# THE BUILDING **Since 1952**

Official Publication of the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council Serving the highly skilled men and women in Michigan's building trades unions

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#### Added momentum for U.S. construction

The Dodge Momentum Index moved 4 percent higher in March to 166.9 (2000=100).

The Momentum Index, issued by Dodge Construction Network this month on April 7, is a monthly measure of the initial report for nonresidential building projects in planning, which have been shown to lead construction spending for nonresidential buildings by a full year.

The index continued to trend higher in March, largely due to gains in planning for commercial projects. Commercial planning in March was just slightly lower than the all-time high set in October 2021, Dodge said. The index, which has been kept a jagged trend line since the onset of Covic, as a whole was up 4.1 percent from a year ago.

"Nonresidential projects entering planning continue to be robust despite rising energy prices, higher material costs, and significant shortages of labor," Dodge said.

#### Bill would set new penalties for cheats

A bill addressing a subject that's near and dear to the state's construction industry the misclassification of workers – has been introduced in the state House.

The bill would institute penalties against companies that misclassify workers in order to avoid paying full-time wage overtime and taxes. Such misclassification of workers – effectively making them independent contractors - robs them of a fair wage and benefits, and takes away tax revenues from the state.

"Hardworking Michiganders should be paid for every hour they work, and any shady employer that fails to do so should be held accountable," said one of the bill's sponsors, state Rep. Donna Lasinski (D-Scio Twp.). I will continue to stand for policies that set a level playing field for all and work with my colleagues to ensure the economic security of working families is always put first."

Introduced at an April 13 news conference without bipartisan support by House Minority Leader Lasinski, the bill likely has little opportunity to matter in the Republican-dominated House and Senate, other than as a means to call attention to the age-old misclassification issue.

The unionized construction industry has complained for years about shady employers misclassifying workers into independent contractors when they should be full-time employees. Such a set-up allows employers to issue those workers with 1099 tax forms, permitting the employers to avoid paying payroll taxes and health benefits and allowing them to lower their costs and submit lower bids on construction projects.

According to a report by the Economy Policy Institute, an estimated \$429 million was stolen from Michigan workers in wages and overtime pay between 2013 and 2015, impacting more than 2.8 million Michigan workers

#### Quotable

"Attitude is a choice. Happiness is a choice. Optimism is a choice. Kindness is a choice. Giving is a choice. Respect is a choice. Whatever choice you make makes you. Choose wisely.

-Roy T. Bennett (1957-)

**THE 18-STORY United Artists Building** (1928), now being converted into the Residences @ 150 Bagley, is the last major, abandoned tower in downtown Detroit to get renovated. The former office building has, astoundingly, been empty for nearly 50 years. This photo is from 2014, but the building is little changed. The tower portion of the building is in reasonably good condition, but the old United Artists Theater off the back is decrepit and will be demolished as part of this project. Brinker/ Christman will



## **Trades to remake old United Artists Building into 148-unit residential hub**

By Marty Mulcahy

renovation work.

**Editor** DETROIT – An imposing line for redevelopment.

Building – rebranded with a be transformed into a residential

For an historical perspective on the UA Building, see Page 3

part of Detroit's skyscape – one moniker that matches its address that's slightly off the beaten — is on its way to redevelopment track from other recent historic into "The Residences @ 150 building renovation projects in Bagley." Opened in 1928, the downtown, the path to assemthe downtown area – is next in long-empty and derelict 18-story tower will benefit from the skill of breaks for 150 Bagley was long The old United Artists building trades union workers and

building with 148 units with 10,000 square feet of commercial space.

Like numerous other historic buildings that have been renovated in recent years bling the financing and tax and complicated. It took six (Continued on Page 2)



A BRICK SECTION of the east wall of the 150 Bagley building in Detroit is opened up by mason Andrew Kliffel of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2. Employed by Pullman Mason Contractors, he was preparing for the installation of a buckhoist as rehabiliation starts to ramp up on the building.

# AFL-CIO's Shuler: a new look for labor is coming

**Building Trades 2022 Legislative Conference** 

By Mark Gruenberg **Press Associates Staff Writer** 

WASHINGTON, D.C. (PAI)-President Joe Biden's five-year \$1.2 trillion Infrastructure and Jobs Act presents building trades unions with "a golden opportunity" to grow, but "it's up to us" to shape the future U.S. construction workforce, AFL-CIO Presi-

dent Liz Shuler says. Closing a morning of thousands of new jobs – and the closing address.

speeches to North America's Building Trades Unions legislative conference held April 4-6, the IBEW member told the 3,000 delegates and guests crammed

into the unionized



**AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler** 

NABTUPresi-Washington, D.C., Hilton hotel's dent Sean McGarvey to the po-

union mem-

union-trained

apprentices

must fill them,

others followed

bers

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and

Biden

Shuler and

Shuler did not delve into construction worker demographics but a survey of the crowd showed what she's talking about. The delegates were overwhelmingly white, male and middle-aged or older. Within a few years, most will be ready to retire.

That's not going to be the composition of the future construction workforce, Shuler and International Ballroom that the dium on April 5. The next day saw other speakers said, and unions measure will create hundreds of ten speakers, with Biden giving must adjust themselves, their (Continued on Page 14)

## Biden touts union, pro-labor bona fides at trades conference

**Building Trades 2022 Legislative Conference** 

By Mark Gruenberg **Press Associates Staff Writer** 

WASHINGTON, D.C. (PAI)-After a serious start talking about Russian atrocities in the Ukraine War, and subsequent U.S. and allied moves against Vladimir Putin's government, President Joe Biden virtually roared into full campaign mode in addressing more than 3,000 people at the North America's Building Trades Unions Legislative Conference.

As closing speaker for the confab, Biden was interrupted many times by cheers and applause on April 6, not just when he listed pro-worker achievements of his administration, but also when he announced a big mass transit grant at the end - and in between rattled off the union jobs his Infrastructure and Jobs Act have produced and will create.

And Biden drew cheers for his full-throated endorsement of unions. He highlighted it by leaning into the microphone, pointing a conspiratorial finger forward and growling "And by the way, As proof, the

president points to...

- Passage of \$1.2 trillion for infrastructure
- Passage of the union pension
- Focus on the use of prevailing wage, project labor agreements • Promotion of the Protect the



PRESIDENT BIDEN speaks to the NABTU conference April 6.

Amazon, here we come!" after the independent Amazon Labor Union's big union recognition win at the monster retailer and distributor's JFK8 warehouse win on Staten Island. That drew even more laughs and cheers.

Biden's speech came as his (Continued on Page 2)

## **Biden administration's 'actions** have matched their words' in supporting U.S. labor unions

'I intend to be the most pro-union president leading the most pro-union administration in American history. -President Biden, from remarks made on Sept. 8, 2021

**Building Trades 2022** Legislative Conference

By Mark Gruenberg **Press Associates Staff Writer** WASHINGTON, D.C. (PAI)-

North America's Building Trades Unions President Sean McGarvey heavily pushed political contrasts in his keynote address to the 3,000 delegates of construction unions' legislative conference, with powerful praise of President Joe Biden and his administration and big blasts at

his GOP predecessor. Opinion polls McGarvey has reason to highlight such contrasts: Off-year elections often are referendums on the incumbent president. They also depend on motivating supporters to vote, and many workers and their allies, worried about inflation and gas prices, rather than creating jobs and beating the coronavirus pandemic, feel let down by the Biden administration, at least right now, despite excel-



NABTU PRESIDENT Sean McGarvey speaks at the building trades legislative conference earlier this month.

lent jobs numbers.

'We knew Joe Biden would be the true president of the working (Continued on Page 14)

#### **Building** material prices are through the roof

Ouch.

Higher prices continuing to hit all corners of the economy, with the inflation rate up 8.5 percent overall in the U.S. for the 12 months ending in March 2022.

Well, that ain't nothing compared to the construction industry, where input prices for nonresidential construction rose 21 percent between March 2021 and March 2022. Among the league leaders: diesel fuel prices spiked 64 percent, while aluminum and steel mill product prices rose by 43 percent, according to federal government data released April 13. (Continued on Page 14)

## **Upstart union gets historic 1st win at Amazon**

By Brian Young

**Union Communications Blog** Two years ago, Amazon

workers at a Staten Island warehouse known as JFK8 walked out. They were protesting the company's failure to inform them that co-workers were getting sick with Covid. Instead of working with the scared employees, as many companies did during the beginning of the pandemic, Amazon decided to fire the leader of the walkout, Chris Smalls.

That decision lead to a two-

the warehouse and Smalls to form Amazon's first union. They

warehouse. This hard

**AMAZON union** organizer Chris

formed the Amazon Labor Union (ALU) and began talking to workers throughout the

work paid off, on April 1 the

ALU had enough votes to bethe company's 28-year history. In the end, after an intense antiunion campaign by the company, the vote wasn't even close with 2,654 voting to join ALU and 2,131 voting against the union.

