

# THE BUILDING TRADESMAN

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May 3, 2024

## SHORT CUTS

### Michigan a hot spot for construction

Michigan was one of 39 states that saw an increase in construction employment from March 2023 to March 2024 – and among them, was among the top destinations for building trades employment.

During those 12 months, construction employment in Michigan jumped by a whopping 12,000 jobs – a number which ranked our state No. 4 in the nation. That represents a 6.6 percent rise in construction employment, ranking our state No. 9 among the states during that time.

“Most states have experienced no letup in demand for construction projects, as these numbers reveal,” said Associated General Contractors chief economist Ken Simonson, when the numbers were released April 23. “In fact, even more states would have posted an increase in construction employment if contractors could find enough qualified workers.”

Between March 2023 and March 2024, 39 states added construction jobs, 10 states and the District of Columbia shed jobs, and employment was unchanged in Vermont.

Alaska had the largest percentage increase over 12 months (16.2 percent, +2,700 jobs), followed by South Dakota (10.9 percent, +3,000 jobs), and Arkansas (9.7 percent, +6,000 jobs).

### Support bond issues in 2 districts

Building trades workers in the Hazel Park and Huron Valley school districts are urged to support major bond issues that will appear on the May 7 ballot.

In the Huron Valley School District in Oakland County, voters will be asked to approve a \$362 million bond proposal that would fund construction of a new middle school, the remodeling of an existing middle school and other improvements to school buildings.

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

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

### Dodge sees ‘soft patch’ for industry

While construction employment remains strong (see above), total U.S. construction starts fell 1 percent in March from the prior month to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1.06 trillion, according to an April 23 report from the Dodge Construction Network.

Nonresidential building starts fell 9 percent, while nonbuilding (infrastructure) starts improved by 7 percent, and residential starts moved 1 percent higher. However, on a year-to-date basis through March, total construction starts were up 13 percent from the first three months of 2023.

“The construction sector has hit a soft patch to start 2024,” said Richard Branch, chief economist for Dodge Construction Network. “However, this should not be overly surprising given high rates and restrictive credit. There are bright spots though as single-family starts are moving higher and federal dollars are lifting nonbuilding starts.”

### Quotable

“Money is in some respects, life's fire: It is a very excellent servant, but a terrible master.”

—Phineas Taylor (P.T.) Barnum (1810-1891)

## Biden gets endorsement from NABTU at building trades confab

WASHINGTON, D.C. – North America's Building Trades Unions last month announced its endorsement Joe Biden for reelection to U.S. President. The announcement was made during NABTU's annual Legislative Conference in the nation's capitol.

An April 25 statement came from NABTU President Shawn McGarvey speaking on behalf of the 15 international building trades construction unions he represents:

“North America's Build-

ing Trades Unions can honestly say no elected official has

shown our members and their families more respect than President Joe Biden. Through his policies and his personnel, President Biden has demonstrated

his laser-like focus on not only rebuilding our nation's infrastructure and manufacturing sector but

rebuilding the American middle class itself.”

Biden pledged to be the most pro-union president in history, and he hasn't disappointed. Specifically, Biden pushed for \$1.2 trillion in infrastructure spending that will be an ongoing employment boon to the building trades. He has mandated the use of prevailing wage rules on federally funded construction projects. His administration basically saved the union apprenticeship model, as the Labor Department tossed out

plans developed in the previous administration to allow individual nonunion employers, through IRAPS (Industry Recognized Apprenticeship Programs), to set their own standards for which workers can earn journeyman status. And financially failing pension plans held by the Teamsters and some building trades multiemployer plans were fiscally restored with a push from the president.

“His Administration's accomplishments,” McGarvey said, (Continued on Page 3)



Joe Biden



ON A FORMER PARKING LOT north of the existing Trinity Health-Brighton Medical Center, Granger Construction, its subcontractors and building trades union workers are erecting a connected new 174,000-square-foot hospital.

## Trades operating at new \$238M hospital in Brighton

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

BRIGHTON – Livingston County's population from 2010 to 2023 rose 9.27 percent, the sixth-highest increase in the state during that time. The county's primary health care system is taking a big step to keep up with that growth.

That step comes in the form of the ongoing construction of the \$238 million expansion of the Trinity Health Medical Center-Brighton Campus. The four-story, 174,000-square-foot expansion onto the backside of the site's existing medical facility at 7575 Grand River Ave. will feature eight operating rooms, 18 short-stay unit beds, 56 acute adaptable beds and shell space for future growth.

The health care provider will relocate inpatient and outpatient services from their aging Trinity Health Livingston hospital in Howell, about 11 miles away. Construction manager Granger Construction, its subcontractors and building trades union workers are undertaking the building of the replacement hospital.

“We're doing well, we're on schedule, and the mild winter really helped us,” said Granger Senior Supt. Ryan Snellenberger. He said last month that about 100 hardhats are on site. “The trades have been good, and we're working in a tight labor market that's definitely been stressed.”

Trinity Health announced the construction of the new hospital in December 2022. Completion is expected in the spring of 2026. A two-story bridge will connect the old and new facilities.

“Adding inpatient care to our Brighton campus provides opportunities to integrate services (Continued on Page 2)



SANDING DRYWALL in the revamped portion of the existing Trinity Health-Brighton Medical Center is Braulio Galindo of Michigan Painters District Council Local 2353. He's employed by ACP.



GETTING READY TO SET a 12-inch chilled water Victaulic fitting at the Trinity Health-Brighton Medical Center are pipe fitters Rhett Lowe (Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 333) and William Thomas (Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 190). They're employed by John E. Green.

## Easy win at VW plant earns UAW historic foothold in the South

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. – In an historic victory for the UAW, an overwhelming majority of workers at the Volkswagen plant here voted for union representation on April 19.

It was a landslide victory: a 73 percent margin, 2,628-985 voted to be employed under a union contract. The successful UAW vote at the VW plant, which included 83.5 percent of the workers at the facility, marks the first time workers at an auto plant in the South have voted to unionize. The UAW had lost previous unionization votes at the same VW plant in 2014 and 2019.

“This is a movement for every blue-collar worker in America,” said Doug Snyder, a body worker at VW-Chattanooga. “Our vote shows that workers everywhere want a better life on and

“This is a movement for every blue-collar worker in America” –UAW supporter and VW employee Doug Snyder

off the job. Fair pay is important, but so is time with our families. So is a voice for safety in our plant. We're looking forward to getting to the bargaining table with the company and winning a contract that makes things right at Volkswagen.”

Numerous workers at the plant pointed to generous 25 percent pay and benefit increases won last fall by the UAW during bargaining with the Detroit Three automakers, and wondered why they shouldn't be treated the same.

“We saw the big contract that (Continued on Page 3)



UAW SUPPORTERS gather in Chattanooga a week before the union election at VW. Photo credit: UAW Volkswagen Local 42

## Unions are an ‘ugly reality’?

## Southern GOP governors pen extraordinary letter bashing UAW-VW campaign

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

These days, it's tough enough to organize a union in the South, or anywhere. But it doesn't get any easier when you have a group of state governors joining the anti-union chorus.

Three days before the historic vote to unionize the Volkswagen plant in Chattanooga, Tenn., Republican governors from the Volunteer State and five other Southern states tried to put their thumbs on the scale in an attempt to keep the UAW out of their backyards south of the Mason-Dixon Line. They all signed an extraordinary letter dated April 16 urging opposition to the UAW's organizing campaign.

But none of their scary rhetoric mattered to workers at the Volkswagen plant in Chattanooga, who voted in a nearly 3-1 margin to invite UAW representation. Those governors opened up the playbook used by union-busters everywhere,

pressing home fears that the auto companies with plants in their states – Mercedes Benz, Toyota, Nissan, KIA, among others – would relocate if a union were to win a union representation vote.

“We the governors of Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas are highly concerned about the unionization campaign driven by misinformation and scare tactics that the UAW has brought into our states,” their letter began. “As governors, we have a responsibility to our constituents to speak up when we see special interests looking to come into our state and threaten our jobs and the values we live by.”

The letter by the GOP governor raised eyebrows across the nation. An economist who has closely studied unionization in the South told *The Washington Post* that the collective statement was “unprecedented and shocking,” adding that it discouraged workers from exercising their legal (Continued on Page 3)

## Unions laud three new pro-worker federal rules

(From Press Associates International union news service)

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Union leaders cheered – and corporate-backed congressional Republicans slammed – three new Biden Administration decisions to help workers and consumers.

With deadlines for announcing new federal rules looming, the Labor Department issued the new pro-worker rules. One orders investment managers for pension plans to put recipients, not themselves, as the top priority. Another

dramatically opens up worker eligibility for overtime pay. The third rule stops non-sensical non-compete clauses in workers' employment agreements – which apply in some cases even to workers who toil for minimum wage in jobs like retail or fast food.

Here are the details of the new pro-worker rules:

•“Expansion of the federal overtime rule will help millions more workers earn the pay they deserve,” said AFSCME President Lee Saunders. “Some public

service workers—including those in child welfare, mental health and substance abuse counseling—have been ineligible for overtime pay despite modest wages and the long hours they put in at essential jobs,” he explained.

Effective Jan. 1, the Labor Department's new OT pay rule will lift to \$58,656 annually the amount of money a worker can earn before becoming ineligible for overtime pay. The rule opens overtime pay eligibility to about 4.3 million workers. The current

annual eligibility level for OT pay is limited to workers earning less than \$43,888.

The overtime pay threshold will be tied to inflation and raised every three years. Biden's DOL is also tightening up the definition of which workers are “executive, administrative or professional” and thus not covered by the overtime pay rule, no matter how much – or how little – they earned. Under prior Republican regimes, even low-level workers, such as fast food “shift leaders,”

were considered “managers” and thus couldn't get overtime pay.

