for **April 6th**, has also been canceled.
 The **Executive Board** will handle the business of the Local Union on April 20th, at their regularly scheduled meeting.
 The **RENEW Committee** is holding a Sporting Clay Shoot on May 16th, at the Gun River Skeet & Trap Club. The cost of the round will be \$25, there will also be raffle drawings for some great prizes. Please call the Hall for more information or to sign up.
Dues pricing - The price of dues for 2019 is \$39/month. The price for dues in 2020 will increase to \$40/month. If you’re unsure about your balance, please call the Hall for the exact amount or email Christine. If your dues ticket reads paid thru, Dec. 2019 your dues are not current, please call or stop by the Hall.
 Life events happen, and we’d always like to make sure you have updated beneficiary forms. If you’re questioning whether yours is up to date, stop on down to the Hall to get new forms.
 If you’re interested in receiving updates from the Hall, please email Christine at cbohms@ibew131.com to get

IBEW Local 131
Local 131
Serving Southwest Michigan Since 1916
 your email address added.
FROM THE APPRENTICESHIP:
Drug Test Renewals: Please keep track of your drug test expiration date through www.safe2work4you.com. It is your responsibility to stay current on your drug test. Please contact Nicole (269) 388-4434 to get your authorization form printed for you to pick up. If you don’t want to come to the Hall to pick it up, please email Nicole and request your form to be emailed to you. nwolf@ibew131.com
Organizing: As much technology, as we use to track non-union electricians in our jurisdiction, often, our best resources are you the members. If you see a non-signatory in the area working at a location, please let the Hall know.
 The COVID-19 Pandemic continues to disrupt our lives and daily business in ways I could never have imagined. It is crucial in times like these to remember, the intent behind all of the Executive Orders and Social Distancing is to save lives. While many of our members remain on the job, working on projects deemed essential, make your safety a priority. If any member feels job site safety is not what it should be, please contact the Hall.
 Additionally, for members displaced by this Pandemic, we understand there have been problems with the UIA and filing for unemployment. I sent out a lot of material over the last week, one specific to filing for unemployment. If there continue to be problems and a member cannot find a resolution to the filing, please contact my office, we will do what we can to help members work through these challenging times.
Brian O’Donnell
*Business Manager/
 Financial Secretary*
“Farming looks mighty easy when your plow is a pencil, and you’re a thousand miles from the corn field.”
 – Dwight D. Eisenhower (1890 - 1969)
“Honesty pays, but it doesn’t seem to pay enough to suit some people.”
 – Kin Hubbard (1868 - 1930)



IBEW Local 252
ANN ARBOR – DUE TO CONCERNS SURROUNDING COVID-19, THERE WILL BE CHANGES TO THE LOCAL’S UPCOMING ELECTION. Changes will be announced in the coming week. Please look for an update in the mail.
UNION DUES FOR 2020: Effective January 1, 2020 union dues for “A” members will be \$119.25 per quarter. Union dues for “BA” members will be \$61.80 per quarter.
TRAINING CLASSES 2020: ALL CLASSES CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.
CREDIT CARDS: The Local is now accepting credit cards to pay union dues. We accept Visa, Master Card, American Express and Discover. There is a fee of 3.5% to use your card.
M.U.S.T DRUG TESTING: Please make sure your MUST drug testing is current as you cannot work on a U or M project or several other projects in the jurisdiction without being current. Local 252 has a zero tolerance for alcohol or drug use.
ERTS: Please make sure that you are signed up in the Electronic Reciprocity Transfer System. You must be signed up in ERTS before working outside of Local 252’s jurisdiction or your benefits will not be transferred back.

Local 252 Website & App: The Local’s website www.ibew252.org is up and running. There is also a Local 252 App available to download. Search “IBEW 252” in the app store. You must create a new login and password to access the Members Only section. Your login for the old website is no longer valid.
Aflac Insurance: Aflac has teamed up with the IBEW to offer its members Aflac benefits at a reduced rate. Contact Representative Lisa Emerson for information about Accident, Cancer, Critical Care, Dental and Vision insurance from Aflac. Phone number: (517) 306-0144.
AT&T Discount: Union members can save up to 15% on the monthly service charges of qualified wireless plans, or unlimited calling for \$15/mo. for AT&T Wireless Home Phone plans. Visit UnionPlus.org/ATT with discount code 4924966.
Winter Gathering Synopsis: This year’s winter gathering was smaller than usual but still a good time was had by all. I told the group that I always like to start the gathering with a funny story, in keeping with the Kittel tradition, but that I have trouble remembering the stories I told in the previous years. Paul Ketola told me not to worry about it because 50% couldn’t hear it and 50% didn’t get it! Tom Johnston said the other 50% forgot it by now! That was when Jack Sherburne pointed out that Tom was about 50% off with his total.
 Gary Wencil then brought up a point of order, saying that Tom has always been a little off! Richard Hollis and Jim Augustine had paper and pencils out adding up the numbers but both had that deer in the headlights look on their faces. Anyway, the story was told, and I took notes so I won’t tell it again.
 I can tell you also want to hear the story, so it goes like this: I told the group about how many people from Canada stay in the villages and how they are always telling me these big fish stories about the 12 inch bluegills they constantly catch, so naturally I had to reciprocate and tell them one of my fishing stories. I told them how I was ice fishing in a shanty on Whitmore Lake with a hole cut big enough to also spear. Anyway, I had a Coleman lantern sitting on the ice and it accidentally got kicked into the water. I spent the next 20 minutes trying to hook that lantern with a fish lure with no luck. I gave up on the lantern but the following spring while fishing with a spoon I hooked that lantern and when I got it into the boat, I noticed it was still lit. That was when these Canadians went crazy saying there was no way that lantern was still lit! I told them if they take about 3 inches off those bluegills that I would blow out my lantern!
 Jerry Brittain always gives a nice blessing before our meal, (which is quite a feeding frenzy), and later we always have a moment of silence for our lost 252 members from the previous year. We then share stories about these legends from their working days and that runs into stories of other 252 members. The stories are the best part of the gathering and I hope the present crop of working 252 members are making as many good stories as we have. A couple of names came up, Tom Kittle Sr. and John Babbit Sr., both are staying in assisted living and the guys all wanted to wish them well. -Almost a true story by Ed Allen