What was accomplished in just these past two years is nothing short of amazing. Unlike other successful and unsuc-National Labor cessful organizing efforts, the

year campaign by the workers at Board (NLRB) announced that led by a national or international union. Instead, the workers come the first union at Amazon in formed their own union and raised money on GoFundMe to help pay for literature and food for the workers.

With little money, they often flew under the radar, especially with the higher-profile union election at Amazon's Bessemer, Ala. location going on at the same time. Yet the Staten Island workers kept trucking along, talking to workers and exposing Amazon's R e l a t i o n s Staten Island campaign was not lies and bad behavior. Even when

Smalls and some of the other organizers were arrested for attempting to bring food to workers at the warehouse, the prounion workers were not deterred and seemed to get even more fired

According to HuffPost, in 2021, Amazon spent over \$4 million on union avoidance lawyers and consultants to stop organizing campaigns at two Staten Island warehouses, one in Bessemer, and a growing campaign

(Continued on Page 14)

## **Viewpoints**



#### Money in our pockets

A Labor Department plan to strengthen federal prevailing wage regulations and enforcement under the Davis-Bacon Act would put more money in the pockets of an estimated 1.2 million U.S. construction workers.

Labor Secretary Marty Walsh (a union Laborer) said the changes will "help us make sure our skilled workers and wages can't be undercut" and are especially timely as projects funded by President Biden's Infrastructure and Jobs Act surge nationwide. "Federal dollars should be used to create good jobs in local communities all across our country," Walsh said. "These proposed regulations are good for workers, good for building high-quality infrastructure and for ensuring we have a strong construction industry, as we rebuild America.'

The 1931 law, signed by President Hoover, was weakened by a Reagan-era overhaul 40 years ago. Most notably, it reduced the rate paid to workers on federally funded construction projects by changing how local prevailing wages are calculated.

The DOL wants to restore the original formula and review it more frequently so that rates set for federal contractors continue to align with local construction wages.

The update includes anti-retaliation language to protect workers who raise concerns about payment practices from being fired or discriminated against. There are also new strategies for recovering back pay. The long-sought revisions are welcome news to the IBEW and its building trades partners.

"The proposed updates will restore the Act's intended bipartisan purpose to protect the hard-earned wages of construction workers, and in doing so, shield them from exploitation," IBEW International President Lonnie R. Stephenson said.

The Labor Department, which has been setting a record pace for pro-worker initiatives the past year, made its proposal public on March 11. A 60-day comment period is underway, as required for all federal rulemaking. "Our members are the nation's best-trained, most highly skilled construction workers and for 40 years, the law has let federal contractors get away with paying them less than they deserve, along with their building trades brothers and sisters," said Austin Keyser, assistant to the international president for government affairs.

"That's money that could have been invested in college funds, vacations, home repairs, and anything else that a fairer calculation of prevailing wages would have provided for," he said. "Labor Secretary Walsh and the Biden administration innately understand what that means to working families, and that's why they're pushing to fix Davis-Bacon.'

According to the DOL, the Davis-Bacon Act and 71 related statutes cover roughly \$217 billion in federal and federally assisted construction projects each year, a figure that is expected to swell with infrastructure spending.

Which makes it urgent to act now, said Jessica Looman, acting administrator of the DOL's Wage and Hour Division and the former head of the Minnesota Building and Construction Trades Council. "Given recent unprecedented investments in our nation's infrastructure, this comprehensive regulatory review is necessary to ensure employers on federally funded or assisted construction projects pay fair wages to the workers who build our roads, bridges, federal buildings and energy infrastructure," she said.

Communities and taxpayers reap the benefits, too, Looman stressed, "by ensuring all contractors can compete on equal footing and by preventing employers who pay workers substandard wages from gaining an unfair competitive advantage."

Stephenson said modernizing Davis-Bacon adds to an everlonger list of ways that President Biden is making good on his promises to workers and unions. "We applaud the administration's efforts to ensure that pay reflects the work of this highly trained, highly skilled workforce," he said.

(From the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers)

#### "We want to thank Jeff Bezos for going to space because while he was up there we were organizing a union."



Chris Smalls, who was fired by Amazon in 2020 for union organizing, is now President of the Amazon Labor Union.

#### White-collar robots coming

By Jim Hightower

In CorporateSpeak, there are no "job cuts." Instead, firings are blandly referred to as "employment adjustments."

Now, though, corporate wordsmiths will need a whole new thesaurus of euphemisms, for masses of job cuts are coming for employ-

ees in the higher echelons of the corporate structure. Don't look now, but an unanticipated result of the ongoing pandemic is that it has given cover for CEOs to speed up the adoption of highly-advanced RPAs (Robotic Process Automation) to replace employees once assumed to be immune from

> As one analyst told a New York Times reporter, "With RPA you can build a bot that costs \$10,000 a year and take out two to four humans." Prior to the COVID crisis, many top ex-

ecutives feared a public backlash if they pushed automation too far too fast. But, ironically, the economic collapse caused by the pandemic has so discombobulated the workplace and diverted public attention that corporate bosses have been emboldened to rush ahead. While the nationwide shut-down of offices and furloughing of employees has caused misery for millions, one happy purveyor of RPA systems notes that it has "massively raised awareness among executives about the variety of work that no longer requires human involvement."

He cheerfully declares: "We think any business process can be automated," advising corporate bosses that half to two-thirds of all the tasks being done at their companies can be done by machines.

This is Jim Hightower saying... Conventional corporate wisdom blithely preaches that all new technologies create more jobs than they kill, but even those pollyannish preachers are now conceding that this robotic automation of white-collar jobs is being imposed so suddenly, widely, and stealthily that losses will crush any gains.

We haven't hit the exponential point of this stuff yet," warns an alarmed analyst. "And when we do, it's going to be dramatic."

(via www.otherwords.org)

# Trades to remake United Artists Building

(Continued from Page 1) years to line up and assemble the \$75 million funding package, with the AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust (HIT) providing nearly two-thirds of the financing. As a result, 100 percent union labor will be employed on the project, which will be led by the construction management team of Brinker/Christman.

'We are proud to work with the HIT on this new project that will create good jobs for our members and affordable housing in a growing neighborhood in downtown Detroit. 150 Bagley will be a great example of how labor's capital helps build a stronger community," said Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council Secretary-Treasurer Patrick Devlin.

The project was announced at a March 31 event in front of the building. On hand were Mayor Mike Duggan, lead developer Emmet Moten, Ilitch Holdings President Christopher Ilitch, AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust reps, among a long list of politicos, bankers and local, state and federal government officials.

"For nearly half a century, the United Artists Building has been one of our city's iconic images of blight and abandonment," Duggan said. "Today, just like we are doing with Michigan Central Station, Fisher Body 21, Lee Plaza and others, we are giving the United Artists Building new life, and turning blight into

"I'm so proud that we have a development team that truly represents our city turning this great building into new housing, with 20 percent of the units reserved for Detroiters of lower incomes. This project would not have been possible without the leadership of Chris Ilitch and the partnership of HUD, the State of Michigan, our Department of Housing and Revitalization This is a great day for Detroit."

Said Emmett Moten, the Bagley Development Group's managing partner: "Residences @ 150 Bagley represents the perfect model for urban development, with the public and private sectors working collectively to benefit the community.'

Located two blocks west of Woodward and southwest of Grand Circus Park, the 200,000 square foot United Artists Building was primarily an office building, but named for the United Artists Theater it once contained. The building was shuttered in 1974 after its last major tenant, AAA-Michigan, moved to Dearborn. A renovated theater



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**Advertising Director** Joe Hoshaw E-mail: btads@ameritech.net

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will not be part of the project. Ilitch Holdings – which has drawn significant criticism for not developing properties it owns in its sprawling "District Detroit," has

owned this property since 1997. "We're honored to partner

with Emmett Moten and the rest of the outstanding Bagley Development team on this historic restoration in The District Detroit. and we look forward to seeing the lasting, positive impact that it will have on the community." said Ilitch.



LABORER Sammie Peaster of Local 1191 wraps up an extension cord while working in front of the United Artists/150 Bagley project in Detroit. He's employed by Brinker.

## Biden touts union, pro-labor bona fides at trades conference

(Continued from Page 1)

negative poll ratings still outdo his positive ones, producing a drag on Democratic hopes for retaining - or even expandingtheir slim congressional majorities this fall. The Senate is tied: 50 Republicans face 48 Democrats and both independents. Democrats hold the House, 221-209 with five vacancies.