“The Department of Labor is ensuring lower-paid salaried workers receive their hard-earned pay or get much-deserved time back with their families,” said Wage and Hour Administrator Jessica Looman. “This rule establishes clear, predictable guidance for employers on how to pay employees for overtime hours and provides more economic security to the millions of people working (Continued on Page 10)



# BUILDING MICHIGAN: AutoWorld. Sigh. HISTORY IN THE MAKING

By Marty Mulcahy



FLINT'S AUTOWORLD is shown under construction on Aug. 15, 1983. The prominent, 300-foot-diameter geodesic dome housed a huge array of attractions – so much of an assortment that it wasn't clear if Autoworld was a museum or a theme park. Weak attendance led investors to cut their losses and they initially closed the site less than a year after it opened. Photo credits: Water-Winter Wonderland

Oh, AutoWorld. To wishful thinkers, you seemed like a good idea when you opened in Flint in 1984. Conceptually, maybe you temporarily filled a void in Michigan, which continues to lack a central place where visitors and tourists can go to appreciate, celebrate and understand the impact of the automotive industry on the world. (The Henry Ford in Dearborn features much more than vehicles). But realists, like former GM Chairman Roger Smith, futilely asked as plans for AutoWorld were being finalized, "What can I do to stop it?" In the end, Flint's short-lived Six Flags AutoWorld tried and failed, miserably – and offers a few lessons of how not to attract tourists or to celebrate the automobile.

"Fun stuff! Scary stuff! Indescribable stuff!" – a 1984 TV advertisement for Six Flags AutoWorld may as well have been describing the decisions that went into spending \$70 million – half of which was public money – on building "the largest enclosed theme park in the world" in Flint, Michigan," says the Center for Economic Accountability.

"AutoWorld was an attempt to leverage Flint's history as one of the most important cities in the history of the American auto industry into creating an attraction that would create jobs and lure visitors to the city after that auto industry had largely left. It was, as is common for so many giant economic development boondoggles, the result of well-intentioned leaders from business, government and nonprofits coming together with the help of expensive consultants to create a comprehensive master plan that would go on to be an utter failure."

The 25-acre site chosen for AutoWorld near downtown was north of the Flint River at Harrison Street near Saginaw Street. Following the construction of the complex under the leadership of Detroit-based construction manager Darin and Armstrong, Six Flags AutoWorld indoor theme park opened as a tourist destination on July 4, 1984, with glowing national print and television coverage.

Then-Gov. Jim Blanchard predicted it would trigger "the rebirth of the great city of Flint." It didn't. Autoworld closed for the first time six months later, and subsequent efforts to re-establish it failed, despite spending \$2 million for additional attractions. It shut down for good in 1994, and the complex was demolished in 1997.

So what went wrong? The process of building it stemmed from about 15 years of wishful, wrong-headed thinking and planning by city leaders and local Mott Foundation purseholders. During the 1960s and 70s, building what AutoWorld eventually became was part of Flint's overall downtown redevelopment plan. But the place never answered one basic question: was AutoWorld a museum or a theme park? It turned out to be both, and it didn't do either very well.

"Over a decade of development by a parade of consultants who pushed the city almost exclusively towards a theme park morphed the humble dream of a science museum into something unrecognizable," wrote Erin Marquis in a 2022 article



LOCATED NEAR the Flint River, the ill-fated AutoWorld is shown in 1983 under construction. In addition to the new dome, Autoworld incorporated the Industrial Mutual Association Auditorium (1929) nearer the river. The auditorium was established by auto manufacturers in the Flint area, offering workers recreational and educational activity space. It was demolished along with the rest of the AutoWorld site in 1997.

for Jalopnik. "The initial cost estimate started at \$60 million in 1977, and then to \$80 million by 1984.

When the project was approved, a 1982 prospectus by architect Randall Duell Associates describing what AutoWorld would look like hammered home how much of a mish-mash the all-indoors project would be. "What Is AutoWorld? AutoWorld has audio-animatronics, it has Indians, waterfalls, log jams, log cabins, forests, historical perspective, crafts, restaurants, a saw mill, fine dining and evening allure, shops, snack bars, theaters, a re-creation of Flint's old Saginaw Street, a general store, a carousel, bumper cars, remote control race cars, a gigantic three-story tall V-6 engine, an electrifying exploration of the industry's technology today – new technology.

"AutoWorld has arcade games, auto art, exhibitory, games, a collection of automobiles, carriages, carts and bicycles, a library and archives, live theater, an awesome IMAX movie, fantasia of the future, a moving sidewalk history of the assembly line, impertinent mechanical horses, monkeys, damsels in distress, menacing mechanical chickens, inventions of all sorts, pioneers, and even an automobile show from the next century, the great races of all time and a gallery of racing greats."

Whew. That's a theme park with a lot of themes.

The Charles H. Mott Foundation, which today is still a



INSIDE THE AUTOWORLD Dome, there were cars on display, yes, but all manner of non-auto-related attractions, too. AutoWorld expected to attract 900,000 visitors per year (at \$8.98 a head) from Michigan and surrounding states, but those expectations proved way too rosy.

## Southern GOP governors pen extraordinary anti-union letter

(Continued from Page 1) right to organize. "It implies that the governors fear that the UAW will prevail in the upcoming union recognition election and that UAW success could upend their economic models built on relatively low pay and minimal worker voice," wrote Stephen Silvia, a professor at American University.

The governors' letter, which proved fruitless, continued, describing unions as an "ugly reality": "The reality is companies have choices when it comes to where to invest and bring jobs and opportunity. We have worked tirelessly on behalf of our constituents to bring good-paying jobs to our states. These jobs have become part of the fabric of the automotive manufacturing industry. Unionization would certainly put our states' jobs in jeopardy – in fact, in this year already, all of the UAW automakers have announced layoffs.

"In America, we respect our workforce and we do not need to pay a third party to tell us who can pick up a box or flip a switch. No one wants to hear this, but it's the ugly reality. We've seen it play out this way every single time a foreign automaker plant has been unionized; not one of those plants remains in operation. And we are seeing it in the fallout of the Detroit Three strike with those automakers rethinking investments and cutting jobs. Putting businesses in our states in that position is the last thing we want to do.

"The experience in our states is when employees have a direct relationship with their employers, that makes for a more positive working environment. They can advocate for themselves and what is important to them without outside influence. The UAW has come in making big promises to our constituents that they can't deliver on. And we have serious reservations that the UAW leadership can represent our values. They proudly call themselves democratic socialists and seem more focused on helping President Biden get reelected than on the autoworker jobs being cut at plants they already represent.

"We want to keep good paying jobs and continue to grow the American auto manufacturing sector here. A successful unionization drive will stop this growth in its tracks, to the detriment of American workers."

All of the letter's signatories included: Gov. Kay Ivey (R-Ala.), Gov. Brian Kemp (R-Ga.), Gov. Tate Reeves (R-Miss.), Gov. Henry McMaster (R-S.C.), Gov. Bill Lee (R-Tenn.), and Gov. Greg Abbott (R-Tex.).

UAW President Shawn Fain responded that the governors were using "misinformation and scare tactics" to sway workers. The governors, he said, "are showing that they're just puppets for corporate America, and they don't give a damn about working-class people. They don't care about the workers being left behind even though the workers are the ones who elect them."

President Joe Biden also chimed in on the governors' letter. "Let me be clear to the Republican governors that tried to undermine this vote: there is nothing to fear from American workers using their voice and their legal right to form a union if they so choose."

Not all Southern governors are anti-union. Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear, a Democrat, pointed out that unions have raised workers' standard of living. The UAW is attempting to organize plants across the South, including the Toyota factory in Georgetown, Ky. Beshear said he is "proud to stand shoulder-to-shoulder" with the UAW.

## Easy win at VW plant earns UAW historic foothold in the South

(Continued from Page 1) UAW workers won at the Big Three and that got everybody talking," said Zachary Costello, a trainer in VW's proficiency room. "You see the pay, the benefits, the rights UAW members have on the job, and you see how that would change your life. That's why we voted overwhelmingly for the union. Once people see the difference a union makes, there's no way to stop them."

The UAW is trying to build on the momentum of the Detroit contracts hammered out last fall, as well as the success in Chattanooga, to organize other nonunion auto plants in the South. Old-line unions like the UAW are joining nascent unions in other lines of work like Starbucks Workers United and Fast Food Workers United to improve workers' standard of living through union representation.

Last year, labor unions reached their highest level of approval among the American public since 1965. U.S. union activity has seen a marked increase in recent years, but most labor actions to gain collective bargaining contracts have involved relatively small groups of workers. The UAW's VW win is significant not only for the high number of workers green-lighting the union, but the fact that the win came in a bright-red, right-to-work state.

President Joe Biden congratulated the Volkswagen workers. "I was proud to stand along-side auto workers in their successful fight for record contracts, and I am proud to stand with auto workers now as they successfully organize at Volkswagen," Biden

said. "Across the country, union members have logged major wins and large raises, including auto workers, actors, port workers, Teamsters, writers, warehouse and health care workers, and more.

"Together, these union wins have helped raise wages and demonstrate once again that the middle-class built America and that unions are still building and expanding the middle class for all workers."

The Chattanooga plant is the only one in VW's worldwide fleet that is nonunion. The next step for workers at the plant is certification of the vote by the National Labor Relations Board, and then collective bargaining.

"We congratulate the Volkswagen workers, our UAW family and UAW President Shawn Fain for this monumental victory in Chattanooga," said AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler. "The victory at Volkswagen's plant in Tennessee marks a historic milestone for workers across the state and the broader South. Led by a diverse coalition of young activists, this triumph challenges outdated labor laws and sets new standards for collective bargaining power.

"It symbolizes a shift away from the old economic model that prioritizes the profits of big corporations to a new era where working people have the power to shape our futures.

"By securing fair wages, benefits and workplace protections, Chattanooga VW workers are not only improving their own lives but also raising the bar for working people across the southern region."

## Biden gets endorsement at building trades confab

(Continued from Page 1)

"specifically the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the Chips and Science Act, and the Inflation Reduction Act have brought life-changing, opportunity-creating, generational change focused on the working men and women of this great country who have for far too long been clamoring for a leader to finally keep their word," McGarvey said. "His regulatory actions to protect and uplift working families, strengthening Davis-Bacon prevailing wage protections, his independent contractor rule fighting worker misclassification, and repealing the disastrous and misguided IRAPs, are wins for workers, fair and honest contractors, and American taxpayers."