NOTICE TO RETIREES: If your 50-year commemorative watch stops working for any reason please contact the Union Hall. Do not attempt to have it serviced yourself.
DUES PAYMENTS – Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 3/2020, your dues are not current. “A” members pay \$119.25 per quarter for 2020. “BA” members pay \$61.80 per quarter for 2020. Please mail your check to 7920 Union Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Your second quarter dues (April through June) are due now. **Payments for second quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Tuesday, June 30, 2020.**

Equal Pay Day arrives in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, and in occupations radically transformed as we deal with the crisis, women still make less than men, according to the Economic Policy Institute.
 Citing the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the EPI said one-third of working women (33.4 percent), compared with just 15.7 percent of working men, are employed in two industries that have been significantly impacted by COVID-19 in very different ways: health care and social assistance, which is experiencing surging demand, and leisure and hospitality, which is being crushed by closures.
 Women employed in both industries experience a gender wage gap.
 This year’s Equal Pay Day is

‘Equal Pay Day’ highlights inequities

Women experience significant wage gap
 March 31, meaning that women as an aggregate group earned 81.6 cents on men’s dollar, working all of 2019 and until this point in 2020 to earn what men did last year.
 “Given this harsh reality, Equal Pay Day on March 31 is a day to call attention to the significant pay gap between men and women in our country,” the Labor-backed DPI said. “On average in 2019, women were paid 22.6 percent less than men, after controlling for race and ethnicity, education, age, and geographic division.”
 The gaps for black and Hispanic women relative to white men are larger than the overall

gap and the white man-white woman gap. Compared with white men, black and Hispanic women are paid 33.7 percent and 33.0 percent less, respectively, after controlling for age, education, and geographic division. For white women, the gap is 25.7 percent.
 More than one-fifth of working women are employed in the health care and social assistance industry, which has experienced a surge in demand as more people seek testing for and treatment of the coronavirus. Hospitals and nursing care facilities account for the largest share of women’s employment in the health care industry.
 The timing of these events also coincided with March, Women’s History Month.

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The information below was distributed by the United Association of Plumbers, Pipe Fitters and Sprinkler Fitters, but applies to all workers.



HR 748, the CARES Act: What the Bipartisan COVID-19 Stimulus Means for UA Members

Expanded Unemployment Insurance

The CARES Act expands unemployment insurance (UI) in four key ways: (1) expanded access to UI benefits; (2) increased amount of UI payments; (3) extended duration of UI benefits; and (4) eliminated waiting periods.

For workers who qualify for regular Unemployment Insurance:

- All weekly benefits increased by \$600 through July 31
- Mandated “waiting periods” are waived
- Benefits can be received additional 13 weeks beyond what is typically allowed
- Covers unemployment for any reason

For workers who would not qualify for regular Unemployment Insurance:

- Independent contractors, sole proprietors, those without wage history, and others are now eligible
- Up to 39 weeks of UI benefits available to individuals impacted by COVID-19
- All weekly benefits increased by \$600 through July 31
- Mandated “waiting periods” waived

Paid Sick Leave and Expanded Family Medical Leave

Paid Sick Leave expanded to cover employers with less than 500 employees. All employees are eligible.

- If you are unable to work due to public isolation orders, self-quarantine, or COVID-19 symptoms and diagnosis, you are entitled to full sick pay.
- If you are caring for a family member subject to self-quarantine, or a child due to childcare closures, you are entitled to paid leave (2/3 of your regular wages).

Prevailing Wage on COVID-19 Related Construction Projects

Individual Recovery Rebates

- Individuals with Adjusted Gross Income up to \$75,000 (\$150,000 married) will receive a \$1,200 payment.
- Individuals are eligible for an additional \$500 per child.
- Rebate amount is reduced on a scale for incomes up to \$99,000 (\$198,000 married).
- Amount is completely phased out above that threshold.

US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has confirmed that prevailing wage will be paid on federal contracts to construct temporary hospitals.

- The CARES Act provided \$10 billion in funding to airports, with construction covered by prevailing wage provisions.

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“Ninety percent of the politicians give the other ten percent a bad reputation.”
 –Henry Kissinger (1923 -)

“When a friend is in trouble, don’t annoy him by asking if there is any thing you can do. Think up something appropriate and do it.”
 –Edgar Watson Howe (1853 - 1937)

Local 25

Iron Workers

Iron Workers 25

NOVI - Please check our website (www.ironworkers25.org) and "Alerts" on the Local 25 APP to stay informed on union matters and in regard to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) which is evolving daily. Local 25 is working with our Contractors on a daily basis. Download The IRONWORKERS' APP to your android or smartphone via the APP Store or Google Play (no charge). Simply search "Iron Workers Local 25." Most of the features from our website is available thru the APP!

Considering all that is going on please be sure we have your current address on file at the Novi Hall. If you have moved recently and are unsure of the address we have, please call the Hall to double check (248-344-9494).

All Union and Steward Meetings are cancelled until further notice. The classes at the Local 25 Apprenticeship School are cancelled. New Apprentice Applications are suspended. Mandatory Apprentice April meeting is cancelled. The Wixom Training Center - Phone: 248-960-2130 - Phone calls only to the school.