Often-ineffectual Democratic organizations rely on foot soldiers from organized labor, including the building trades to make up for that lack. But inflation, and rising gasoline prices, he admitted, dampen enthusiasm, despite bright economic numbers which Biden recited.

"Look, I know people are still hurting," he conceded. "But our economy is not just on the mend, but it's on the move."

His big selling points were the five-year, \$1.2 trillion Infrastructure And Jobs Act, a key cause of the building trades, and the earlier American Rescue Act, designed to cushion the economic impact on workers and their families from the coronavirus-caused depression. The infrastructure act drew some GOP support. The rescue act got

"We can't compete in the 21st Century without building 21st Century infrastructure," Biden told the crowd, to more cheers. "We passed that infrastructure law, and now it's no longer 'Infrastructure Week,' it's 'Infrastructure Decade.'

And at the end, Biden announced he'd be issuing an executive order allotting \$20.5 billion more of the infrastructure act's money for new mass transit projects, to be built with union labor, which would reduce pollu-

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tion and have components and materials "made in the U.S.A."

"And remember those long lines of cars with people lined up just to get bags of groceries? Our American Rescue Plan helped 41 million people put food on their tables," and it saved "4 million who were on the verge of being evicted."

Both the infrastructure law and the rescue act, he reminded the crowd, included strong worker protections, such as Davis-Bacon prevailing wage language and Project Labor Agreements. So would future legislation. So did his special White House Task Force on unionizing.

So would the Protect The Right To Organize Act, labor's top legislative priority. "We want to make sure that choice" of whether or not to unionize "belongs to workers alone!" Biden declared. That bill, renamed for the late AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka, is marooned by unanimous Senate GOP opposition and filibuster threats.

Biden's speech also avoided some topics. He didn't mention the Green New Deal by name. That's a sore point of contention between building trades, who fear it would cost union jobs, and environmentalists.

And he said the nation must make child care affordable so working women, including construction women, can rejoin the labor force. But Biden didn't mention his overall Build Back Better/reconciliation bill, stalled by a GOP Senate filibuster threat. It includes child care tax credits and money, too.

Instead, his big theme was adding up all the new jobs from the two pieces of legislation, including "320,000 new construction jobs last year," which puts building trades employmentunion and non-union combinedat a level higher than before the

"That wasn't all we did," he added. Biden then reminded listeners of another big rescue act win: Incorporating the Butch Lewis Act to set financially troubled multi-employer pension plans back on their financial feet without cutting benefits to current retirees or their heirs.

The key aid: Federal loan guarantees to plans that create viable packages for their own recovery. Many of those multi-employer plans cover construction workers

And that's quite a contrast, Biden declared, with what his predecessor, whose \$1.7 trillion tax cut targeted to the rich and corporations.

Biden's trying to undo that, too. Both his Build Back Better "reconciliation" bill, halted by the GOP filibuster threat, and proposals in his latest budget would close tax loopholes for those firms and millionaires, and r store a top tax rate on the rich of 39.6 percent.

'There's no reason someone making \$10 million a year pays at a lower tax rate than a" family with two wage-earners, "a teacher and a fire fighter. We've got to have everyone pay their fair share," he said. That includes the ultra-rich and "the 55 Fortune 500 corporations which paid zero in income taxes last year. We can do this without raising taxes on anyone making under \$400,000 a year," he said, repeating a campaign

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# BUILDING MICHIGAN: The United Artists Building **HISTORY IN THE MAKING**

Detroit's building boom of the 1920s was in full bloom by the middle of that decade, as both sides of Woodward Avenue downtown were being filled out with buildings of all sizes. Even the streets adjacent to the city's main thoroughfare were starting to fill in, and a big chunk of space was taken up by the United Artists Building - two-and-a-half blocks west of Woodward and south of the cluster of buildings on Grand Circus Park.

Most of the 18-story, 200,000 square-foot United Artists Building had nothing to do with "United Artists." The upper floors were offices - nice, well-appointed offices, according to a contemporary account by the Detroit Free Press.

The United Artists Building, the Free Press said upon its opening in February 1928, "is a fine building and a sightly building and a thoughtfully planned, beautifully executed, well arranged building" that was "designed to meet the exacting requirements of creative workers, as well as ordinary business requirements.... The building is supplied with every modern convenience ... and apparently everything conceivable has been done for the comfort and well being of the tenant and to facilitate his business." The UA would "become the magnificent home of many and diverse enterprises, including a great theater."

Ahh, the theater. Unfortunately it will be demolished as part of the newly started, \$75 million renovation of the building. But unless you were an office drone working in the floors above during the 50 years the UA tower was open, the theater was the building's feature presentation to the greater community. Architect Howard Crane, a heavy hitter in Detroit who also designed the Fox Theatre and Olympia Stadium, drew up the blueprints for the entire structure.

"That theater was the building's main attraction," says Dan Austin of *Historic Detroit*. "The UA was the baby of Detroit's movie palaces, as it was the smallest of the giants. The



THE UNITED ARTISTS BUILDING in Detroit, in 1928. The 18story building, mostly faced with orange brick, featured a 10-story blade sign signifying the building's theater. The sign was replaced in the 1950s. Photo credit: Detroit Free Press archives

UA was built exclusively for films -a rarity at the time - and showed mostly United Artists films. The movie studio was founded in 1919 by actors Charlie Chaplin, Mary Pickford, Douglas Fairbanks and director D.W. Griffith – four of the biggest names in showbiz.

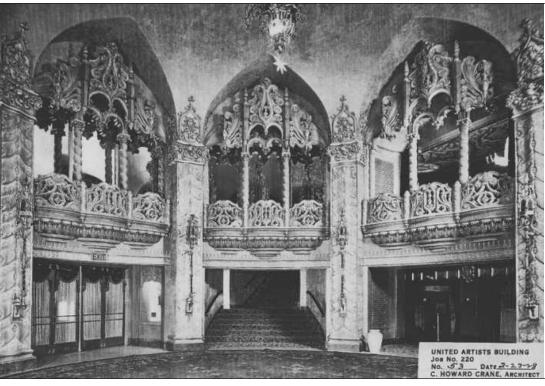
"Detroit's UA was one of three that Howard designed in the Spanish Gothic style for the United Artists Theatre Circuit, and followed theaters in Chicago and Los Angeles. The Detroit theater was considered the sister of the Los Angeles location. Crane, who had done mostly classic theater designs up until this point, was asked to go with an exotic, Gothic style because Pickford loved the look of European castles...."

**The Detroit United Artists** Theatre, said Cinema Treasurers, "also had some major differences" from Crane's Chicago and Los Angeles theaters. The office tower in Detroit was built as a hedge in case the theater became unprofitable.

"Crane was faced with an ir-

regular-shaped lot, but made the best of it, giving the UA a round lobby, with a domed ceiling, gilded Art-Deco inspired Indian princesses on the walls, between wall-length mirrors," said Cinema Treasures. "A marble staircase led up to the mezzanine and balcony levels. The 2,070-seat auditorium, which was said to be nearly accoustically perfect, was fantastically decorated, with Gothic plasterwork, more gilding, metal-work, and brass light fixtures like something out of a Medieval cathedral.

Opening night on Feb. 3, 1928, featured the Gloria Swanson hit Sadie Thompson, with the star herself on a phone hook-up addressing the full house and opening the curtains for the first time.



THE UNITED ARTISTS THEATER in Detroit, shown here after it opened in 1928, "featured a grand, circular lobby, complete with mirrors and huge Indian maidens on the walls that looked down on audiences," says Historic Detroit. "The United Artists' auditorium was like a cathedral of cinema and said to be acoustically perfect, and was decorated with Gothic plaster and interesting brass light fixtures. For this UA theater, (architect) Crane had colored lights filtering down from perforations in the domed ceiling of the auditorium, allowing for the intricate details to be bathed in beautiful illumination." The theater featured "lacy conical fan vaults, an elaborate gilded dome, and great projecting canopies over proscenium and organ grilles," historian Andrew Craig Morrison wrote.

Photo credit: Walbridge

Detroit in the 1920s had an abundance of impeccable showplaces for movies and stage works. The United Artists Theater, wrote Austin, "mainly competed with its nearby neighbors, the Michigan and the Crane-designed Fox, State and Capitol theaters. But there were many others nearby, such as the Oriental and Adams. The intricate designs and lavish interiors of these socalled movie palaces allowed common, working Detroiters to enjoy the splendors of the rich. The theaters became as much of a draw as the films themselves and were part of the show. And Detroit's United Artists was no exception."

The UA had a great run. It had an in-house orchestra and hosted stage shows, but movies were its primary moneymaker. It hosted the Detroit premier of Gone With the Wind in 1940. It became the first Detroit theater to feature Cinemascope (with 1953's How to Marry a Millionaire) and also the first to get 70mm, three years later, with Oklahoma! Anatomy of a Murder, starring Jimmy Stewart, made its world premier at the UA in 1959.