Compare and contrast McGarvey's comments with those he made to TV cameras outside the White House in January 2017, a few days after President Trump was sworn into office. With a coterie of building trades union presidents behind him, McGarvey said they had just met Trump in the Oval Office, and then lauded the new president for his commitment to building trades union issues, especially promising passage of an infrastructure package.

"We probably had the most incredible meeting of our ca-

reers with the president, the vice president and his senior staff," McGarvey said to the cameras. "When the president laid out his plans about how he's going to handle trade, about how he's going to handle infrastructure, and how he's going to level the playing field for construction workers and all Americans across this country. The respect that the president showed us, and when he shows it to us, he shows it to 3 million of our members. It was nothing short of incredible."

Seven years later, McGarvey looked back with disgust at those statements.

"When Trump was elected, we took him at his word that he would have a worker-centered agenda and deliver on long-stalled issues such as infrastructure investment. Instead of delivering, he aligned himself with his billionaire buddies to enact tax cuts that raised costs for our members. Simply put, he failed to deliver. Given our experience and knowing his track record the choice is clear.

"Joe Biden has proven to be the perfect leader at the perfect time for this country and the working men and women who have built it. NABTU is proud to endorse the clear and only choice for President of the United States, Joe Biden."

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# IBEW LOCAL 58



IBEW 58

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

In accordance with the By-laws of Local 58 and the IBEW Constitution, there will be a **Special Order of Business** at the regular membership meeting to be held on: **TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2024 @ 6:30 PM, 1358 Abbott Street, Detroit (local Union Hall),** for nomination of Officers for Local Union No. 58.

**BLOOD DRIVE:** Our next Blood Drive will be Tuesday, May 21 from 2-7 pm in the basement classrooms at the Union Hall. Please schedule your appointment today at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and enter sponsor code (ibew58), or call 1-800-RED CROSS. (1-800-733-2767) Appointments honored, walk-ins welcome as space permits. Save up to 15 minutes by visiting Red-CrossBlood.org/RapidPass, to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

**Electrical Industry Training Center** is offering Continuing Education classes Please check them out at <http://www.detroit-etc.org/continuing-education/>. If you need assistance in registering for a class, please call the Training Center at 586-751-6600.

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

**IBEW Local 58 Brick Pavers**- are available for purchase, if you would like to purchase a brick, please contact the Union Hall for an Order Form. 7x9 brick pavers can have up to 6 lines of lettering and 17 spaces per line. \$100 Donation per Brick. NOTE: No symbols or clipart can be added to brick pavers. To purchase or for questions about the brick pavers contact Stacy at the Union Hall 313-963-2130, ext. 3015.

**Local 58 Dues Department** – Look at your Dues Receipt – if your paid-through date shows 09-30-2023, you have lapsed and need to call the hall to set up an appointment for the Executive Board to be reinstated. If your dues receipt is 3-30-2024 you owe the \$30 reinstatement fee and will lapse the end of 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter if dues are not paid. It is Your responsibility to pay your dues on time – this could affect your retirement and death benefit. You can pay on the APP/Website, send a check, or call and pay over the phone. We ask that you keep the Local up to date with your address, email, and phone no. Thank you.

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

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

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

**EWMC of Southeastern MI** – The next chapter meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 20 at 6pm. This will be an in-person meeting with a ZOOM option. Please make sure your cell phone number and your email

address are up to date. The meeting information will be sent out as soon as available.

Thank you to everyone who came out to our Member Appreciation Get Together at Five Iron Golf. A great time was had by all at this show of appreciation for our members and volunteers who always step up to the task.

The DPSCD March Reading month video has been completed and posted for all to see. Thanks again for all of your submissions. We have a lot of events and projects on the horizon this year and we need all hands-on deck. Tickets are available for our quilt raffle. We need to do sales on the jobsite and at the membership meeting on Tuesday, May 21. The Casino Night set for Saturday, July 27, has to be postponed due to the building renovations. More details to come. Volunteers will be needed as we continue with our efforts.

**The RENEW Committee meeting** will be on Tuesday, May 28 2024, at 5:00 PM.

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

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

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

**Local 58's Women's Committee-** Our next meeting will take place on May 23, 5:30pm at the Hall and also on Zoom. If you have questions, please contact Committee Chair Angela Panicucci (586-291-8014) or Co-chair Liz Gorski (586-921-3087), Email at [58womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org](mailto:58womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org)

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

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

**Wremen's Golf Association (WGA) Members:** This year the 2024 Wremen's Golf Association Tournament will be hosted by Local 8, Toledo, OH on Aug. 13-16, with the optional scramble being held on Tuesday Aug. 13. The golf courses being utilized for the tournament this year are Carrington Golf Club (Monroe, MI), Giant Oak Golf Club (Temperance, MI), Maumee Bay State Park Golf Course (Oregon, OH) and the optional scramble at Brandywine Country Club (Maumee, OH). The host hotel/tournament headquarters for this year is the Renaissance Toledo Downtown Hotel, 444 N. Summit St., Toledo, Ohio. Phone no. to the hotel is: 419.244.2444.

There will be a meeting at the Local 58 Union Hall in the basement classroom on Thursday May 2 at 6 PM regarding the Tournament. Entry fees (\$250 per man for the Tournament and \$75 per man for the optional scramble) will be collected and Tournament information will be available at this time. They are anticipating a large showing in Toledo so it will be imperative to have your entry money for the tournament turned in ASAP this year.

**All monies must be received by June 1.** If you are mailing your payment, mail to: Ron Krajenke, 20244 Edinberg Dr., Macomb, MI 48044. Your entry fee must be RECEIVED before June 1 – if you do not have your entry fee taken care of by that date you will not have a spot in this year's tournament – no exceptions. Any WGA member who is planning on participating in the 2024 Tournament or anyone looking for information or to join the WGA this year should plan on attending this very important meeting.

If you have any questions call Ron Krajenke at 313-475-0487 or Brad Garrity at 313-850-1837.

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

**IBEW LOCAL 58 Retirees Association:** We have no board meeting or luncheon in May because of Memorial Day. Our June Board meeting is Wednesday, June 12 in the main conference room at the union hall starting at 10 a.m. Our downstairs room is being occupied by the Contractors that are on board performing the work for the new addition on the back of the union hall. Mark your calendars now for the June Luncheon, which is at Corsi's Banquet Center in Livonia, on Wednesday June 26, 2024, doors open at 11 and lunch is served at 12:30, send your reservations with a check (made payable to the Retirees Association) for \$25 to IBEW #58, Attention Retirees, P.O. Box 32756, Detroit MI 48232-0756, for questions call Elaine Crawford at 313 408-5885. At our June Board meeting we are having Election of Officers. If you are interested in running for an officer position, please attend the Meeting on June 12, 2024. If you choose to run, joining the board would be expected.

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

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

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

**Electrical Workers Credit Union** – Our website is <http://www.EWCU.NET> (313) 963-6060. In the market for a loan? Check out our low rates! New auto as low as 5.9%. Give us a call today to find out how to apply or go online at <http://www.ewcu.net>. Who's your Beneficiary? Here are some tips to help make sure your account is up to date with us. Review your beneficiaries periodically, especially if a life change occurs. Be sure the wording is correct, especially if you name more than one beneficiary. Give us a call and we can check who you have listed. State of Michigan Escheat Law: **(Continued next column)**



**INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS BAY CITY MICHIGAN**

**IBEW 692**  
**BAY CITY – Union Meeting.** The May monthly membership meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> 2024.**

**Executive Board Meeting.** The May Meeting will be held at 6 P.M. on **Monday, May 20, 2024.**

**Message from the Business Manager.** As many of you may have heard by now, Training Director Steve Pahl has resigned from his position and has taken new employment elsewhere. This was tough news for me to hear when Steve made this decision. Although it leaves a huge hole in our apprenticeship program due to the enormous impact Steve made on so many of our Apprentices lives, we wish him nothing but the best of luck moving forward.

As for now, the Bay City JATC apprenticeship committee has named Casey Stoike the Interim Training Director. As many of you are aware, Casey has been an Instructor over at our JATC the last few years. I know Casey does an exceptional job with all of our apprentices. With all this being said, it was decided by the JATC Committee to open up the application process for the Position of Training Director. If you or someone you know has interest in this position, please reach out to myself at the hall (989) 684-4510 and I can give you more details about the application process.

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

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

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

-Nelson Electric (Currently) GM Powertrain

-J. Ranck Electric – continuing work at SK Siltron semi-conductor chip manufacturing facility. Another \$560 Million was allocated by the Biden administration to SK. This phase should begin early fall.

-Master Electric continues Electrical installations on the new Isabella County Jail. More calls for this project are expected. Master also has projects at the Midland Armory and Midland ESA for this summer.

-Countyline has secured Airport Work. Countyline has a Michigan Sugar De-Sugarization Project and also a project at the Mt. Pleasant Water Treatment facility.

-Clements Electric Independence Bridge work continues along with Bay Carbon Project, and also work out to the Bay City State Park. Clements has also secured the next phase of work out to Mersen. Work on the 7 Mile grow for Clements Electric should resume any day.

-Conti Electric has many projects

## Local 58, con't

The law states that any deposit account with no activity for 3 years must be turned over to the State. What can you do? Contact us today to find out your account status. Conduct a transaction by either deposit or withdraw (any amount). Close account.

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

**IBEW Pension:** Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: Jeffrey Bolen, Timothy Chase, Robert Coulston Jr., Alan Danowski, Dominic Palazzola, Glenn Polt, Joseph Rumph, Timothy Stutterheim, and Nicholas Taylor.