Novi Dispatch number 248-305-9282: M-F 7 am to 10 am. If you happen to get voicemail, just leave your name, book number and phone number. At times, the BA is on the line, or running a pre-job during dispatch hours; Local 25 Active Members, Apprentices and Probationary should call each day you are out of work. OR use our website to sign up for the out of work list: www.ironworkers25.org

The 2020 Dennis O'Dowd SCHOLARSHIP Rules & Application is EXTENDED. All requests for complete rules and the application must be received by April 30, 2020 (extended) and AT THIS TIME WE ARE EXTENDING THE DEADLINE TO TURN IN THE COMPLETED APPLICATIONS by MAY 31, 2020. The blank application is also posted to our website; or call the Novi hall to get one mailed to you. These are for sons/daughters of full dues paying active/working members of Ironworkers Local 25 who are in their senior year of High School. The member must have a minimum of five years continuous membership to be eligible.

Stewards' Notes: 1) The Electronic Steward Reporting forms are online www.ironworkers25.org Log in with your book number, and the password is the last 4 (four) of your social. 2) PLEASE be sure to check dues for members and boomers too AND BE SURE ALL BOOMERS HAVE SIGNED BOTH THE RECIPROCAL AND THE ASSESSMENT-TARGETING 3) All members please be sure to keep your Union dues paid up to date as it is criteria for working. You can be asked to leave the jobsite if your dues are not current.

The Fringe office is still open as Benesys is deemed an essential business and will remain open

If you need an early vacation check during these times, please call the Fringe Office before 4:00 PM on Wednesday and your check will be mailed Thursday Morning. No Pick-up at the Novi Union Hall at this time.

FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: 800-572-8553 or 248-347-3100, press 1 for Member access to this menu:

QUESTION: Vacation Pay-out or Balance Inquiry: Option 1. QUESTION: Loss of Time, Disability or Death Inquiries or Claims: Option 2.

QUESTION: Health & Welfare such as Add or Remove a Dependent, Self-Payment, Enrollment forms, Prescription coverage, Monthly Status, Eligibility, ADDRESS Changes: Option 3.

QUESTION: To find the status of employer contributions remitted on your behalf: Option 4.

QUESTION: To update reciprocity information or find the status of reciprocity contributions: Option 4.

QUESTION: Pension or Defined Contributions Information such as Request an application for retirement or an application for a D.C. distribution. Direct Deposit or tax withholding changes. Request a Pension Verification Letter or you haven't received your pension check: Option 5.

QUESTION: Blue Cross Health Claims / Customer Service 877-790-2583. QUESTION: Delta Dental Claims / Customer Service 800-482-8915. Benesys office 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.

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

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

Local 25 Apprenticeship Competition is still anticipated to be Saturday, June 20, 2020. All participants must be at the Training Center @ 7:00 am. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place. The Ironworkers picnic anticipated to be this same day from 10:00 am-3:00 pm.

International's John H. Lyons Scholarship applications accepted until MAY 15, 2020 and must be filed electronically at www.ironworkers.org

Likewise, the Eric S. Waterman Scholarship applications are accepted until MAY 15, 2020 and must be filed electronically at www.ironworkers.org. The Waterman Scholarship was established to provide educational funding to sons and daughters of Iron Worker members and encourage pursuit of a construction industry related degree. Information, rules and eligibility are on the International website.

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

Coming soon: a new credit-debit payment "platform" which will have a new 800# and require new log-ins to access for anyone on auto-pay. However, all auto-pay information will be automatically transferred. No worry there. Still safe & secure with Comerica Bank.

Pay union dues with personal check or money order and mail to: Iron Workers Local 25 - P.O. Box 965 - Novi, MI 48376-0965. PLEASE include your book number on the face of the check/money order.

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

Other Phone Numbers: Pay dues: 888-386-8173, Training Center: 248-960-2130, Credit Union: 248-344-2560, Lansing: 517-882-3078, Flint: 810-742-3820, Saginaw: 989-755-9091, Grand Rapids: 231-342-3358. Call before you go: The Lansing, Flint & Saginaw offices are manned by one Business Agent each who are in the office by appointment or by chance. Please call before you drive there.

The International Association (IABSORIW) has endorsed Joe Biden for president of the United States of America. Due to the passage of the statewide ballot proposal last year, all eligible and registered voters in Michigan may now request an absent voter ballot without providing a reason. Check your voter registration at Michigan Voter Information Center Michigan.gov/Vote

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

ATTENTION RETIREES: Due to the COVID-10 pandemic, all retiree meetings across the local's jurisdiction are canceled until further notice. Watch for updates on the locals website (www.ironworkers25.org) or the Local 25 app that you can download by searching "Iron Workers Local 25" to stay informed on union matters.

Due to the effects of the COVID-19 virus and the directive (Continued next column)



Abatement Workers Local 207

Abatement Workers Local 207

TAYLOR - The workload is changing daily. The coronavirus is beginning to affect some of our projects in Michigan. Some of our customers are calling for help with cleaning their facilities, which is something we already do after asbestos is removed. Some members are being sent out to perform these duties. Remember to call in if you are unemployed for help with future placement. Updated, working telephone numbers are necessary to help you with work. Don't get caught without the necessary current job site credentials, although several state agencies have relaxed renewal requirements due to the pandemic.

The General Office has banned all Union Meetings and Elections until further notice. Our current election process has been put on hold until an ok is given to proceed. All members will be notified by mail when the election will resume.