But by the end of the 1960s, the opening of suburban theaters began to portend the demise of the UA, which attempted to stay open with the showing of adult films. The former movie palace would close for good in September 1971.

The Automobile Club of Michigan, the building's primary tenant since the 1950s, moved out in 1974, leaving the building vacant. The furnishings and decor in the building and theater were subsequently auctioned. The Detroit Symphony Orchestra used the acoustically perfect theater hall for record-

ings from 1978 to 1983, until its condition made it unusable.

The building has been held since the Ilitch family's Olympia Development, and was slated for demolition for parking for Comerica Park – until the site was changed and the stadium was built east of Woodward.

On March 31, it was announced in an event in front of the building that a highly complex deal involving multiple investors and tax credits made a comeback of the building a reality. The theater will be demolished as part of the plan.



THE THEATER auditorium's ruins, date unknown. Photo credit: AfterTheFinalCurtain

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ANN ARBOR - UNION MEETING: A monthly union meeting will be held on Monday, May 9th and will start 6:00 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

UNION HALL CLOSING FOR AN UP COMING HOLIDAY: Our office will be closed all day Monday, May 30th for Memorial Day. Our thanks to those who serve. As we celebrate our liberty and freedoms we remember and support those who protect them.

SCHOLARSHIPS: Local 190 Scholarship is now available at the union hall for distribution to members and their families. There are two scholarships available. One from Local 190, due back no later than July 8th. The UA scholarship will now only be accepted electronically, no later than June 9th https://uascholarship fund.communityforce.com. You can contact the union office at (734) 424-0962 for further information.

48th ANNUAL GOLF OUTING: Our annual golf outing will be held on Saturday, July 30th. Our event will be held at Whitmore Lake Golf Links, Whitmore Lake. Mark your calendar for this special event. Tickets will soon be available to purchase at the union hall. If you have any questions please contact Karen at (734) 424-0962 Ext. 210.

IMPORTANT ALLOCATION MEETING-OHIO GAS DISTRI-**BUTION:** A "Special Called Meeting" for the Ohio Gas Distribution Wage allocation is scheduled for Saturday, May 14th from 9:00 a.m. to Noon. This meeting will be held at the Double Tree by Hilton Columbus – Worthington, Ohio. We have a block of rooms set up until the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April for a discounted rate of \$99 per night plus tax. Contact them directly at (800) 870-0349 and reference Group Code: PPU or make your reservation on the website: www.my-event.hilton.com/ plumberspipefittersunion/

**FUSING CLASS:** Anyone interested in registering for the fusing class, please contact Business Agent Pat Duffy at (734) 368-4423, Business Agent Roy Musgrove 734-646-8838 or Ralph Booth at (734)

ROBO CALLS: We are sending out Robo calls to keep you updated and informed, if you are NOT receiving these messages it means we do not have a current phone number on file for you, please contact the hall to update.

MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION JOURNEYMAN WELDERS: Please remember it is very important to keep your continuity forms up

MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION - E-Mail address: Please contact the union hall 734-424-0962 or Pat Duffy 734-368-4423 to make sure we have a current e-mail address.

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

ATTENTION MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION & OHIO GAS DISTRIBUTION & BUILDING TRADES MEMBERS - UA LOCAL **190 WEBSITE:** If you have not already done so, please log in and look at our website www.ua190.org Current members will be able to log into the "Members Only" section using your last name and UA

**NEW ON THE WEBSITE\*\*\*:** Members can now view and sign up for job calls. The same procedure will be used as the call-in line. If you are laid off or go back to work, there are forms available to fill out on the website that will inform the hall.

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

LAID OFF OR BACK TO WORK-IMPORTANT REMINDER **TOALL MEMBERS:** All members who get laid off or report back to work please immediately contact Karen (734) 424-0962 Ext. #210. Please report the last day in which you worked. When calling to report back to work please let Karen know the contactor and the date you reported back to work. PLEASE NOTE: All Members can now go to the website under "members only" and fill out a "back to work" form or "laid off" form.

INFORMATION-FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE:

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

AREPRESENTATIVE FROM FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE WILL BE AT THE UNION HALL: A representative will be at the union hall each month on the  $2^{\rm nd}, 3^{\rm rd},$  and  $4^{\rm t\bar{h}}$  Wednesday of each month. Members will be able to meet with Bernadette from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. You can reach the benefits office Monday through Friday by calling 888-390-7473.

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

The Training Center is open to members wishing to update any certifications, licenses, or qualifications. We are following CDC, OSHA, MiOSHA, MDHHS, and Washtenaw County Health Department guidelines. Check your Certifications to make sure that you are current!

Michigan Plumbing Code update classes: Be sure to renew your license before the April 30, 2022, expiration date. The State has approved our instructor's course. An update class must be done BEFORE SEPTEMBER 15, 2022!!! 2022 Schedule - Thursdays - May 12, 2022, and June 2, 2022. All classes will start at 5:00 pm and be held at the Union Hall. Please call Retha to sign up for one of the classes.

Lead/Asbestos/Blood-borne Pathogens Training (4 hrs): 2022 Schedule - Mondays - July 18, 2022, and Oct 3, 2022. All classes start at 5:00pm.

First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs): 2022 Schedule - Mondays -July 25, 2022, and Oct 17, 2022. All classes start at 5:00pm.

**Welding Lab:** The welding is now open. The schedule is Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 4:30pm-8:30pm, until April 28, 2022. Weld tests will be scheduled as needed. The welding lab will be closed on Union meeting days.

**Pipefitter Class (32hrs):** This class will show participants how to properly set up torches, cut, bevel, and fit-up pipe. You will also be taught how to read welding procedures, proper flange tightening procedures, how to figure offsets, change in direction offsets and rolling offsets. It will run for 8 weeks from 5pm-9pm. Class size is limited to 8 participants. Please call Retha to be put on the list, so we can schedule the class days.

**ASSE Backflow Certification (40hrs):** This is a 40-hour class, to become an ASSE Certified Backflow Tester (5110).

2022 Schedule: Next course starts Sept 13, 2022, at 5:00pm. Course runs on Tue and Wed for 5 weeks and are limited to 8 participants. Call Retha to secure your spot.

ASSE Backflow Re-Certification (8hrs): Re-certification for the ASSE Backflow Tester (5110).

2022 Schedule: The last scheduled course is Oct 18 - 19, 2022. Course is on Tue and Wed and start at 5:00 pm. The course is lim-

ited to 8. Call Retha to sign up for this course.

Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class to be Med Gas certified. Must have a minimum of 4 years, documented experience in the plumbing and/or piping industry. 2022 Schedule: Next course starts on Aug 23, 2022, at 5:00 pm. Course will run for 5 weeks on Tue and Thu. These courses are limited to 16 participants. Call Retha to secure your spot.

(Continued next column)



Sprinkler Fitters Local 704

DETROIT - The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday, May 11, at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

At the March membership meeting, there will be a third and final reading of By-Law proposals. A vote will take place immediately after the readings

COVID-19 vaccinations may become mandatory on certain jobsites in the Detroit area. No company can compel a member to receive the vaccine, it is completely a member's choice. Just be aware that if you choose not to get vaccinated, you will not be allowed on sites that mandate this stipulation.

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

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

Any retiree who would like to volunteer for picket line duty, please reach out to Rob Williams at the Union Hall.

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

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

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

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

#### You Are the Missing Piece.



#### Local 190, con't

**Med Gas Installer Up-Date** (8hrs): Call Retha to be put into the next class. 2022 Schedule: Next course Sept 27 & 29 at 5:00 pm. Course is on Tue and Thu and are limited to 24 participants. Call Retha to be placed in the course that keeps your certification current.

**EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Certification (40hrs):** This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Call Retha to sign up for this class. Once we have enough to put it on, we will schedule it.

**EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs):** This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Class will be 2 days and then the written exam. Call Retha to put on the list for the next class.

Orbital Welding (UA-18a) (24hrs): Must already have a UA Welding certification in-order to sign up for this class. Course will be scheduled soon. Call Retha to be put on the list for this class, as space is limited.

**RETIREE MEETINGS -**PLEASE JOIN US: Our next Spades meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and be held on Thursday, May 5th, at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries and a warm cup of coffee.

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



## Local 357

Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & **HVAC** Service

UA Local 357

KALAMAZOO - UNION MEETING: The next regular Union Meeting will be on Tuesday, May 10 at 6:30 pm. Other meetings that day will be Finance Committee at 4:30 and Executive Board at 5:30.