**Members that have Passed Away:** Jim Chase, Former Assistant Manager of Southeastern Michigan/NECA; Phyllis Parrish, Wife to Pension member Robert Parrish; Roger Ryan Father to JIW Lorie Leonetti and Father-in-law to JIW Vencent Leonetti; Amos Williams, Father to Technician I Anwar Williams. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss.

coworkers to let them know how your life has improved. Let's do our best to not leave any potential members behind.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**2024 Dues (January 2024 thru June 2024): \$45.20 Monthly**  
**2024 Dues (July 2024 thru Dec. 2024): \$46.20 Monthly**

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

**Retirees Lunch.** The May retiree lunch is scheduled for 1:00 P.M. on Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at Mulligans Pub, located at 109 Center Avenue in Bay City.

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



FINISHING drywall in an area of the existing hospital at Trinity Health-Brighton is Francisco Galindo of Michigan Painters District Council Local 514. He's employed by ACP.



## IBEW Local 275

### IBEW Local 275

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

The next code update will be on Saturday, May 18th at 8:00 am-3:30pm. The cost for members is \$20. There is an online version available for \$40. To register for this class and/or to keep an eye out for future classes go to the JATC website at [www.ijatc.org](http://www.ijatc.org) and click the Code Update Course link. Please get this done early in the year as classes will be limited in the fall.

If anyone is interested in upcoming volunteer opportunities, the Annual Postal Workers Food Drive is on Saturday, May 11th in Muskegon. Please reach out to Walter at the Union Hall if you'd like to volunteer. This event will qualify for community service credits and volunteer reward points.

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

Local 275 will be hosting a Euchre Tournament on May 18 at

the hall. Money raised will go to our annual picnic and will have prizes for winners as well! Please look for more information on this in the coming weeks.

At the time of this writ-

ing the following members are three months or more behind on dues: Craig Holcom, and Steven Shields. Please make every effort to get caught up with your dues as soon as you can.



### Generations of Big Red footballers

A SPECIAL EVENT in February was held at the Seminole Shores Assisted Living Home in Muskegon and honored 95-year-old Bob Harkness, a retired member of IBEW Local 275. Seminole Shores and Bob's family, together with the Muskegon Big Red 2023 state championship football team, honored Bob who graduated from Muskegon High School in 1947 and has been an avid supporter of the football program ever since. Also, it just so happened that another retiree, Steve Marshall, had two grandsons who started on this championship team, and they also attended. Seminole Shores provided the refreshments, food, and venue for this. Several Big Red football players along with their line coach, Matt Bolles, presented Bob with a Big Red hat and three different game jerseys. An emotional Bob humbly received these gifts. The jerseys each had the No. 77 on them as that represented the number of years since Bob graduated from Muskegon. Bob's family was as pleased and emotional as he was. All in all, it was a wonderful time, and a big thank you for this celebration for Bob goes out to Seminole Shores and the Muskegon coaching staff and team. It should be noted that the Big Red players are champions not only on the field but off the field as well. Pictured (l-r) are Coach Bolles, Miguel Botello, Ni-Ki Wynn, Ernesto Botello and seated, Bob Harkness.



BENDING A SECTION of conduit while working at the Trinity Health-Brighton hospital project is Evan Olds of IBEW Local 58. He's employed by Centerline Electric.

# Unions laud pro-worker rules

(Continued from Page 1) long hours without overtime pay.”

Said AFSCME's Saunders: “This rule will fix those loopholes, so more people who spent their careers supporting their communities will now be in a better position to support their families.”

**\*Non-competes:** the Federal Trade Commission banned new non-compete agreements nationwide, with exceptions only for existing non-competes for senior executives. And when those agreements lapse, even their successors will be free from non-competes, FTC Chair Lena Khan announced. Many of the non-compete clauses for workers were ridiculous, and included employment requirements signed by fast food workers, who leave their job but can be prohibited to work for competitors for a period of time.

Khan said the new rules will let workers switch jobs to get higher pay without fear of being sued by former bosses. Non-competes now reduce workers' value

to prospective employers and hamper job hunts. The FTC calculated the end of non-competes will, over time, put an additional \$53.29 billion into 101 million workers' pockets.

**\*Putting pension power to work:** The Biden Administration announced that public pension funds holding more than \$1 trillion in assets, combined, must follow pro-worker rules, including company neutrality in union organizing drives, when deciding where to invest their money.

“Every American deserves the right to retire with security, dignity and grace, but far too often their financial future is jeopardized by advisers who put their own interests above those of their clients,” said American Federation of Teachers President Randi Weingarten. “Money that could be growing retirees' nest eggs is lost forever – and it is middle-class savers who are punished the most. That charade stops today.”

Curbing pension fiduciaries drew high praise from union lead-

ers, and high flak from Louisiana Sen. Bill Cassidy, the top Senate Labor Committee Republican, and from House Education and the Workforce Committee Chair Virginia Foxx, R-N.C., a notorious anti-union lawmaker.

Cassidy said the new rule would hurt low- and middle-income people because the investment advisers would limit their choices for investing their pensions. “This policy imposes burdensome regulations that restrict investing opportunities,” he said. Foxx called the new rule “shameful,” and pointed out that federal courts bounced a similar Obama Administration predecessor. She also alleged it “infringes on the jurisdiction of state regulators,” conveniently overlooking that the financial lobby is adept at capturing those regulators.

Acting Labor Secretary Julie Su said the new fiduciary rule, which takes effect in late September, protects workers, their families and unions “from improper investment recommendations and harmful conflicts of interest.”



### Michigan Painters District Council

Painters District Council 1M WARREN – Dear Members, DC1M WEBSITE: [www.iupat-dc1michigan.org](http://www.iupat-dc1michigan.org)

DC 1M UNION CARDS\*

Any questions regarding a lost, damaged Union cards, or if you have dues inquiries or have not received a card please contact the DC1M offices at: Warren Office: (586)552-4474 extension 100  
Freeland Office: (989) 695-6888  
PAINTERS DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M SMART PHONE APP

Painters District Council 1M is pleased to announce its new APP. For IPHONE go to IOS store,

For ANDROID go to Google Playstore

Search for “Painters and Allied Trades” download APP Username: your member id#

Password: painters  
With this APP you can access

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

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

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

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

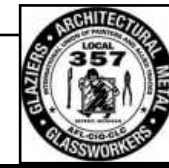
Sign up for these classes by email to [dot@iupatdc1m.org](mailto:dot@iupatdc1m.org) or call Director Shawn Oneill at (517)304-4425.

GET INVOLVED AND PARTICIPATE IN YOUR UNION!

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

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

Get involved. Work smart. Work safe.



### Glaziers & Glassworkers Local 357

**Glaziers & Glassworkers 357**  
WARREN – Our next regularly union meeting will be Monday, June 3, at 6pm. Please make every effort to attend. IUPAT DC1M Union Hall, 14587 Barber Ave, Warren Michigan 48088.

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

The IUPAT has a new app that you can download. It's called IUPAT Mobile Member Portal.

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

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

Dues payments may be mailed to the Union Office at 14587 Barber Avenue, Warren, MI 48088. Make checks payable to: **DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M** in care of Glassworkers No. 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 48098-0666; phone number: 248-641-4957; fax 248-813-9898.

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



### District Council 1M

**Business Manager:** Robert Gonzalez

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

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

### Local Union 312

**Business Rep:** Tim Schwerin

**Meeting date:** 2nd Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

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

### Local Union 514

**Business Rep:** Scott Mikulen

**Meeting dates:** 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m.

**Place:** 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI.

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

### Local Union 826

**Business Rep:** Rocky Ackerman

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

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

### Local Union 845

**Business Rep** – Fred Frederickson

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

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

### Local Union 1052

**Business Rep** – Jake Fluty

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

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

### Local Union 1803

**Business Rep:** Josh Ovalle

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

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

### Local Union 2352

**Business Rep:** Jeremy Haviland

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

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

### Local Union 2353

**Business Rep:** Tony Parker

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

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



### Sign, Pictorial & Display Local 591

**Sign Pictorial & Display 591**  
WARREN – The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday June 4, at 6:30p.m. Trustees and union stewards meet at 6:20 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

*“Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome.”*

–Booker T. Washington (1856 - 1915)

*“You must not come lightly to the blank page.”*

–Stephen King (1947 - )



## Local 149 Roofers & Waterprooferers

### Roofers Local 149

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

**General Membership Meeting.** The general membership meeting is scheduled for Tues., May 7, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in addition to the membership meeting, during the session we will have some contract information after our first day of negotiating.

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

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

**Condolences.** It is with great sadness and heavy hearts that

we inform you of the passing of Brother Aaron “Red” Mach. Brother Mach was 51 years old and a 31-year member. Brother Mach passed on 4/17/2024. Rest in Peace Brother Mach, thank you for your years of service.

**Negotiating Committee-Ratification/Informational meetings.** Meetings will be scheduled on May 18, 25, and June 1, 2024, at 9 am, at the Detroit Teamsters Hall, 2801 Trumbull, Detroit, MI 48216

**Are you interested in sitting on the Pension or Health and Welfare Committee?** The search for a Health and Welfare Trustee and Pension Trustee is coming. Nominations are being taken Tuesday, June 4, 2024, at the Membership Meeting.

Are you a strong advocate for yourself and your fellow 149 members? Have you ever considered being a part of your Union's Pension or Health and Welfare Committee?

In order to stand for election, you need to be a Journeyworker in good standing and you must be nominated by another member in good standing at the general membership meeting on Tuesday, June 4, 2024, or in writing via a nomination acceptance letter addressed to the Recording Secretary by Monday, June 3, 2024, at 5 pm.

**Vacation and Holiday Check Direct Deposit.** Members have the option to have their Vacation and Holiday check directly deposited in their bank account. This includes all contracted areas. To get your Vacation check direct deposited, members will need to complete a direct deposit agreement. The form will be available at the Detroit and Mid-Michigan Union Hall.

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

Dues must be current to enter the Training Center.

If you are interested in any of these classes, contact the Training Center, 248-543-3847.

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

**Outdoor Life.** If you have any hunting and fishing pictures that you would like to see in the Journeyman Roofing & Waterproofing magazine, please contact the Union Hall at 313.961.6093 ext. 0, for additional information.