UPCOMING ASBESTOS TRAINING CLASSES: Asbestos Supervisor Refresher > Saturday, April 25th, 2020 Check with the Office to ensure the class is still a go.

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

Classes begin promptly at 8AM and end at 4PM, followed by a Lead Awareness Update. If you are due to expire and need one of these refreshers now, please call the Taylor Office (1-800-207-5622) to register.

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

Local 25, con't

from the governor's office, publication of a print version of The Building Tradesman is suspended, effective immediately. The "Building Tradesman" newspaper will only be available online at http://www.michiganbuildingtrades.org/current-article until further notice. The Building Tradesman is also available on www.ironworkers25.org website & APP. See the tab "Recent News."

Diversified Members Credit Union: Located at 25880 Novi Rd. Phone: 248-344-2560 - CALL FOR HOURS in the event changes made due to COVID-19 - Services available: debit or credit cards, interest bearing checking accounts, IRAs, CDs, Benefits Plus program, HOME MORTGAGES, low interest loans and part of Co-Op Shared Branching. We have other branch locations in Detroit and Clawson. Home Mortgages for Union Families: Learn more about the unique benefits available to union members, their parents and children. CALL 866-802-7307, M-F 8am-10pm EST, Sat 9am - 5:30pm EST www.unionplus.org

Those who have passed: Ethel Gibson passed away March 21, 2020 at the age of 90. She was the Mother of Joseph Demski #931563. Joseph Tremblay #539472 passed away March 23, 2020 at the age of 98. He initiated in 1954 and had been an Ironworker Local 25 union member for more than 66 years. Al Woodruff passed away March 25, 2020 at the age of 83. Al was the owner of Woodruff Contracting. Andy McKinnon #699203 passed away March 30, 2020 at the age of 76. He was a 56-year member. Andy was a Trustee for the Retiree Club, and worked Maintenance for the Novi Union Hall for many years. Andy will be missed by many! Our condolences to all of the family and friends as you mourn the loss of your dear loved one(s)!

To all Union Members; Please continue to do everything you can to slow the spread of Covid-19. This virus affects ALL age groups! Keep yourselves and your families safe, stay home whenever possible and enjoy your family time. Stay in touch with one another and find a balance to the amount of news you listen too. We will get through this!

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (3/30/2020 12:00 pm E.S.T.).



Heat and Frost Insulators Local 25

Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25 SOUTHFIELD - ALL Union activities have been postponed until further notice per the International Union.

Continue to monitor the Facebook page for updates as the situation evolves.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The April 9, 2020 Membership Meeting has been canceled due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

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

EMPLOYMENT CHANGES: All employment changes; hire, lay off, fire, shop change, disability, etc. must be called into the Union Hall. The only way to guarantee you are on the out of work list and your employment records remains current and correct is to call the Office - (248) 352-1850.

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.

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 3:00 p.m. on Thursday.

LAY OFF/HIRE: Please be reminded, all members shall notify the Business Manager within 48 hours after accepting a job or upon termination of employment. Failure to report will result in an automatic fifty dollar fine.

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

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.

CONGRATULATIONS to apprentice Lupe Ortez and his family on the recent birth of his daughter, Isabella Cruz Ortez.

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

"The best way to keep one's word is not to give it."

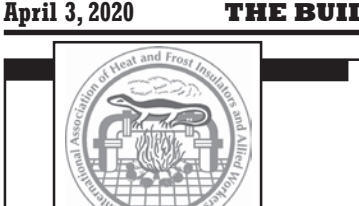
-Napoleon Bonaparte (1769 - 1821)

"Fear sometimes stops you from doing stupid things. But it can also stop you from doing creative or exciting or experimental things. It can cloud your judgment of others, and lead to all kinds of evil. The control and understanding of our personal fears is one of the most important undertakings in our life."

-Helen Mirren

"A person is always startled when he hears himself seriously called an old man for the first time."

-Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809 - 1894)



Heat and Frost Insulators Local 47

Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 47

LANSING - Our Union Meeting that was originally scheduled for Friday, April 9, 2020 has been cancelled due to Governor Whitmer's Shelter in Place order to combat and limit the spread of Covid-19.

As we continue to combat and limit the spread of Covid-19, Local 47 encourages all members to continue to work safe, and if you feel sick contact a doctor immediately. And please remember that all Union Meetings and Apprenticeship classes have been suspended until further notice. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Local Union Office, (517) 708-0665.

Local 47 Lansing Office, 419 S. Washington Square, Suite 301, Lansing, Michigan 48933. Ph.: 517-708-0665

All members should have received a letter from our International regarding the Asbestos Exposure Scientific Study. For more information on how to participate in this study, please do not hesitate to contact Business Manager Patrick Welch at the main Local 47 Office number: 517-708-0665

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

Contracts are available at the Union Office or at the Union Meeting upon request.

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

To ensure all Active Members and Retirees are receiving their Robo calls please make sure you have not blocked the following number: (804) 441-8365. These calls are only used for Important Notifications from the Local Union Business Manager and Funeral Notifications. If you are not receiving these calls, please contact the Local Union Office.

Local 47 has been receiving a lot of returned mail from our members. We ask that if you have a change of address or phone number to please call the Local Union Office right away so we can update your information

Local 47 Heat and Frost Insulators

throughout our system, TIC's, and the with the International. It is very important to make sure your contact information is always up to date with Local 47.

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

Pension and Health Welfare: Larry Tolbert (269-345-8944)

Allied Workers' Local 47 Fringe Benefit Funds, 6525 Centurion Dr., Lansing, MI 48917-9275

Toll Free: (800) 323-8079 Phone No.: (517) 321-7502 Fax Number: (517) 321-7500

The Funds Trustees have reinstated the Seventy-Nine Hours Rule for all Retirees.