UNION DUES REMIND-**ERS:** Phone call reminders to pay your dues will not be made. Cash is now accepted at the Union Hall for any payments. You also have the option to pay your union dues through the Local 357 website @ www.ualocal357.com. Note that you must add a 4% fee for using this site. So, if you are paying a month of dues at \$34.00, you need to pay \$35.36. Other ways to pay include sending a check, stopping by the Union Hall, dropping off a payment in the drop box outside the front door or call Lori at (269) 679-3708 and paying with a credit card.

**ORGANIZING:** Congratulations to Matt S. Miller on being selected as Local 357's next Organizer. On March 13<sup>TH</sup>, International Representative Kevin Carden, Michigan Pipe Trades Lead Organizer Ben Ranger, Josh Windy and Bob Gulbranson interviewed four members of Local 357 and picked Matt to be the next Organizer. Kevin and Ben remarked on the quality of applicants to choose from thus making their job difficult. Matt will start training in the coming weeks and when we get his contact information we will share it with you.

PLUMBINGLICENSE: Your Plumbing License needs to be renewed with the State of Michigan by April 30, 2022. The Union Hall needs a copy of your renewed license in order to keep the records up to date. Please get it to us as soon as you can.

**RETIREE MEETINGS: Re**tiree lunch meetings are on the 1st Tuesday of every month. The lunches will start at 11:30 am at Travelers Café, 5225 Portage Rd, Portage, MI. The phone no. for the location is (269) 775-1775.

MEDICAL CLAIMS IS-SUES: As a member, TIC International and Labor First provide a dedicated team of member advocates to assist with the resolution of any medical claims issues. If at any time you experience an issue with your claims being processed and paid correctly, please contact TIC international at (888) 281-3461. For Medicare Retirees -Contact Labor First at (269) 218-3533 or (833) 933-0036.

WEBSITE INFORMATION **-FRINGES-TIC:** Check out the website at www.ualocal357.com and the FACEBOOK Page @ www.facebook.com/UALocal 357/. You should sign up for access to your fringe reporting done by TIC via the Union website. To gain access, click on the Member Resources, then click on MRA / TIC Intl Information and then Register. This is where you will type in your Name, Email Address, UA Card # and create your own password. Once you have completed all the information - click on the LARGE REG-ISTER button that is surrounded by a Blue Box. Your User Access will be granted the next business day. To access your account, once it is set up, all you need to do is access the Membership Button again – type in your email address and password – and all your information will be presented. As a member via the website, you will be able to keep track of all your hours and receive an e-mail when hours are posted to your account. This is very important as it is up to you to keep up to date on the hours being paid on your be-

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

There seems to be a continuing problem regarding notification of divorces. Note that you, the member, will be responsible for any bills incurred and paid on claims of an ex-spouse or dependents. (See Pages 6 and 27 in the Summary Plan Description Booklet for clarification).

**CONDOLENCES:** to the family of brother, Wayne Welsher, on his recent passing.

Condolences to the family of brother, Patrick McNally, on his recent passing.



## Local 370

#### Plumbers, Pipe Fitters and HVAC Service

Plumbers, Pipe Fitters and Hvac Service 370

FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 3, 2022 at 7:00pm. and has been designated a special called meeting for Nominations of officers and trustees. Please note this meeting is scheduled for the First Tuesday in May per our By-Laws.

**Scholarship Applications** for the 2022-2023 school year are now available online at our website UALOCAL370.ORG. The applicant must be a son or daughter of a member in good standing of UA Local Union 370. Complete lists of qualifications and applications are also available at Local 370 Hall. Applications are due by May 15, 2022

Local 370 2022 Golf outing will be held Saturday, July 16th at Flushing Valley Golf course in Flushing. 9 am Shotgun Start. The price is \$70 a man. \$280 per team. Price includes 18 holes with cart, lunch at the turn, Refreshments, Door prizes and Dinner. Stop by the hall and get the signup sheet with all the information. We are limited to 38 teams so sign up early if you want to play.

The May Membership meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 3, 2022 at 7:00pm at UA Local 370 assembly hall, 2151 W Thompson Rd Fenton, MI and has been designated a SPECIAL CALLED MEETING for the purpose of **NOMINATIONS** for the following officers and trustees: Please note this meeting is scheduled for the First Tuesday in May per Local 370 By-Laws. All Positions are 3 year terms and inaugurate in July 2022.

- (1) Business Manager/Financial Secretary/Treasurer
- (1) President
- (1) Vice President
- (1) Recording Secretary (1) Inner Guard
- (4) Executive Board (2) Pension/Insurance Trustee
- (3) Finance Committee
- (3) Sub/Sick Trustee (3) Building Fund Committee
- (2) Scholarship Trustees

(6) FMR Fund Committee (4) Examining Board

Per section 121 of the U.A. Constitution: No member shall be eligible to be nominated for office in any local union unless he shall be a journeyman member and shall have been a member of the united association and the local union in good standing for at least a period of two years immediately prior to the election. Any journeyman member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of two years immediately prior to the date of the election shall not be eligible to be nominated for office in any local union.

Per section 124a of the U.A. constitution: "No member shall vote at any election of any description unless he has been a member in good standing in the local union where the vote is being taken for a period of one year immediately prior to the date of election. Any member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of one year immediately prior to the date of election shall not be eligible to vote in any local union election." Apprentices that have successfully completed their 3<sup>rd</sup> year are now eligible to vote if they meet the requirements listed above.

Election will take place Tuesday June 14, 2022 at UA Local 370 assembly hall, 2151 W Thompson Rd Fenton, MI The polls will open at 2:00pm and close at 7:00pm. In the event of a tie vote a runoff election will be held June 21, 2022 at UA Local 370 assembly hall at 2151 W Thompson Rd Fenton, MI. The Polls will open at 2:00pm and close at 7:00pm.

Per our By-Laws Article XV, The Building Tradesman is hereby adopted and subscribed to as our Labor paper for all members of Local 370. Said paper to be used for all official notification of membership.

Committee and Board meetings are as follows: Examining Board - Tuesday, May

3, 2022, at 4:00pm FMR Committee – Tuesday May

3, 2022, at 4:00pm PAC committee – Tuesday May 3, 2022, at 5:00pm Executive Board –Tuesday May

3, 2022, at 5:00pm Building Committee - Tuesday May 3, 2022, at 6:00pm

Finance Committee -Tuesday May 3, 2022, at 6:15pm JATC Committee - Wednesday April 27, 2022, at 3:30pm

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

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

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

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

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

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

Our web site is up and running: ualocal370.org

We are now able to accept Visa, Master Card, Discover and American Express for window dues. If you want to take advantage of this service there will be a \$1 per month charge added to the monthly window dues fee and a 3% fee for all other transactions.

Plumbing, Mechanical and Residential Code Books are now available at the hall, \$75 each.

Remember to keep your dues current. Any member failing to pay for 3 months shall stand suspended, unable to vote for a period of 1 year or run for office for a period of 2 years and subject to a \$50 reinstatement fee. Dues must be paid in 3-month increments according to our bylaws. Dues will be accepted up to 6:45 on union meeting nights.

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

Local 370 ball caps and winter fleece caps are available at the union offices. Ball caps \$10 and fleece caps \$5. Pocket Tee shirts are available for \$10 each. Hooded sweat shirts and long sleeve pocket tee shirts are available. The sweat shirts are \$30 and the long sleeve tee shirts are \$15. Golf polo and golf wind shirts are available for \$25.

T.I.C. fringe administrators' toll free number is 1-888-797-5862.

#### Justjoking

Two university students had a final exam coming up, but went to a party instead the night before. When they got to their

exam they decided to tell the professor their car had broken down the night before due to a flat



tire, and they had to wait all night to get a ride back to their dorm, and that they needed a bit more time to study.

Reluctantly, the professor said they could have another day to study.

Arriving at class the next morning, each boy was told to go to a separate classroom to take the exam. They shrugged but went to different parts of the building. As each sat down they read the first question. "For 5 points, explain the contents of an atom." At this point they both thought this was going to be a piece of cake and answered the question with ease. The test continued....

"For 50 points, tell me which tire went flat."

## Plumbers Local 98



Membership of Plumbers Local 98

Brothers and Sisters, Local 98 has had an influx of non-union shops coming into our jurisdiction lately. These are two very large projects and we will need your support. Soon, I will be asking you to take the mornings off to protest these jobs. Every time we have full employment we lose work, it's time we support ourselves and our contractors

I told you all a long time ago we need to save ourselves and the calvary is not coming. So, Foreman, Workers, Apprentices & Retirees will all be asked to take a hit financially but it is for all our sakes. We have not worked out all the details on a mass picket but you will know when we do.

Make your favorite place your workplace, tell your friends about our apprenticeship program, which is open now till July 31, 2022. To learn more and apply please visit Plumbers98TC.org/ Apprenticeship.