**MID-MICHIGAN AREA – Clio Office.** The Mid-Michigan informational meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2024, at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420. At the April 9, 2024, meeting, we will be voting on administering the \$3.00 raise. The polls open at 5:00pm.

The proposals are as followed.

P-1 - \$1.87 on the check, \$0.10 H&W, \$0.90 Pension, \$0.10 Working Dues, \$0.03 Ed. Res.

P-2 - \$2.94 on the check, \$0.03 Working Dues, \$0.03 Ed. Res.

**Notice.** When contractors call the Union Hall for help, we need to know who is available, and have an up-to-date phone number. All Mid-Michigan Area members who are out of work need to call the Hall at (810) 687-1368 to be put on the out of work list.

The publication above is as 4/29/2024, 2:00p.m.

– In Solidarity, Brian Gregg

Business Manager, Roofers & Waterprooferers Local No. 149



## Local 25 Heat and Frost Insulators

Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25

**SOUTHFIELD – SPECIAL CALLED MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, May 9, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge Street, Southfield, MI 48033. This meeting is SPECIAL CALLED

for allocations. This meeting is **MANDATORY** for all apprentices.

**INSTRUCTORS NEEDED:** The JATC is in need of 2 instructors, one full time the other part time.

If interested, please submit a resume to [curtmcglone25@aol.com](mailto:curtmcglone25@aol.com). Please contact JATC Administrator Curt McGlone or Apprentice Coordinator Martin Allen should you have any questions regarding the positions.

**SUB FUND BENEFIT:** Please be reminded, documentation for SUB Fund benefits must be received by 2:00 p.m. Thursday to receive a benefit check on Friday.

Any documentation submitted after the deadline will be issued the following Friday.

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

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

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

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

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

**NOTICE TO ALL:** When you move into the Medicare Advantage Program, your deductible balance for the year, is supposed to carry over. Whatever you have paid toward your annual deductible, prior to changing over to Medicare Advantage Program, should follow you.

As with any system, there can be flaws. Please keep an eye out for any charges, related to your deductible balance not being carried over, when you move into the Medicare Advantage Program. If you receive a charge that should have been covered by your deductible, please contact the Fund Office.

**BENESYS:** When calling the Fund Office, Benesys, please be sure to **get the name of the person providing you information.** Lately, we have been experiencing some incorrect information being provided to our members.

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

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



## Local 47 Heat and Frost Insulators

Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 47

**LANSING – The next Special Called Meeting will be held on Friday, May 10, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.,** and it will be held at New J.A.T.C. Training Center, located at 16475 Ingersoll Rd., Lansing, MI 48906. Please make note of the new Location for the Union Meeting. The purpose of this meeting is for the Distribution of wages. Please note this is a Mandatory Meeting for ALL Apprentices.

To ensure all Active Members and Retirees are receiving their Robo calls please make sure you have not blocked the following number: (804) 441-8365. There are several members who have the number blocked and therefore are not receiving the Robo Calls.

These calls are only used for Important Notifications from the Local Union Business Manager and Funeral Notifications. If you are not receiving these calls, please contact the Local Union Office and we will double check to make sure we have the correct number in the system or if you may have blocked the number.

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

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

Local 47 will be hosting our Annual Picnic on Saturday, June 8, 2024 at Fitzgerald Park, Site 5, and invites have been mailed out. Please mail in your RSVP as soon as possible so we can have a proper headcount to make arrangements. If you have not received your invite please contact the Union Office to let us know how many will be attending from your Party.

This is open for families. The Union Meeting will start at 11:00 a.m., and the awards announcements will be held immediately following the meeting, then lunch will be served. The address for Fitzgerald Park is: 133 Fitzgerald Park, Grand Ledge, MI 48837. Please do not wait until the last minute to mail in your RSVP.

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

The JATC is looking to Hire additional Instructors. If you are interested in becoming an Instructor please mail in a letter stating why you would like to become and Instructor. If you have any questions please contact the Union Office.

Per the Rules and Procedures:

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

Members must notify the office before ANY overtime is worked.

Pension and Health Welfare: Joshua Kroell (989) 385-2671.

Allied Workers' Local 47 Fringe Benefit Funds, 6525 Centurion Drive, Lansing, MI 48917-9275. Toll Free: (800) 323-8079

Telephone: (517) 321-7502

Fax: (517) 321-7508

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

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

Remember that Auto and

(Continued next column)



## LIUNA! LOCAL 1191

Feel the Power

Laborers Local 1191

(2161 West Grand Boulevard, Detroit, MI 48208)

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

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

**Monthly General Membership Meetings:** General Membership meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Local Union, located at 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208 (except for holidays). **The next General Membership Meeting will be held on the 7<sup>th</sup> of June, 2024.** **July's General Membership meeting will be held on the 13<sup>th</sup> of July, 2024.** **NOTE: There will be no Monthly Membership meeting held the week of July 1, 2024.**

**Monthly Retiree Council Meetings:** Retiree Council meetings are the last Friday of each month. The meetings are held at 11:00 am at the Local Union, located at 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208. **The next Retiree Council meeting will be held on the 31<sup>st</sup> of May, 2024.** **June's Retiree Council meeting will be held on the 28<sup>th</sup> of June, 2024.**

**Union Dues For 2024:** Regular monthly dues are \$35.00 for Active Members. Retiree monthly dues will remain the same \$8.00. Members can now Pay Dues online 24/7 on our website at [www.laborerslocal1191.org](http://www.laborerslocal1191.org)!!! To make online dues payments, click the "Pay Dues" tab in upper right-hand corner and follow the instructions.

**Important Notice Regarding Dues Payments:** According to the Uniform Local Union Constitution Article VIII sec. 4. The monthly dues are due on the first day of the month and unless paid on or before the last day of the following month, the member will be suspended by the International Union without notice. **To better serve our membership, the Local accepts in-person Cash, Credit and Debit payments.**

**Save Time & Money: We urge members to make their payments timely to avoid additional costs! Monthly dues can be deducted from your vacation check and sent directly to the Local Union.** Please stop by the Local Union office to get one of the "Vacation Monthly Dues Deduction" forms or you may call the Local Union office at (313)-894-2241 to have one mailed to you. **FYI: Members who sign up for Vacation deduction and pay (6) months at a time will receive a 1-month rebate!!!**

**New Projects:** Members are urged to report the start of any/all new projects to the Local Union. Members working for a contractor who may be looking to hire additional laborers are urged to call the Union Hall and help a brother or sister get referred out to work. The next time, it may be your name on the list when that call comes in for work.

**Referral List:** Every member who is looking for work must call or come to the Local Union Office on Mondays between 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm to put their name

## Local 47 cont'd

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

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

Please complete and return the working spousal forms to TIC.

JATC Coordinator Phil Wilson (616-466-8736)

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

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

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

on the Out-of-Work list. You must have an Out-of-Work skills sheet filled out and on file in order to be referred out for work by the Local Union. FYI: It is the Member's responsibility to regularly notify the Local Union of any changes to his/her skillsets. It could mean the difference of being sent to work or not!

**Roll Call: All members on the out-of-work list must re-register every quarter within the first (1<sup>st</sup>) five (5) days of the following months: March, June, September and December. Your failure to do so will result in your name being removed from the referral list.**

**\*Example:** If your name is on the list in April and May and you don't re-register by June 5<sup>th</sup> your name will be removed from the list.

**Drug Test Renewal: Members are reminded to keep your Yearly Drug Test current and also your 18 safety modules.** You can schedule an appointment to take your modules at our training schools located in Perry, Wayne, St. Joseph, or Iron Mountain by calling (517) 625-4919 or by visiting the training school website at [www.mltai.org](http://www.mltai.org) to schedule appointments for modules. You can also contact the Local Union office at (313) 894-2241 to use a Local Union computer to complete required modules.

**Training:** Check out the training classes available to you at no cost. Journeymen and Apprentices may still obtain training through MLTAI's online training at <https://lms.mltai.org>. Types of training you can take include, but are not limited to: OSHA 30, Asbestos Awareness, Silica Awareness, Infectious Disease Awareness, Respirator Awareness, Hazard Communication, Blood-borne Pathogens Awareness, and Lead Awareness. The above training and certifications are all available at the training center. **By taking the OSHA 30 your 18 MUST Safety modules are updated as well.** If you are not able to go to the Training Center for MUST Safety Modules contact the Local Union to assist you with making arrangements to complete them.

**MUST Safety Awareness Training:** Please check the MUST website at [www.mustsafe.com](http://www.mustsafe.com) to see how many modules you have.

**Beneficiary Reminder:** Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice on all of your LIUNA Local 1191, American Income Life, Accident Benefit, Pension and Healthcare fund documents. The law requires that in the event of an untimely death your benefits go to your estate and may be taxable if/when no beneficiary has been designated. **Each of the above individual benefits needs to have a designated beneficiary.**

**Death Certificates:** Please always submit to the Local Union a copy of a Death Certificate for deceased active or retired members. **FYI: The death certificate is required for any designated beneficiary to receive available benefits.**

**Available Scholarships:** LIUNA members can apply for scholarships for university, college, trade school and technical trainings through **Union Plus**. Learn more information about Union Plus scholarships at [www.unionplus.org/benefits/education/union-plus-scholarships](http://www.unionplus.org/benefits/education/union-plus-scholarships).

**IMPORTANT UNION BENEFIT CONTACT INFORMATION: Michigan Laborers' Fringe Benefits Funds (Annuity, Insurance, Pension)**  
\* Telephone: (877) 645-2267  
\* Fax: (517) 689-6016  
\* Website: [www.michiganlaborers.org](http://www.michiganlaborers.org)

\*Delta Dental: (800) 524-0149  
Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Pension)

\*Telephone: (248) 641-4942

\*Fax: (248) 813-9898

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Healthcare)

\*Telephone: (800) 228 0048

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' AND Michigan Laborers' Vacation Funds WPAS

\*Telephone: (833) 389-0025  
EXT. 3359

"Hegel was right when he said that we learn from history that man can never learn anything from history."