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

Attention all Retirees, Active, and Spouses in our Healthcare plan. On Jan. 1, 2017, the Trustees have implemented Blue Cross/Blue Shield Medicare Advantage, for all Retirees over 65 with Medicare Advantage. Make sure you are giving your new card to any provider when you check in for office visits, this will update you in the BCBS System. If you are having any problems, please call Larry Tolbert.

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

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.

All Apprenticeship classes have been suspended until further notice.

Good and Welfare: Please take care of your families and yourself!

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY REPRESENTING BUILDING TRADES BROTHERS & SISTERS OVER 25 YEARS BIESKE & ASSOCIATES Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security Disability benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits. Attorneys J.B. Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 42 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear themselves at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced attorneys to your case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and only fly the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges. Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary they have won several hundred cases before a court date is even set. Those denied can appeal on their own but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet. In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups. Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi offer free phone or office consultation. If they represent you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits. Bieske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. They 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



Local 36 Elevator Constructors

Elevator Constructors 36
DETROIT -- ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED that our next regular **Membership Meeting to be held on Monday, April 27, 2020 HAS BEEN CANCELLED!** All meetings sponsored by the Local are cancelled until further notice. All NEIEP classes have been cancelled until April 6, 2020. All apprentices are advised to keep up on their studies and the NEIEP website. If this changes, we will get this out as best as possible.

Brothers and Sisters, due to recent conditions, ALL are requested to follow guidelines put out by the CDC and your companies. Common sense and personal health practices should always be followed. The International is also offering special benefits in response to our current situation. Go to their website at iuec.org where more information is available. While at the iuec.org website register on the my-link members portal. Top red line, this will be scrolling across. Click on this and follow directions. With this link you will be able to access your information, this includes benefit hours reported in your name.

The Local picnic is scheduled for Saturday, July 25, 2020. We will be at the St. Lawrence Knights of Columbus Picnic Grounds, 11541 21 Mile, Utica, MI. Please keep the date open and more information will be sent to all members and retirees.

A Golf outing is being planned, if you are interested please contact the Hall. There is no fixed date yet, trying to get the number of participants for a count.

We also have new phones and answering system. All calls will still be answered.

No numbers have changed. We are also requesting your email address. If you are not receiving emails, please confirm your address. During our recent situation we have received updates daily and we want this information at your disposal as soon as possible.

Everyone should have received your 2019 Dues Statement. When filling out your statement, be sure to use Box 5 on your W-2. All W-2s statements and 2nd Quarter Dues should be processed by April 1, 2020. We are processing all statements as we receive them. All Thyssen employees, please check your W-2's, there have been reports of incorrect reporting on state and local taxes. We request when you pay your dues by mail, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Any documents included will be sent back to you unless we are instructed to do otherwise and will be shredded. We are not allowing access to hall currently. Call before you arrive, and we will process your dues while you wait in parking lot.

With the number of new apprentices joining our trade we are looking for Mechanics to be Mentors to these apprentices, please call the hall if you are interested.

All members were sent an email with the Memorandum of Agreement (MOU-NEBAfinal 3-23-20). This MOU modifies the allowable workday during the Covid-19 situation. We are trying to share the available work among all members. Keep track of your time, call outs are still call outs and will be paid as such and do not sign for what you did not do. If phone does not allow changes, document with email or other such way. Protect yourself, and your work. Always follow all precautions during this predicament and keep yours and others exposure as limited as possible. This will help the contain and lessen the overall affect and duration of the circumstances we now face.

This agreement does not supersede any government orders, you may be held responsible. Why put yourself, co-worker, friends and family at risk for something that will be there when conditions are better? Your company representatives are all working from home.

All members are reminded that your company is responsible to deliver material to the jobsite. Use of personal vehicles for delivery of material is for only emergency situations. There are no emergencies in modernization or construction. All construction and modernization work is **TEAM-**
(Continued next column)



Local 169 Boilermakers

Boilermakers Local 169
ALLEN PARK –The monthly membership meeting for April, scheduled for Area Four, has been cancelled per order of President Jones.

All training centers are closed until further notice. Please see the website or Facebook group for further details.

BOB HUTSELL The 2020 union dues are \$47.35.

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

OSHA 10 and OSHA 30 safety training can now be taken online. Please visit our website – www.boilermakerslocal169.com for more information.

Upcoming Retiree Events:
Area One – Retirees hold monthly luncheons on the first Wednesday of every month at 11:00am at the Brown Derby Bar, 10661 West Jefferson, River Rouge, MI. Retirees from all areas are welcome.

Area Two - Retirees hold a monthly luncheon at a **NEW LOCATION** Whitlow's Forerunner Restaurant, located at 4610 Airline Rd., Muskegon, MI the first Thursday of every month at 11:00am. Retirees and members from all areas are welcome.

Area Three - The Area Three Retiree Luncheon is held on the third Wednesday of every month at 11:00am. March's luncheon was cancelled. Please check the website for information regarding April's event.

Area Four – Rapid River Luncheon: The first Tuesday of every month at 11:00am at Jack's Restaurant, 7897 S Main St, Rapid River. Retirees from all areas are welcome.

Area Four - Marquette Luncheon: The second Tuesday of every month at 11:00am at the Crossroads Bar, located at the corner of County 553 and County 480, just south of Marquette. Retirees from all areas are welcome.

I would like to thank all the rank and file members who continue to do the work vital to our industry, fellow man, and Brotherhood. Please continue to follow the CDC guidelines, including, answering the daily questionnaires honestly.