Have you checked out our website? Announcements, information on meetings, links to your benefits the Training Center, and more can be found there. Go to UALOCAL98.COM to see what's

You're running out of time to renew your Plumbing License. Don't be that person! The State of Michigan renewal notices have gone out for Journeyman and **Apprentices.** It has moved to online for renewal, go to aca3.accela.com/LARA. This site may not be compatible with some mobile devices. If needed you can receive help at the training center or the Union Hall (make sure to bring all your information).

MEETINGS & Union Hall. The next Union Meeting will be held-on Thursday, May 12th at 7:00 pm. The meeting will take place indoors at our Union Hall

Special Called Meeting will be held-on Thursday, May 19th at 7:00 pm for the Allocations of

Retiree Meetings. The APRIL RETIREE MEETING is Wednesday, May 11th from 12 pm

SUB Apps/OOW. By the time you read this I hope SUB Pay will be halted as we are now bringing in travelers. Until then, you have 48 hours to report being out of work and to fill out a SUB App. Once you have proof of unemployment, please send that to the hall at SUB@ualocal98.org so we can set you up in the SUB system. We are now able to offer Direct Deposit on SUB Pay.

You should have received a letter in the mail with the form for Direct Deposit on SUB Pay. Please return that to the hall and note that it takes 30-60 days to set up. It is your responsibility to check your location on the Out of Work List.

Make sure your contact information is up to date as well as MUST and other certifications. If you have any problems with state agencies involving unemployment, or questions on MUST models and staying current, please contact Gary Glaser at 313-580-0148 or Dan Nixon at 248-752-3702 and hopefully they can help you get that resolved.

**Benefits.** We have exciting news as we now have a dedicated BeneSys employee at the Union Hall to help with benefit issues. His name is Andrew Hill and he will be at the hall daily. As we make this transition Financial Secretary Jon DeRoo will still be receiving the calls coming into the Union Hall benefits line and Andrew will be receiving the calls coming into the Local 98 dedicated number at BeneSys. That number is (248) 641-4988 for those members who may not have known.

Andrew and Jon will be working together to create a process that assures members issues get addressed quickly and properly. Jon will report this progress at the monthly Union Meetings.

Dues. You can pay your dues online, over the phone, or by mailing in a check. You can also set up auto payments. If you have questions or want to pay your dues by phone, please call the hall at (248) 307-9800 ext. 3.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPOR-**TUNITIES.** All of the information regarding the scholarships available through Local 98 and the UA can be found on our website, ualocal98.com/scholarship. These scholarships are open to the dependents of our members who are seeking a higher education. Please note, the UA scholarship deadline is June 9, 2022.

The deadline for the Local 98 Scholarship is June 30, 2022, but it is best to get your application submitted sooner rather than

In Memoriam. Our deepest condolences go out to the family and friends of Brother Andrew Weinrauch who passed away on April 6, 2022 and Brother Bruce Wichlacz who passed away on April 13, 2022.

**Retirees.** Congratulations to Brother Robert Thomas who recently retired. We hope you have nothing but happiness in your retirement years.

Good/Welfare. With all the crazy things going on in DC I want to just say great things are happening with our current President, yep, I said Biden and Bi-Partisan support. The U.A. is picking up \$153 billion directly towards our work. Just one small job for Detroit Public schools: a \$900 million project that is currently being bid out. The information is posted on our web page ualocal98.com/2022ua LegislativeOverview/ Please read it and share.

Macomb County Adopt-A-**Highway Week** is April 23 thru May 1. Join us on April 30 as we clean up our stretch of I-94. Please call BA Gary Glaser (313)580-0148 for more information and to sign up so we can assure we have adequate equipment for the number of volunteers. This is a great volunteer opportunity for any high schoolers in need of volunteer

ATTN: HOCKEY PLAY-**ERS!** Plumbers Local 98 is looking into forming a hockey team to play league and tournament hockey. Any member interested in playing hockey for Local 98 please contact BA Dan Nixon. Call or text 248-752-3702 or email dnixon98@ualocal98.org for more

**Springtime is here!** Time to get on the field and play some softball. If you are interested in playing for the Local 98 Softball Team, please contact Manager Jeremy Pitts at (586) 405-9425. In addition, the UA National Softball Tournament held in Cincinnati, OH on the weekend of June 24th - 26th is a fully vaccinated event. I have been reassured the vaccine mandate will stay in effect. If you are COVID Vaccinated and would like to play, please contact Rob Moses at (248) 763-2187.

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

In solidarity I remain, Carlo Castiglione Business Manager Plumbers Local 98 TRAINING CENTER NEWS. Phone # 248-585-1435

Check out The Training Center's website www.Plumbers 98tc.org

The Apprenticeship Application process is now open. The process will be open 4/1/22 and will close 7/31/22. Applications are submitted online at our website.

The Training Center is open. The mask mandate has been lifted. We are asking that people still practice social distancing while in the building. Please call Ryan Lyle at 248-585-1435 ext. 122 if you have any questions.

STATE OF MICHIGAN PLUMBING LICENSE. The State of Michigan is sending out renewal notices. The renewal process is online. All State of Michigan plumbing licenses are renewable at this time without a code update. If any member needs help renewing, with the online system, please call the Training Center and we will assist you. There are not any code updates offered at this time. Once 2018 code update classes are available, we will offer them at the Training Center.

CALLTHE TRAINING CEN-TER TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING **CLASSES OFFERED IN 2022.** All classes are register and prepay by check or money order only. Deadlines for registration and prices are listed with each

Medical Gas Installer (Full 40 hour): Fall Class: September 1st - November 10th Deadline is

August 12th \$206 **Monthly Code Class - Next** class is May 18, 2022 at 4:30 pm. Open to any member looking to have discussions about the interpretation of the Michigan

Plumbing Code. Great refresher for anyone wanting to take a state plumbing exam. Please call Paul at the Training Center at 248-585-1435 ext. 123 to register.

**ASSE Backflow Tester Re-Certification:** Please be sure to check your expiration date, it is now required that you complete your update class prior to your expiration. This class is offered quarterly. \$75

4 hour recert class July 26th and 27th Deadline is June 24th 4 hour recert class October 25th and 26th Deadline is Septem-

ASSE Tester (Full 40 hour): Fall Class: August 30th - November 8th Deadline is August 5th

ber 23rd

ASSE Repairer: \*\*\* Prerequisite: Must hold a current 5110 Tester Certification Fall Class: August 31st - October 5th, Deadline is August 12th \$75

Industrial Rigging: June 30th - August 27th, Deadline is June 10th \$100 Class size limited to 10

6010 Medical Gas Installer Recertification-\*All current 2018 Medical Gas Installer certification holders are required to take this update to 2021. \$130.00

\*OPEN WELDING\* - Our welding shop is open! The new ventilation system has been installed. Please call Chris Opalka 248-585-1435 ext. 146 for any welding related inquiries and to check on booth availability.

If your brazing or welding certs are ready to expire, call to schedule an appointment. The next WELDING Test session will be May 7. You must call to schedule your welding tests at least 3 days prior to the test. The next BRAZING Cert Session will be Friday, May 13, 2022. Please note: All members must be dressed appropriately to be in the shop

2022 Course Hour reimbursement forms are available at the Training Center. You must have 8 hours (approved hours credited may vary from actual hours attended) of verifiable approved classes/training from January 1 - December 31, 2022 to be eligible for the \$100.00 reim-

**OSHA Training -** OSHA 10, available as on an online class for \$25 at www.careersafeonline.com This OSHA 10 class is not affiliated with the UA or our Training Center. OSHA 10 and 30 Hour Training is also offered online through the MUST website. Go to www.mustonline.org. \*\*Be sure to take the Construction Safety courses; not the General Industry courses.

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

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

"A celebrity is one who is known to many persons he is glad he doesn't know.'

-H. L. Mencken (1880 - 1956)

"I detest life-insurance agents; they always argue that I shall some day die, which is not

- Stephen Leacock (1869 -1944)

"In taking revenge, a man is but even with his enemy; but in passing it over, he is superior.' Sir Francis Bacon (1561 -1626)

## Local 636



Pipe Fitters 636

DETROIT - The UA Scholarship Trust Fund is gearing up for the 2022/2023 academic year scholarship awards. Dependents of UA members who are pursuing a post-high school education at an accredited college or university may apply for a scholarship. The deadline for submitting applications is June 9, 2022.

Applications are accepted electronically through: ua scholarshipfund.community force.com. Please visit that site for further information and instructions. Also, the UA Scholarship Fund information is located at the back of the UA Journal.