—George Bernard Shaw (1856 - 1950)



## Local 36 Elevator Constructors

Elevator Constructors Local 36

**DETROIT – ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED, Due to Memorial Day our May Membership Meeting will be CANCELLED.** Our next regular MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE June 24, 2024, AT 5:30pm at 1640 Porter Street, Detroit, MI. Any changes to this schedule or venue will be in the Building Trades Article or sent via email.

**Attention All Members,** this paper is to serve as official notice to the membership. This is how we get information out to all our members, as repetitive as it might be there is new information in each article, please read it carefully and call the hall or attend a union meeting if you have any questions.

We gave out Pins for Years of Service at the April 22, 2024 meeting. If you were unable to attend they are available at the hall.

We also had Aflac at the April meeting for supplemental insurance. If you are interested in signing up for this, contact the hall. I have sent an email with some information from their presentation.

If you are interested in volunteering to help with the picnic, contact **Jon Bujan @ (586) 787-1114. The picnic will be on July 27, 2024**

The warmer weather is upon us, stay hydrated, take breaks and be aware of the signs of dehydration and always, wear your PPE and follow company safety policies.

Anyone interested in attending **Tigers Union Night** on September 14, 2024 @ 6:10 pm, I sent an email with a sign-up sheet, fill out how many tickets you want and send it to the hall, or contact the hall.

There will be a Veteran's Day Parade on Sunday November 10, 2024, I will get more information out as it gets closer.

The International has set up The Veteran Assistance Program to help veterans navigate the VA benefits they deserve. The email is [vap@iucc.org](mailto:vap@iucc.org) or contact Jason Gray, IUCC National Organizer @ 404-290-1012 or Ryan Donnell, EIWP National Coordinator @ 410-312-1474.

If you are interested in volunteering to help with the Golf Outing, please contact **Justin Smith @ (248) 709-0341.** Golf outings, like the picnic, take a lot of time and effort to plan and execute, I would like to make this year one of our best outings. We plan on partnering with the New Hope Center for Grief Support who are affiliated with ASPF this year and for many years to come to raise money for this cause. This year's outing will be our first annual Kyle Owsley Golf Outing to raise money for New Hope. If you are a golfer or just want to help volunteer in any way, contact Justin Smith.

To all Mechanics and Temporary Mechanics doing testing in the State of Michigan and City of Detroit, keep good records of your tests. Take a picture/scan of your test forms, make sure you fill out only what you completed. DO NOT leave an unfinished form on a jobsite, or turned in an unfinished form to your company, if you don't finish a test or must come back, take the form with you.

I would like to encourage everyone to use Bill Pay through your bank to pay dues, it is a free service and can be set up for weekly, monthly, or quarterly. We have a few of our members that have already started this, and it seems to be working well. Please call the hall or contact your bank about how this works. If you start using Bill Pay, please let us know and we will call you when your first check arrives.

**If you move or your address changes, call the hall and make sure you fill out the address change form on the**

NEIBP website.

If you are going to be off with an injury (work related or non-work related), surgery or illness for a prolonged length of time, call the fund office and inform the hall. When you are off and go back to work.

If you are off for a work-related injury, there is a separate form you must fill out. Call the hall with any questions.

If you would like to sign up for Safety alerts, text (855) 957-1801 and sign up to receive Safety alerts via text and email.

If you start a new job in MOD/construction, you **MUST** call those jobs into the hall!!! If you are going to be working a 4/10 job in construction or MOD, it **MUST** be submitted in writing to the Local Business Representative per Article VII Par. 2A. and Article VIII(A) Par. 2A.

**Attention All Mechanics,** when filling out Probationary Apprentices OJTs, give them an honest evaluation, if you are having issues with them, state it on the OJTs. They will be evaluated at the JAC meeting, and if necessary, bring them in to try and correct any issues.

**Attention All Apprentices,** if you are scheduled to sit for the Mechanic's exam, you must fill out your OJTs till you get your passing results. Kenny and I would like to thank all of you for keeping up on your OJTs, schooling, and commitment to your future. Check your NEIBP emails frequently. OJT forms need to be filled out COMPLETELY by the 9<sup>th</sup> day of the following month. **There is NO excuse for these to be late!!!**

If you are eligible to sit for your State of Michigan or City of Detroit class A journeyman's license, study the code books and schedule a time to sit for them. If you pass your mechanic's exam and don't have your licenses you are not eligible to work in the State or City as a Mechanic without them. Getting your licenses and any certificates/training only makes you more valuable as an employee. If you need help with any part of the process, call the hall.

**Attention All Temporary Mechanics,** your Temporary Mechanic's Agreement **MUST** be signed by the end of each month at the Union meeting. If you can't make the Union meeting (for good reasons) to sign your agreement, then come down to the hall the NEXT MORNING. If we continue to have problems getting these signed, you will be called down in front of the Executive board. If you are put back to Apprentice status, your personal tools **MUST** be taken off the job and notify the hall.

**Attention All Retirees,** if you requested an Honorary Card and have not received it, please contact the Hall.

**If you are NOT receiving my emails, contact the Hall so I can get you on the email list.**

We would like to extend well wishes to all Brothers and Sisters on our sick list.

Be safe and stay healthy!

"We are generally the better persuaded by the reasons we discover ourselves than by those given to us by others."

—Blaise Pascal (1623-1662)

"While one person hesitates because he feels inferior, the other is busy making mistakes and becoming superior."

—Henry C. Link

"Our patience will achieve more than our force."

— Edmund Burke (1729 - 1797)

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## Local 292 Sheet Metal Workers

### Sheet Metal Workers Local 292

TROY – MEETING NOTICE: The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, **June 12, 2024, at 6:00 pm.**

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

The E-Board/Stewards meeting will be held on **May 28, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.** at the Union Hall.

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

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

**RETURN TO WORK BY NORMAL OR EARLY RETIREES:** Consistent with the actions of the Sheet Metal Workers' National Pension Fund, the Trustees of the Sheet Metal Workers Local No. 292 Pension Fund ("Fund") have decided to provide a limited waiver of the Fund's suspension of benefit rule from **March 22, 2023 through December 31, 2024** only, without limitation and without incurring a suspension of benefits then in pay status. This means that, during this period, if you are working as a sheet metal worker for an Employer that contributes to the Fund, you will receive your monthly pension benefits from the Fund no matter how many hours you work in any one month. **This waiver is based on the current demand for sheet metal workers and is not anticipated to be continued indefinitely.** Call Paul for more information or if interested.

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

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

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

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

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

**DUES:** Membership dues are required to be **paid in advance of the month for which they are due.** The union hall is not open on Saturday or Sunday, therefore, if you pay dues on either of those days, it will not be processed until Monday. If you are on suspension warning, your dues are **60 days late.**

To avoid suspension, dues must be paid online or at the union hall by **4:00 p.m.** on the last business day of the month. Payments received after **4:00 p.m.** on the last business day of the month will not be processed and you **WILL** go suspended.

**All members are responsible for making sure any required fees, i.e. late fees or service fees, are included if paying online (sheetmetal292.com).**

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

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

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

**\*\*\*NEW LOCATION\*\*\*** Madhouse Bar & Grill @ 12:30 pm, 32787 Stephenson Hwy., Madison Heights MI 48071. Located on Stephenson Hwy 1 block south of 14 Mile on the west side of the street.

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

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

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

**SUBSTANTIATION REQUEST:** Many members have been receiving Substantiation Request letters from the Local 292 Benefit Fund office. IRS regulations require that every use of the Benny Card be substantiated or validated as an eligible covered expense under the Plan. This validation is required by the IRS, the Fund cannot make exceptions.

It is the member's responsibility to ensure all requested documentation be returned to the Fund office in a timely manner. By not responding to the Substantiation Request letter, your Benny Card may be suspended until all requested documentation has been received. If you have any questions, contact BeneSys at 248.641.4992 or the Union Hall.

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

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

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

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

**Attention all Welders!** We are looking for any member interested in a Saturday welding class on May 4, May 11, & May 10.

These classes would be for members ready to obtain an AWS welding certification, learn how to weld, or need to practice welding.

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

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

*"Experience is a hard teacher because she gives the test first, the lesson afterwards."*

—Vernon Sanders Law



## Local 80 Sheet Metal Workers

### Sheet Metal Workers Local 80

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

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

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:** The next meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2024 at 5 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Southfield, MI.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE:** Neil Yagley, Jonathan Bourcier, Raymond Osborne, Allan Lewis Jr., Thomas Eckerle, Jared Miller, Theo Coatney, Caden Harris, Richard Anderson, Nick DelFavero, Brian Neuman, Todd Lesiak, Brandon Houle, Donald DLuge, Garry Sanchez, Mitchell Weir, Matthew Harding and Alexander Fiend.

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

**ADDRESS CHANGES:** If you have a new address please make sure to let the hall know. We will take care of your account with the union hall which includes the tradesman paper. You will need to call Benesys at 800-400-7710 and update your address with them as well. That is not done through the hall.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



## Local 7 Sheet Metal Workers

### Sheet Metal Workers Local 7

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

The next Statewide Meeting is June 13, 2024, at 6 p.m.

\*Zone 1 May 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 2 May 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 3 May 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. (Saginaw)

\*Zone 3 June 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)

\*Zone 4 May 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 5 June 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Please register on our website at [www.sheetmetal7.org](http://www.sheetmetal7.org) for the most up to date information on meeting schedules for 2024. Once you are registered it must be approved in order to be able to log on. Please contact your representative if you are having issues registering.

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

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

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

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

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

#### ZONE 1 Monthly Retiree Meetings:

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

2nd Tuesday of each month @ 1:00 pm located at Rocky Top 1900 Lansing Ave, Jackson, MI 49202

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

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

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

**ZONE 2 Info:** Work in Zone 2 remains the same and looks good thru the summer. Dues are always due prior to the first of the month. Keep me informed of any address or phone number changes. As always work safe. **In Solidarity, Mike Adams**

**ZONE 3 Info (Saginaw)** Thanks to everyone who was able to make it out for the ratification vote Saturday (it passed). Work should be picking up this month. Make sure you let the Lansing office or myself know if your phone number or address has changed. Remember to schedule your physicals this year. Kurt Scheibner was hired as are new full time instructor. Next membership meeting is scheduled for May 8th at the Freeland hall 6:00 p.m.