Nothing is worth the risk to you, your family, or your brothers. Your Local and International are working hard to ensure that every effort will be made to protect Health & Welfare coverage, membership status, and unemployment benefits, so you can concentrate on the task at hand, surviving this pandemic. I would also like to thank your Business Agents and Office staff for their continued efforts to perform their duties during these challenging times. Every owner, contractor, and member must do their part to stop the spread of this pandemic.

Local 36, con't

WORK. This is according to our agreement and follows your company's safety policy. A licensed journey person must also be onsite while any work is performed. If you are asked or told differently call the hall **immediately**. Also, all jobs are to be reported to the **HALL**, this does include all unloads, crane picks and cab modernizations. This is our work and **SHALL** be performed by **ELEVATOR CONSTRUCTORS!**

The EIWPF has contacted us and we have agreed to postpone the code classes that we were trying to plan for the first week of June 2020. When future dates are confirmed we will be setting classes for all interested.

On behalf of the entire membership we extend our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Honorary Retiree Member Harry Marshall, who passed on March 26, 2020.

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



Local 1191 Laborers

Laborers 1191
DETROIT – NOTICE: THE **APRIL MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS CANCELLED** Due to COVID-19. Laborers' Local 1191 is making every effort to keep our members and staff safe during this time by limiting person-to-person contact at the Local Union Hall.

Therefore, please adhere to these temporary conditions:
The Local Union is closed per Executive Order till April 13, 2020

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

Check out our website at www.laborerslocal1191.org Important information about the Attack on our Wages & Benefits is now on line!

Dues: Beginning Jan. 1, 2020 regular monthly dues are \$35 for active members. Retiree monthly dues will remain the same \$ 8.

NOTICE: The Uniform Local Union Constitution Article VIII sec. 4. The monthly dues are due on the first day of the month and unless paid on or before the last day of the following month, the member shall be deemed suspended by the International Union without notice.

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

Retirees: Retiree Council's meetings are the last Friday of the month. The meetings are held 11 a.m. at the Local Union Hall located at 2161 West Grand Boulevard in Detroit.

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

Also, check out the training classes available to you at no cost. **Note: classes & certifications contractors have been asking for are, OSHA 30, Asbestos & Lead Awareness, Hoisting & Rigging, Pipeline Safety, Class A Cdl License, Asbestos Removal Supervisors Licence, Confined Space Permit Required, Grade Checking Blueprint Reading & Measuring Tools,** all are available at the training center. It could mean the difference of being sent to work or not! FYI: By taking the OSHA 30 your 18 MUST Safety modules are updated as well. If you are not able to go to the Training Center for MUST Safety Modules contact the Local, we will help make arrangements for you to complete them.

Referral List: You must have an out-of-work skills sheet filled out and on file in order to be referred out for work by this Local Union. (Be sure to Check & Update your Skills.) Also please be advised: Per the out of work list rules, all members on the list must re-register your availability for work every quarter and do so within the first five days of the following months **March, June, September and December (Roll Call)**. Your failure to do so will result in your name being removed from the referral list. *Example: If your name is on the list in April and or May and you don't re-register by June 5 your name will be removed from the list.

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

Save Time & Money: no more checks or money orders to mail no more worry if it gets here on time, **monthly dues can be deducted from your vacation check** and sent direct to the Local. Please stop by the office to get one of the forms or you may call the office **(313-894-2241)** to have one mailed to you. We have forms for both Michigan Laborers and Metropolitan Detroit Laborers. **Also, be sure to keep your current address and phone numbers up to date with Local. Current E-mail address is also very important! Also, we are now accepting CREDIT & DEBIT payments.**



Painters DC 1M
WARREN - Dear Members, DC1M WEBSITE: www.iupatdc1michigan.org
DC1M FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/iupat1m
DC 1M UNION CARDS*

Any questions regarding a lost, damaged Union card, 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
ROBERT GONZALEZ PAINTERS DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M SMART PHONE APP. Painters District Council 1M is pleased to announce its all new APP.

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

Search for "Painters and Allied Trades" download APP
Username: your member id#
Password: painters
With this APP you can access training classes, Local Union meeting times and dates, receive alerts, and communications from your Union, etc.

APPRENTICESHIP CLASS SUSPENSION EXTENDED THRU APRIL 14, 2020. Regular Apprenticeship classes have been suspended thru April 14, 2020. These are precautionary measures taken by the Board of Trustees, to help mitigate the spread of Coronavirus(COVID-19).

Any questions please contact Director of Training Shawn O'Neill (517)304-4425.

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING PER CAPITA DUES FOR APRIL 2020 The International Union General Executive Board has waived the Per Capita dues for the month of April 2020. The Integrated Member Management System(IMS) that Painters District 1M uses to apply Member dues, is the International Union's system. The International Union will credit the entire Membership the month of April 2020. No Member will lose any weeks for the month of April 2020. The International Union will take into consideration the month of May 2020 as we draw closer.

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

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

Local 357 Glaziers & Glassworkers
District Council 1M MICHIGAN
Glaziers & Glassworkers 357
WARREN – Our next membership meeting scheduled meeting for April 2020 has been cancelled.
All apprenticeship classes have been cancelled until at least April 14, to comply with the Governor's executive order.
All new job starts must be reported to the Union Hall, Please call them in.
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.
COVID -19 has all but shut down nearly every project in the state of Michigan. We understand that this is a time of uncertainty. When this virus has passed, we will get right back to work. There are many buildings sitting open as of today, and we feel once restrictions are lifted, we will be back to work. Try to remain positive, and with a new 2 trillion-dollar relief package getting signed just days ago, help is on its way.
Stay strong brothers, and sisters,
Business Rep Local #357 ~Don Stepp

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Michigan Painters
District Council



District Council 1M

Business Manager: Robert Gonzalez
Meeting date: 2nd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m., with the Executive Board meeting at 6 p.m.
Place: 14587 Barber Ave, Warren MI 48088 & 419 S. Washington Ave, Lansing MI 48933
Local Union 312
Business Rep: Tim Schwerin
Meeting date: 2nd Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.
Place: 1473 N. 30th St., Galesburg, MI 49053
Local Union 514
Business Rep: Scott Mikulen
Meeting dates: 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m.
Place: 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI.
Web site: www.iupat-local514.org.