We will be hosting our 49th Annual Golf Outing on Saturday, June 18, 2022 at the Links of Novi, 50395 Ten Mile Rd. in Novi. We will be playing a four-man scramble with an 8 am shotgun start. Tickets are limited to 216 GOLFERS and available on a firstcome, first-serve basis. Foursomes can be reserved at a cost of \$500. This will include a continental breakfast, range balls, 18 holes of golf with cart, lunch on the turn, complimentary soft drinks/beer, prizes, and a buffet dinner immediately following completion of play. Sponsorships and ticket reservations are on a "FIRST COME FIRST SERVE" basis and can be guaranteed with early request and payment. Contact "MOLLY KRIST" (248)538-6636 at the hall prior to ordering. Ticket orders and sponsorships will be accepted until Friday, June 3, or until sold out. All tickets will be mailed. Please make checks payable to: "Pipefitters Local 636" and return to: Pipefitters Local 636 Golf Committee, 30100 Northwestern Hwy., Farmington Hills, MI 48334

The next union meeting will be May 17, 2022 at 7pm at George Romanian St. Cultural Center, 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd., Southfield, MI 48075.

The Retiree Meetings are up and running again. The Retirees will be meeting the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month at 11am at Local 636 Union Hall. The next Retiree meeting will be May 19, 2022.

Our Deepest Sympathy goes out to Retiree Mark Ruppert on the passing of his Mother, Also, to Journeyman, Jeff Gillies on the passing of his Father, George. May they rest in Peace.

Update on Brother Brian Mierendorf – Brian is still in U of M Burn Unit, he still has a long road ahead of him. The GO FUND ME PAGE is still set up to help him and his family out. If you'd rather drop a donation off at the Union Hall vs. the Go Fund Me Page, we will make sure the donation will get to his family. Brian and his family are very thankful for everyone's thoughts and prayers. The Go Fund Me Page for Brian is under listed as Coach Brian.

The Window Dues structure is as follows for active members: \$31 monthly/\$93 per quarter/ \$186-6 months/\$372 for the entire year. For your convenience, you can call the hall and pay over the phone with your credit card number. If you do not pay your Dues by the end of each quarter, you will be assessed an "re-instatement" fee of \$50. After 2 quarters go unpaid you will then be Expelled and have to be Re-Initiated and pay a \$200 Re-Initiation fee.

Make sure you inform the Union Hall when you have a change of address, phone num-

ber and/or email address. Also, we are asking all members to please inform the Union Hall on a timely basis of any passing of a member and/or their spouse so Local 636 can properly pay our respects to the family. Thank you in advance for your help.

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

Any member that is Retiring contact BeneSys at those numbers as well for your Retirement paperwork or if you want to meet with Theresa Danko, Financial Secretary-Treasurer, please give her a 7-to-10-day notice so that he can get all of your paperwork in order.

**Defined Contribution Pen**sion Plan: For those members who use the Voice Response Unit, VRU to obtain balance information and transfers funds in your Defined Contribution Pension, the number has changed. The new no. for the VRU is 877-410-9984. Plan provider no. is 7526.

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

Worker Assistance Program: Work Life Strategies, LLC are available to our members and their families to provide personal counseling services and when needed, referral to other professionals. Call to talk to a counselor for issues relating to grief, alcohol and or drug addiction, bankruptcy, financial management, marital, depression, legal and family counseling. Consultations with Work Life Strategies are a service paid for by the Insurance Fund. Referrals to outside professionals, if needed, will be paid for according to the current health care plan benefits. CJ Harrison would like all our members to know that she is still available by phone during these uncertain times, she is working from home doing phone conferences which is still beneficial to all our members and their families. You can contact her @ 313-580-6887.

Please contact Kim at the Pipefitters Local 636 Training Center 248-585-0636 for upcoming classes or look on their website www.pipefitters636tc.org for information.

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

pay requests to subpay@ pipefitters636.org Reminder to all Local 636

Members-Local 636 does not have a sanctioned Facebook and/ or any other social media sites. We are working on putting together a social media site. If you require information regarding Local 636, please refer to our website www.pipefitters636.org or any paid officer for further information.



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

Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 111 UPPER PENINSULA - The next Union Meeting will be in Escanaba on April 28, 2022 @ 7:30 p.m. EST. This will be a special called meeting for a possible

new contract vote. MRA CARD: Please note, after using your MRA card, you will still need to "substantiate" your claim by sending in your Explanation of Benefits (EOB) or an itemized bill with receipt of payment. Remember, when using your MRA card, your date of service must be within a year of the date you use your card. If you are having trouble, please call Zenith American at (866) 823-4730 ext. 1 and they will assist you.

Reminder: Check your records and contact the hall with any changes to the following: E-Mail, home address, phone number, a new birth, marriage, divorce, or death. Please call April or Ann to have your information updated.

Training news: Open welding class with David Pedersen is occurring on Tuesdays at 5 pm, on a week-to-week basis pending interest. To be added to the notification list or to register, contact John Antoncew. A spot in the class is not confirmed until you receive a response.

Swag: Don't forget to pick up your Hoodies, T-shirts, hats, knife or flashlight in stock now at either hall.

Reminder: It is your responsibility to call the hall as soon as you get laid off, the day you call in is the date that you are placed on the Out of Work List, if you do not call in you will not be referred to work.

Reminder to all apprentices, you must attend 4 union meetings per year.

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

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

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

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

MSHA Training: The 2022 MSHA schedule is on our web site & our Facebook page. To register for an MSHA class please go to **Upconstruction.org** and go to the MSHA calendar to register. This website applies for cancelling classes also. MSHA expires in one year.



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

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#### Local 85 Plumbers & Steam Fitters

Plumbers and Steamfitters 85 SAGINAW – The next Union

Meeting will be on Wednesday, April 27, 2022 at the Union Hall, 3535 Bay Rd. starting at 7:00 PM.

The next Northern Informational Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 1, 2022 at 7:00 PM at the Northern Facility at 2476 Industrial Dr. in Grayling, MI.

Please note: Our **new mail**ing address for all correspondences has changed to 3535 Bay Rd. Saginaw, MI 48603.

**Contact Information:** Justin Pomerville, Business Manager (989) 799-5261 x 8513

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

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

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

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

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

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

The **new website** is up and running. Please check out www.ualocal85.org. Click on Local 85 Members to access members only information. Login information is username: first initial with full last name. Password is 00 with your UA Card Number. If you should have any difficulties logging in, please call Kristin at (989) 799-5261 ext. 8511.

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

JATC News: Congratulations to our newest journeyman Josh Musinski!

Plumbing Code Updates will be offered as soon as the information and material are available. You should renew your Michigan State Plumbing license as normal and plan on attending the update class as soon as offered.

GOD BLESS ORGANIZED LABOR AND THE LABOR MOVEMENT!

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

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

SUB Application for Ben**efits:** Must be on file in order to receive SUB Check. Available at

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

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

NOTE TO ALL MEMBERS: Address & Phone Update: Please call the Union Hall to up-

date any address or phone number changes at (989) 799-5261. **Beneficiary Cards:** Please call the Union Hall for any

changes in beneficiary information at (989) 799-5261. Website Address: Please

visit www.ualocal85.org.

**Insurance:** When you are working out of another Local's jurisdiction it may take up to 90 days for your Insurance and Pension

to be reciprocated back to Local (Continued next column)



#### Plumbers & Pipe Fitters

**Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 333** LANSING - May's union meeting will be held Wednesday,

May 18, 2023, at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr Blvd., Lansing, MI. 48911 at

June's union meeting will be held Wednesday, June 15, 2022 at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing, MI. 48911 at 7:30pm.

Scholarship applications for the 2022-2023 school year are available at all three Local 333 Union Halls or by calling Joni at 517-784-1106 ect#4.

PLEASE NOTE: For all General Motors work you must be current on your MUST Safety Modules and drug test. If you have questions or concerns please contact the Lansing office. (517) 393-5480.

Please check your certifications such a Backflow, Med-Gas, Weld, etc. for the expiring dates. If a recertification class in needed please check the website, or contact the Training Center at 517-323-0333

Weld Classes: Spring weld classes began March 28, 2022. If you're interested in taking the weld class please sign up at www.ua333.org or call Trent or Diana at 517-323-0333. There is a \$25.00 fee, please call your respective hall to pay for the class.

Lansing: (Tuesdays & Thursdays) Lansing Training Center, 16180 National Parkway, Lansing, MI. 48906.

Jackson: (Tuesdays & Thursdays) 3101 Industrial Allied Dr. Jackson, MI. 49201.

Battle Creek: (Mondays & Thursdays) (KCC) RMTC, 405 Hill Brady Rd. Battle Creek, MI.

Weld Tests are the second Tuesday of each month at the **Lansing Training Center.** 

Masters test prep is Mondays and Wednesdays every week at the Lansing Training Center.

If you are interested in signing up for classes please go to our website at www.ua333.org or call the Training Center (517) 323-

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

NOTICE!!! The Local 333 Retiree Breakfasts are back!!! The next breakfast will be Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at 10:00 am at the Alpha Coney Island, at 1188 Jackson Crossing, Jackson, MI.