The next retirees meeting will be June 25 at the Ponderosa on Wilder Rd in Bay City. **In Solidarity, Joe Dotson**

**ZONE 3 Info: (Traverse City).** Our sincere condolences go out to the family of Ed Bush, who passed away on April 12th. Ed was an exceptional Tinner and was always a positive influence on the jobsite. Thanks to everyone that showed up to ratify our new contract that goes into effect May 1st, your votes are important now and will be in November. We are at full steam with work and if anyone knows anyone that wants to get into our trade have them call me. Mark your calendars, our local picnic this year will be at Timber Ridge Campground in Acme this year on July 20<sup>th</sup>. No job is more important than going home at night, please work safe. **In Solidarity, John Amalfitano**

**ZONE 4 Info:** We are gearing up for a productive summer season. With various summer work projects on the horizon, members are eager to make a positive impact in the community. Additionally, the highly anticipated golf outing and picnic are events that should not be missed. These gatherings provide an opportunity for members to bond and enjoy some well-deserved relaxation.

Moreover, for those seeking personal and professional growth, upgrade classes are available. If anyone has questions or requires further information, don't hesitate to reach out to Dan Bryant at the Flint training center. In all it looks to be another great year for work, let's make this summer a memorable and successful one for Local 7. **Your Brother Scott Brotherton**

**ZONE 5 Info** Work in the U.P. is busy and we have a few travelers up here right now. It should stay that way through the summer now. There is a lot of mine work coming up in the next 2 years also so if you don't have your mine safety training make sure you get signed up for that at unconstruction.org.

Cards should be going out soon with the wage disbursement meeting info on it, please try to be in attendance. The retirees are holding their next meeting at Sherrie's in Ishpeming on May 8th at 10 AM. **In Solidarity, Brandon Langenfeld**

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

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

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

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

**CONTACT US:** 4931 Contec Drive, Lansing, MI 48910 – 517-882-4064

#### Local 7 Officers:

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

**Eric Farrington** (Agent-Lansing/Jackson) 517-242-3223

**Vance Saunders** (Agent-Battle Creek/Kalamazoo) 269-569-9200

**Mike Adams** (Agent-Grand Rapids/Muskegon) 616-299-3752

**Joe Dotson** (Saginaw) 989-225-0095

**John Amalfitano** (Traverse City) 231-590-1112

**Scott Brotherton** (Agent-Flint) 810-836-3552

**Brandon Langenfeld** (Upper Peninsula) 906-372-9288



## Local 25 Iron Workers

Iron Workers 25 NOVI – The May Union meeting (DATE CHANGE) will be Monday, May 13 at 7:00 pm and will be in person and zoom. All are invited to join us!

All Union Halls closed for Memorial Day on Monday, May 27. We wish all our members a safe Holiday!

The results of the Vote for the By-Law Proposal and the wage allocations are posted on our website: [www.ironworkers25.org](http://www.ironworkers25.org) in the member only section. They are also posted on the APP.

The Lansing Steward meeting will be Monday, May 13 at 6:00 pm. All are welcome!

The Flint Steward meeting CHANGE DATE: will be Tuesday, May 14 at 6 pm. PLEASE JOIN US FOR NARCAN TRAINING. Bring your wife or neighbor, all are welcome, open to the public!

The Saginaw Steward meeting will be Thursday, May 30 at 6 pm. All are welcome!

Communications Alerts & E-mails; sign up via our website ([www.ironworkers25.org](http://www.ironworkers25.org)). We continue to communicate through the PUSH NOTIFICATIONS. You can download our APP for android on google play or for iPhone at the APP store just search "Iron Workers Local 25" Martinez web shop.

June vacation check schedule: The last day to call to have your June vacation check pulled is Tuesday May 28 at 12 pm (Noon).

Pulled checks will be available at the Novi Hall Thursday May 30, by 2 pm.

All other checks will be mailed to you by the end of business day on Tuesday May 28<sup>th</sup>.

**All members that receive ACH deposits, your vacation check will be transferred on Friday, May 31.**

All Vacation checks will be dated Saturday, June 1, 2024.

IMPORTANT: Dependent Eligibility Verification for Health Insurance Benefits coverage is in its final round. PDA Verification Team from Livonia MI is conducting this audit. All members who have dependents (spouse and/ or children) on their health

care must comply. If you missed the mailing somehow, watch your mail for this final mailing coming soon!! PLEASE RESPOND RIGHT AWAY WHEN YOU RECEIVE YOUR LETTER AS THIS IS VERY TIME SENSITIVE AND CRITICAL TO YOUR CONTINUED COVERAGE IN THE HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN. ANY QUESTIONS CALL 833-902-4649

HRA/Benny Card Audit is under way and has been mailed out – please respond if you have been contacted.

New Apprentice Applications are being accepted BUT you MUST go to [ironworkers25.org](http://ironworkers25.org) where you can now make your application appointment & pay the application fee online; you must have an appointment to turn in your application. **No walk-in foot traffic.**

Apprentices: Fill out your monthlies online at the website or mobile app located under the apprenticeship tab "Monthly Report Sign-In" this gives you the ability to electronically submit your monthlies. Also, located under the Apprenticeship Tab you will find "Make-Up Days" & "Welding Test Certifications." You can now electronically schedule your make-up days and welding tests.

To view classes at the Local 25 Apprenticeship School, please go to the [ironworkers25.org](http://ironworkers25.org) to view the 2024 Block Schedule, Roster and Raising Gang Training Schedule. If you have Facebook or Instagram, please give us a follow. The Wixom Training Center – Phone: (248) 960-2130

24/7 CREDIT-DEBIT CARD processing for Union Dues: Pay via our APP or website [www.ironworkers25.org](http://www.ironworkers25.org). The phone number is 866-635-2826. Or pay union dues with personal check or money order and mail to: Iron Workers Local 25 – P.O. Box 965, Novi, MI 48376-0965. Pay union dues in person at the Novi Union Hall (M-F) from 8 am to 3 pm (NO Cash).

FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: 800-572-8553 or 248-347-3100 and follow the prompts. Hours 7:30am to 4:30pm. The mailing address for member BENEFIT related matters is: Iron Workers Local 25 Fringe Benefit

Funds, PO Box 99219, Troy MI 48099-9219. Blue Cross Health Claims and Customer Service 877-790-2583. Delta Dental Claims and Customer Service 800-482-8915.

Check your HRA Balance: [my.wexhealthcard.com](http://my.wexhealthcard.com)

Check your online benefit information: [ourbenefitoffice.com/iw25/benefits/](http://ourbenefitoffice.com/iw25/benefits/)

**BENEFIT FOR NEW CHILD:** Any member who has a new born child, or a new dependent child through marriage **MUST NOTIFY the Fringe Benefit Office of your new dependent within 31 days; otherwise wait until the next open-enrollment period (April 1-April 30).**

**BENEFIT FOR LIFE CHANGE:** Any member experiencing a divorce or a new spouse **MUST NOTIFY the Fringe Benefit Office within 31 days; otherwise wait until the next open-enrollment period (April 1-April 30).**

The Iron Workers' Local 25 Retirees' Club: The Retirees' Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday, May 7 at 8:30 am. The Retirees' meeting/luncheon will be Tuesday May 21 at 10 am in Novi. All are welcome.

The West Michigan Chapter Retirees breakfast will meet Tuesday, May 7 at 9 am at Red Rock Grille & Café, 228 N. Ball Creek Rd, NW, Kent City, Michigan 49330. All are welcome.

The next quarterly meeting for the Bay City Chapter will be July 18; NEW LOCATION: at the Iron Workers Local 25 Saginaw Union Hall, 11 Bridgeview S. Saginaw MI 48604 at 1:00 pm. All are Welcome.

Downriver Chapter: The next quarterly Retirees breakfast will be 9 am on July 19 at Mom's Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, 48183. All are welcome.

Blue Cross Blue Shield Michigan: [www.bcbsm.com/behavioral-mental-health/](http://www.bcbsm.com/behavioral-mental-health/) Resources on the home page including In-Person Crisis Care options in many locations throughout the state. BCBS Michigan 877-627-1041, Blue Care Network 800-482-5982 for Substance-use-disorder.

**FindTreatment.gov** where you can search by zip code/city. Or call SAMHSA 800-662-4357.



ERECTING A SCREEN WALL on the roof of the Trinity Health-Brighton hospital project are (l-r) iron workers John LeClair, Jason Wikaryasz and Scott O'Lelley. The Local 25 members are employed by Sterling Erectors.

**MentalHealth.gov** provides information & programs about mental health

Dial 988 (National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) For help 24/7 in a Time of Crisis. Call 988 if you or someone you know is in danger of suicide or experiencing a mental health crisis. Whatever you are struggling with, help is available – its free & confidential.

Suicide Prevention Resources on IMPACT: <http://www.impact-net.org/safety/suicide-prevention-resources>. US Crisis Text Line: Text HOME to

741741 from anywhere in the United States, anytime, about any type of crisis. A live, trained Crisis Counselor receives the text and responds, all from our secure online platform. A volunteer Crisis Counselor will help you move from a hot moment to a cool moment.

The IRONWORKER Magazine: To subscribe to the digital edition please use the following link: <https://www.ironworkers.org/s/ironworker-digital-sign-up>

In Memory: Dennis Gish #930131 passed away April 14,

2024 at the age of 77. He was a 49-year member and is survived by his wife Delores and many friends in the Ironworking Industry. Mark Morton #849521 passed away April 10, 2024 at the age of 73. He was a 53-year member and will be missed by many friends in the ironworking industry. **Our deep condolences to all of the family and friends as you mourn the loss of your dear loved one(s)!**

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (April 29, 2024 9:30 am E.S.T.).