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

Local Union 845
Business Rep – Fred Frederickson
Meeting date: 1st Thursday of every month at 7 p.m.
Place: 419 S. Washington Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933
Local Union 1052
Business Rep – Jake Fluty
Meeting date: The Fourth Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m
Place: 3115 Joyce St., Burton MI 48529

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

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

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

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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.
COVID -19 has all but shut down nearly every project in the state of Michigan. We understand that this is a time of uncertainty. When this virus has passed, we will get right back to work. There are many buildings sitting open as of today, and we feel once restrictions are lifted, we will be back to work. Try to remain positive, and with a new 2 trillion-dollar relief package getting signed just days ago, help is on its way.
Stay strong brothers, and sisters,
Business Rep Local #357 ~Don Stepp



Local 149 Roofers & Waterproofer

Roofers 149
DETROIT – **Main Office – Southeastern Lower Michigan –** The next regular membership meeting is scheduled for Tues., May 5, 2020 at 7 p.m. The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., April 28, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Notice of Election – Detroit Negotiating Committee. The following members are running for the committee: Joe Gilliam, John Johnson, Joe Zsembery, Gary Johnson, Tom Jaranowski, Mike Chilcott, Bob Doyle, Rick Feyer, Robert Colston

The election will take place at the Detroit Union Hall, 1640 Porter St, Detroit, MI 48216, on May 5, 2020, from 2pm thru 7pm. You must be a member in good standing to cast a ballot.

Detroit Training Center Information. The Detroit Roofers and Waterproofer Training Center is closed and is tentatively scheduled to reopen April 20, 2020.

For additional information, follow the Training Center on Facebook @ Detroit Roofers & Waterproofer Training Center, or contact Brother Thomas Jaranowski at the Training Center, 248-543-3847, or TJaranowski@DetroitRoofers.Org

Retirees Association. The Retirees' Association insurance and social meeting has been cancelled.

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

Reminder. Members please call the Hall when you see a roofing project whether it is one of our signatory companies or not. The Hall needs this information. Members are reminded to call the Hall (313) 961-6093 to put their name on the out of work list.

CLEARANCE CARDS. Are you scheduled to go out of town for work in another Local's territory? Clearance cards are needed when you are sent out of town to work. Get a clearance card from the Hall and call the Local in that area to avoid fines against you.

MID-MICHIGAN AREA – Clio Office. The next Mid-Michigan regular membership meeting is scheduled for Tues., May 12, 2020 at 7 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420.

At this meeting, we will be taking proposals to determine what to do with this year's raise. The Mid-Michigan Roofers and Waterproofer Training Center is closed and is tentatively scheduled to reopen May 4, 2020. For additional information, contact Brother Rick Baird at 810-687-1368.

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.



Sign, Pictorial & Display Local 591

Sign Pictorial & Display 591
WARREN – **ALL MEETINGS ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. STAY SAFE.**

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.



A PANORAMA OF the construction at Comerica Park.



THE SETTING OF THE first column of iron.

20 years of baseball at Comerica Park

And building trades union workers built it all

TWENTY YEARS AGO there were a lot of busy building trades workers along Woodward Avenue in Detroit, as construction was wrapping up prior to the Detroit Tigers' first game at their new stadium on Opening Day, April 11, 2000 vs. the Seattle Mariners. The \$300 million-plus project substantially began in the fall of 1998, with the project proceeding under the construction management team of Hunt-Turner-White. Numerous change orders slowed construction and bumped up the price tag of the project, but the park opened on time, and the frigid fans watched a 5-2 win by the home team.



PLUMBERS 98 workers swing pipe in what will be the Comerica Park concourse.



BAC Local 2 tile masons at work at Comerica Park.



IBEW LOCAL 58 members took a seat in left field below the huge scoreboard they helped install.



A CEMENT FINISHER toils on the upper deck.



CONSTRUCTION IN March 2000. Lots of last-minute tasks.



IRON WORKERS Local 25 members used some muscle to move precast sections during construction at Comerica Park.



AN IRON WORKERS Local 25 member sets a column during Comerica Park construction.



ALL BUILDING TRADESMEN Notice of Asbestos Health Hazards in Michigan

FREE ABESTOS CLAIM EVALUATION

ASBESTOS CLAIMS Evaluation Request Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone No. _____

Date of Birth: _____

Union: _____ Local No: _____

Dates of Employment: _____ thru _____

Have you been exposed to asbestos?
 Yes No

Have you been diagnosed with:
 Mesothelioma Asbestosis
 Lung Cancer Colon Cancer

Do you have shortness of breath?
 Yes No

Return this form to:
Goldberg, Persky & White, PC
3995 Fashion Sq. Blvd. Suite 1 Saginaw, Michigan 48603 or
Call 800-799-2234



Exposure to asbestos can cause deadly diseases such as **mesothelioma**, **lung cancer**, and **asbestosis**.

Many building tradesmen worked with or near asbestos. Some are not aware they were even exposed. Family members may be at risk of bystander exposure.



For more than 30 years, GPW has helped thousands of Michigan workers. We can arrange a **free chest x-ray** review by a NIOSH Certified B-Reader to determine the presence of asbestos lung disease for all qualified building tradesmen with start dates prior to 1975.