ASSEMBLING A SCREEN WALL atop the Trinity Health-Brighton hospital project are (l-r) iron workers Edward Lane and Noah Davenport. The Local 25 members are employed by Sterling Erectors.

## ALL BUILDING TRADESMEN

### Notice of Asbestos Health Hazards in Michigan

BRICKLAYERS BOILERMAKERS ELECTRICIANS INSULATORS PIPE FITTERS  
PLUMBERS SHEET METAL WORKERS

- ◆ Mesothelioma
- ◆ Lung Cancer
- ◆ Asbestosis
- ◆ Pulmonary Fibrosis
- ◆ Throat Cancer
- ◆ Colon Cancer

As pioneers in asbestos litigation, GPW has filed asbestos lawsuits since 1984, defending the rights of hardworking men and women throughout Michigan, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia.

Exposure to asbestos can cause deadly diseases such as MESOTHELIOMA, LUNG CANCER, ABESTOSIS, PULMONARY FIBROSIS, THROAT CANCER, and COLON CANCER.

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.

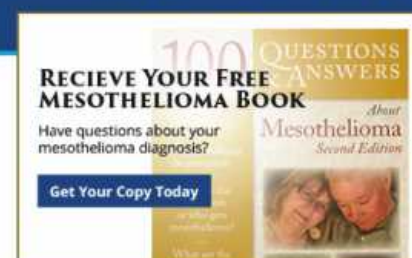
#### \$1.8 MILLION VERDICT

GPW obtained a **\$1.8 million** verdict in a Lung Cancer claim, the **largest Asbestos Verdict in the history of Michigan Asbestos Litigation.**

For more than 30 years, GPW has helped thousands of Michigan workers. We have represented mesothelioma, lung cancer, and asbestos disease victims, obtaining over \$1 billion in compensation for our clients.

CONTACT GPW TODAY TO RECEIVE YOUR FREE COPY OF 100 QUESTIONS & ANSWERS ABOUT MESOTHELIOMA!

For nearly 20 years GPW has offered this FREE resource and guide to mesothelioma victims. Call 800-799-2234 or visit [www.gpwlaw-mi.com](http://www.gpwlaw-mi.com) to request a FREE copy today!



Contact us today:

**800-799-2234**

[www.gpwlaw-mi.com](http://www.gpwlaw-mi.com)

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. Call for a FREE consultation.



By Aaron Switzer  
Fisheries Division  
Michigan Department of  
Natural Resources

With a 2023 state general fund budget appropriation of \$30 million, six Michigan Department of Natural Resources fish hatcheries are being improved by updating outdated and aging infrastructure.

Several of the sites have only seen limited updates or upgrades since the late 1970s—facilities and equipment pushing 50 years old. I think about my own body at 50 and often wonder when my body parts are going to fail.

In terms of our critical hatcheries, managers don't want to be left wondering whether today might be the day that something vital to operations gives out.

Unfortunately, this happened recently, which reduces our ability to fulfill our mission to protect and enhance Michigan's fisheries.

In the spring and summer of 2021, the Wolf Lake State Fish Hatchery experienced three major power failures. The primary electrical infrastructure failed at three separate points during that time. Also, the primary electrical distribution system was failing. This was a real wake-up call for the Fisheries Division and the DNR.

Planning had already been underway for a substantial funding request to address the needs for capital improvements at our hatcheries. These failures highlighted the critical need to invest in Michigan's hatchery infrastructure.

Then the pandemic hit, and we had to postpone some operations, including egg collections for steelhead that year. Had we taken steelhead eggs in 2020, we later realized that it likely would have resulted in most, if not all, of the eggs being lost with the infrastructure failures—a blessing in disguise from the coronavirus pandemic.

It is apparent that the scale of the projects at our six hatcheries is huge and likely the most substantial investment in our hatcheries for decades. For starters, we began by building internal teams to develop a plan to tackle the array

## Outdoors

# Improving fish hatcheries



**CHILDREN ENJOY** a school outing on an observation deck at Oden State Fish Hatchery and Visitor Center in Alanson. The facility is due for \$2.6 million in upgrades.

MDNR photo

of projects we had on the board and crafting a vision of where our greatest needs occurred.

We realized that we may not have enough funding to do everything that our hatcheries needed given changes in the economy, including inflation and supply chain concerns, as well as the decade-long backlog in major maintenance and repair projects.

To address this, we initiated a process of prioritization. We teamed up with Hobbs + Black Architects of Lansing, who have brought on many top-notch design firms, including McMillen Inc. of Boise, Idaho, which is one of the nation's best aquaculture design and construction firms.

Construction will be managed by Spence Brothers Construction of Traverse City for the northern three facilities and Christman Constructors of Lansing for the southern three facilities.

Technology has improved tremendously since the hatcheries were originally built, and reducing energy usage across the board will save on utility expenditures.

Construction contracts will likely be executed this coming summer. Meetings and strategiz-

ing will continue as construction begins and the details of the projects for the coming three years are finalized.

Here is a closer look at what exactly will be happening over the next three summers.

**Marquette State Fish Hatchery** (\$3.5 million in upgrades) in Marquette Co. houses brood stock for our brook trout, lake trout and Arctic grayling programs. It is also a production facility that stocks brook trout, lake trout and splake in Michigan waters.

The Marquette hatchery is slated to get a new roof on the hatchery building and a new energy-efficient boiler, as well as updated HVAC controls in 2024. A new brood-isolation building will be built to replace the current crumbling structure. Leveling of settling concrete around the facility to improve accessibility will cap off the 2025 projects. In 2026, the facility will be completely repaved.

**Thompson State Fish Hatchery** (\$3.5 million in upgrades) in Schoolcraft Co. produces steelhead and Chinook salmon for stocking in Michigan waters. Thompson is also home to a cool-water facility that supports

walleye and muskellunge rearing.

The 2023 capital outlay package included many needed upgrades to the cool-water facility.

Thompson is slated to have a new truck storage building built in 2024 at the cool-water facility to house fish-stocking vehicles and various fish-rearing equipment used at the new facility. Resurfacing concrete in the production raceways and indoor rearing units should vastly improve fish quality and health in 2025.

Improving hatchery insulation and dehumidification as part of updating HVAC systems will improve energy-efficiency efforts. In 2026, the cold-water facility will be completely repaved, and the cool-water facility will be partially paved.

**Oden State Fish Hatchery** (\$2.6 million in upgrades) in Emmet Co. houses brood stock for brown and rainbow trout programs. It is also a production facility that stocks brown and rainbow trout in Michigan waters.

Ongoing projects including a Parshall flume, for measuring discharge flow, and well-reclamation work. Repairing and repaving the hatchery visitor center parking lot

and infrastructure maintenance for the building and a historic fish railcar are taking center stage at Oden in 2024. A new domestic well for the drum screen building will improve effluent management.

In 2025, a new disinfection station will be constructed, to improve biosecurity for fish-stocking trucks coming on-site following stocking trips. The main hatchery building will get modifications to the roof and new siding.

In 2026, workers will be repaving the trails, roads and entryways as well as filling cracks and sealing the asphalt around the hatchery, brood and raceway buildings. The Oden and Platte River hatcheries have similar automated fish-feeding systems that are both being upgraded with new controls and feed-delivery options using the current infrastructure for those systems.

**Platte River State Fish Hatchery** (\$6 million in upgrades) in Benzie Co. produces Atlantic, Chinook and coho salmon for stocking in Michigan waters. Additionally, the Platte River facility produces walleye fry for the DNR's walleye program.

A couple of ongoing projects were completed in 2023, including stabilizing the Lower Platte River Weir and installing new roofs on the administration, hatchery and service buildings. In 2024, resurfacing concrete maturation ponds built in the 1960s, for holding return adult coho salmon, and replacing a backup generator and associated electrical distribution from the same era are scheduled.

For 2025, projects will include shoring up the exteriors, including doors and windows, damaged by previous poor roof conditions and age of buildings that received new roofs in 2023. In 2026, the facility will be repaved, and pavement will be added.

**Harrietta State Fish Hatchery** (\$3.5 million in upgrades) in Wexford Co. produces Atlantic salmon, brown trout and rainbow trout for stocking in Michigan waters.

A new backup generator, electrical distribution panels, aeration pumps with variable frequency drives, boiler and two new backup generators at production wells will bring Harrietta up to speed with new energy-efficient electrical systems in 2024.

A new truck storage building

for stocking trucks, resurfacing concrete raceways and a new automated fish-feeding system will round out the projects scheduled for 2025. No new projects for the Harrietta facility are anticipated in 2026 as the repaving was completed this past year, although some repaving projects may continue into 2026.

**Wolf Lake State Fish Hatchery** (\$11 million in upgrades) in Van Buren Co. produces steelhead and Chinook salmon for stocking in Michigan waters. Wolf Lake also supports the walleye and muskellunge rearing programs.

There is a current primary power, electrical distribution project underway that is supported by the funding allocation. Re-drilling two production water wells to replace two that have outrun their useful lives will greatly improve fish-rearing conditions.

Two new backup generators, electrical distribution panels, aeration pumps with variable frequency drives and two new backup generators at the new production wells will bring Wolf Lake up to date with new energy-efficient electrical systems in 2024.

For 2025, projects will include new roofs on the visitor center and hatchery buildings. A new cool-water building will be constructed, bolstering the walleye and muskellunge programs. Relining rearing ponds, resurfacing concrete raceways and indoor rearing tanks, constructing a new maintenance building and a new automated fish-feeding system will round out the projects for the year.

Finally, in 2026, the entire facility will be repaved.

The Wolf Lake hatchery will receive the most amount of funding from the state allocation at \$11 million for its scheduled improvements.

At the end of the day, we will have put blood, sweat and tears into these projects. We don't really have anything flashy or shiny to show for it yet, but results are coming. The next three summers will be busy with construction projects moving forward at a hatchery near you.

Please excuse our mess and watch your step when you come to visit us, but take in the amazing upgrades to our fish hatcheries that will pay dividends to enhancing our fisheries for decades to come.

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