Please don't delay, protect yourself and your family before it's too late. You may be entitled to claim money damages from the responsible members of the asbestos industry.



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Outdoors

Haywire for a half century



By Doug Donnelly
Michigan Department of
Natural Resources

Michigan's first rail trail is 50 years old.

Some residents who live near the Haywire Grade, a multi-use trail that crosses the Upper Peninsula north to south from Shingleton to Manistique, are glad the trail is getting the recognition it deserves.

"I'd say over the past four years, Michigan has truly started to recognize the significance of the Haywire," said Gerry Reese, who has owned property near the trail for nearly 30 years and is a part of the Schoolcraft County Motorized Trail Association.

A yearlong celebration of the Haywire Grade kicked off in February with a snowmobile ride and will continue throughout the year with equine, ORV/ATV and bicycle events as local, regional and state officials commemorate the trail's history.

The celebration of the Haywire rail trail has been in the making for five years.

"There are a lot of partners that picked up the pieces of this project and a lot of people who have come together for this," Reese said. "There are still some residents in the area who are unaware of the trail's rich history. We want to change that."

History. With more than 2,600 miles logged, Michigan has converted more miles of abandoned railroad corridor into trails than any other state. This conversion is done through a process called rail banking. The trails, some paved and some not, are used for recreation purposes, but may be recalled to railroad service and the recreation trails rerouted should the need arise.

The first rail-trail in Michigan was the Haywire Grade in Schoolcraft and Alger counties. Established in 1970, two years after the Manistique and Lake Superior Railroad ceased operation, the Haywire Grade runs 32 miles. Originally planned for seasonal snowmobile use, the Haywire has since become a popular



THE HAYWIRE rail-trail in the Upper Peninsula is shown on a sunny spring day. MDNR photos

year-round multi-use trail.

"People have long used the trail for a variety of activities," Reese said. "It was very common to see an equestrian rider, and at the same time someone walking. It's truly a multi-use trail."

The trail's historical significance dates to the late 1800s. The Manistique and Northwestern Railroad began operation in 1898 and reorganized as the Manistique and Lake Superior in 1909.

The railroad served the logging industry and fostered settlement in the region. Many of the trees harvested from the area were sent to Illinois to help rebuild after the Great Chicago Fire.

Interpretation. Stories like this are being permanently memorialized through a series of 11 historical interpretive kiosks that will be installed along the trail as a part of the golden anniversary celebration.

"We want the Haywire Grade's 50th anniversary to acknowledge and celebrate this important milestone for Michigan's trail network, and at the same time help trail users interact with the heritage of this beautiful area for years to come," said Dan Spegel, Michigan's heritage trail coordinator.

The kiosks themselves are

part of that history, as they were fabricated with steel from Upper Peninsula railroad tracks and cedar logs grown in the region. Each kiosk also contains metal art depicting a train engine and Manistique and Lake Superior railroad cars.

"We designed the kiosks to have that rustic flavor, but also the railroad and the logging camp flavor," Reese said.

As Michigan's heritage trail coordinator, Spegel works on projects like this one to help shed light on some amazing history around Michigan's 13,000 miles of state-designated trails.

Since 2015, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' Michigan History Center has helped communities around the state create a deeper sense and experience of "place" for trail users through its Heritage Trails Program.

"Heritage trails connect people with the natural and cultural heritage of the landscape they are passing through," Spegel said.

Celebration. The Haywire Grade's golden anniversary celebration includes four events.

The first was a snowmobiling event held Feb. 29. Spegel said starting off with a snowmobile ride was fitting since

that's how the trail began.

"The 50th anniversary snowmobile ride was a celebration of the Haywire Grade's significance to Michigan's trail network," Spegel said.

The event kicked off at the Schoolcraft County Motorized Trail Association clubhouse with refreshments and presentations by DNR representatives. Participants then rode the freshly groomed trail about 15 miles from Manistique to the Jack Pine Lodge, where they stopped for lunch. Riders received a commemorative patch marking their participation in the event.

Yet to come in 2020 are three additional planned activities (barring COVID-19 postponements), including June 6 equine, Aug. 22 bicycle and Oct. 3 ATV/ORV events.

In addition to the DNR and Schoolcraft County Motorized Trail Association, other trail partners that helped make the Haywire Grade celebration events possible include the city of Manistique, the Hiawatha National Forest, the Schoolcraft County Historical Society, the area's tourist council and several private donors.

Pure Michigan. In February, the Haywire Grade reached an-

other significant milestone when it was designated one of three new Pure Michigan Trails.

According to Pure Michigan officials, designated Pure Michigan Trails provide access to national, state or regional scenic resources of high quality and splendor, and articulate the natural essence of Michigan.

"Michigan is known for having thousands of miles of hiking, biking and kayaking trails, but the trails and communities that receive this designation are truly outstanding and embody what Pure Michigan is all about," said David Lorenz, vice president of Travel Michigan. "We are pleased to partner with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to honor these trails and trail towns."

To qualify as one of the trails, routes may be a single trail or combination of trails and must be more than a mile in length, open to the public and substantially completed.

The trails and towns receiving Pure Michigan designations comprise some of the elite Michigan

A TRAIL marker is set.



trail experiences. They promote healthy lifestyles, conserve natural and cultural resources in the area, display iconic signage, increase awareness of trails for tourism and provide a catalyst for economic activity in their associated communities.

Those qualities, officials say, fit the Haywire Grade perfectly.

Reese said the Pure Michigan designation, scheduled commemorative events and recognition the Haywire Grade is receiving are great for the region and the state.

"It's exciting for everybody," he said. "This has been building momentum for years."

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