**PLEASE NOTE:** This is a new location. Restaurant is located at the west end of the Jackson Crossing shopping center. If you have any questions or need directions just contact Joni at 517-784-1106 ext#4. Please pass the word to fellow retired mem-

**SAVE THE DATE:** Breakfast for Kids!! The 22nd Annual Doug Griffith Community Service Award Breakfast, Friday, May 20, 2022, 9:00 a.m., Plumber's Local 333 Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr., Blvd Lansing, MI 48911 Cost: \$25.00 per person Checks payable to the Children's Miracle Network and mailed to: (Continued next column)

#### Local 85, con't

85, which may cause problems with your Health Insurance. AL-WAYS SAVE YOUR CHECK STUBS and fax them in to the hall at 989-791-3468 with the local you are working out of indicated. We will fax them down to BeneSys

to keep your insurance up to date. RETIREE LUNCHEON: All retiree luncheons are postponed until further notice. Please check the ualocal85.org or Facebook for all up-to-date information.

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



Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 671 MONROE - The next Regu-

lar Union meeting is scheduled for May 5, 2022 at 7 p.m. The Executive Board will also meet in person on May 5, at 5 p.m. If any Member wishes to see them, please contact the Hall prior to the meeting.

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

There will be a SPECIAL ORDER of BUSINESS at the next Union Meeting (May 5, 2022) regarding the final reading and vote of a potential By-Law changes.

Election of Officers: Nominations for the Election of Officers will take place during a special order of business at the May 5 Union Meeting. You must be a Journeyman and in good standing with the United Association for a period of at least 2 years to be eligible to run for office.

Notice: If you wish to run for office; it is strongly recommended that you submit a Letter of Acceptance of Nomination prior to the nomination meeting if there is even a remote chance you may not be present. The Election of Officers will be held on June 2.

At the 40th UA Convention, a UA Constitution Bylaw was changed regarding dues for 40year members. If you have maintained membership in the United Association for 40 years, and are retired, your dues will be reduced to \$10 per month starting Jan. 1, 2022. If you are still working then you will pay the full \$33.50 per month until your retirement.

**Retirees:** If you are a Medicare retiree and are having any issues with United Healthcare and its coverage; please contact Mike or Carly at the Union Hall or Labor First on the help line (734-234-6496).

All retiree self-pays are due on the 15th of the month prior to the month you want coverage. This is the cause of some of our issues with coverage being denied. For example, if you are paying for May, you now need to have that payment in by April 15th. This will help avoid any disruptions in coverage.

**Scholarship Opportunities:** Local 671 is pleased to announce that we are offering a scholarship for the very first time. The Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 671 Scholarship Fund will be awarding (2) \$1000 scholarships. (1) each will be awarded to a qualified dependent, grandchild or spouse of a Local 671 Member in good standing. The applicants must be a 2022 graduating senior or currently enrolled as a full-time student of a college or a qualified post-secondary school. The deadline for applicants will be Friday June 17, 2022. Contact Mike at the Hall to apply.

Condolences: Our condolences go out to the Family of Retiree Rick Sonak who passed away on April 12 after a lengthy battle with illness. Rick was a 39year member of Local 671. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Lynda, family and friends.

**Union Promotion:** The 2022 **UA National Softball Tournament** is scheduled for June 24-26 in Cincinnati, Ohio. We traditionally send a team down every year and we hope to do that this year. If you are interested, please contact the Hall or Nate Schneider. This is a UA sanctioned event and you MUST BE FULLY VACCINATED to participate. I hope to see you in Cincinnati.

**Cultivate Community:** The (Continued next column)

#### Local 333, con't UA Local 333 Plumbers &

Pipefitters, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 48911

If you have any life changes, marriage, divorce, births, address changes, please contact Debra at our Lansing office 517-393-5480 ext.#4.

Deepest sympathy to Lansing member Lester Wilberding on the passing of his lovely bride of 54 years Linda Wilberding. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this sorrowful time.

Sincere condolences to Lansing members Bryan Leek on the loss of his mother and Deshon Leek's grandmother Emogene Leek, who passed away April 15, 2022, at the age of 88. We are so very sorry for your loss.

Get will wishes to Steve Simon, we wish you a very speedy recovery.



#### Local 174

#### Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & Service Trades

West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters & Service Trades Local Union No. 174

COOPERSVILLE-Meeting Notice: Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be May 3rd. The meeting will take place in the Assembly Hall at 1008 O'Malley Dr in Coopersville at 7pm. The front office will remail open until

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

JUNE MEETING DATE CHANGE-SPECIAL CALLED. The June meeting will be held on MONDAY, JUNE 6th at the Assembly Hall at 7pm. The meeting was moved to allow the officers to attend the Michigan Pipe Trades Convention. The meeting is special-called for the pur-

pose of wage allocation. Golf League: The Local #174 Golf League will start on April 27<sup>th</sup> at 5pm at Hickory Knoll Golf Course in Whitehall. The format is a two-person handicap league. Show up with your partner on the 27th and we'll get you signed up. If you do not have a partner we can try and pair you up with someone of add you to the sub list.

Organizer: Local #174 would like to congratulate Brother Johnny Ortiz on being selected as the new Local #174/Michigan Pipe Trades Organizer. Thank you to all who applied.

**Contract Negotiations:** Our current CBA is set to expire June 30, 2022. Our bargaining committee will begin contract negotiations in the coming months. We will be gathering feedback on our current CBA at every monthly meeting from now until the new agreement is in place. Please attend the Union meetings and join in the discussions.

Wild Game Dinner: Hello brothers and sisters, it is once again time for the Wild Game Dinner. The event is being held at The Community Hub in Muskegon on May 5th. Doors open at 6pm Sharp! We are in need of wild game donations. If you have any to game to donate please contact Jason Finch at the Union Hall. We have tickets available at the Hall. There will be gun raffles, outdoor camping equipment raffles, silent auction items and more. Come out have some great food and try to win one of our fabulous prizes.

**Hiring Rule Reminder:** As per section 5.8 of the CBA, the 50/50 hiring provision applies only to jobs working under the Local CBA. Any national agree-

#### Local 671, con't

Cultivate Community Event will be held on May 21 starting at 8 am. Local 671 and its contractors will once again be sponsoring a team. This is a great event that is always a lot of fun! Breakfast and lunch will be provided. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Vinnie.

**Mobile Food Pantry:** There are (2) opportunities to help with mobile food pantries. Saturday April 23 there will be a mobile food distribution at the Arthur Lesow Center at 10am to 12pm. Volunteers show up at 9am. The second Mobile Food Pantry is hosted by the AFL-CIO on April 30 at the Mall of Monroe. Volunteers need to be there at 9am and the distribution is from 10am to 12pm. If anyone is interested in helping; please come out and volunteer. If anyone is in need or knows someone in need; please come out and get a box of food. This is for Monroe County residents only.

**Mobile App:** Our Mobile App titled "UA Local 671" is available in the App Store for iPhone or Android. The Username for Local 671 Members is your last name and your book number (UA Card Number). The Password is just your book number.

In Closing: I hope everyone had a Happy and Healthy Easter. Going into the warm months we have a lot on our schedule. The first and most important date is May 5, Nominations of Officers. If you are a journeyman member in good standing for at least 2 years, I encourage you to consider running for political office. The quickest way to kill your Union is to not be involved. I hope to see you all there on nomination night.

Mike Jewell: Cell (419) 262-8503 email: mike@ualocal671.com Vinnie Fenech: Cell (734) 693-4082 email: vinnie@ualocal 671.com

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

Local 671 Fax: (734) 242-4692

ment jobs calling for manpower are not eligible for the 50/50 pro-

**Covid Test Reimbursement:** If you purchase an at-home COVID Test please save your receipt. Effective January 15<sup>th</sup> the health fund will reimburse the cost of up to 8 tests per month. We are still working on setting up the reimbursement arrangement. Once that process is in place you will receive a letter with instruction on how to obtain reimbursement. You can order four free tests per household at www.covidtests.gov.

Retiree Breakfast: The retiree breakfast will be held on May 5<sup>th</sup> at 9am at New Beginnings Restaurant in Coopersville.

**COVID Vaccine Incentive:** Local #174 Health Fund will provide a \$50 Visa gift card for any member who gets their COIVD vaccine or provides a doctor's letter saying they cannot get the COVID vaccine. This is for working participants only, not family members. Please provide that information to Cami in person or via email to cburris@ua174.org. Cami will submit a list weekly to TIC and TIC will mail out the gift cards.

**Contact Information:** If you have a change in contact information or to verify your contact info PLEASE CONTACT CAMI so we can keep our system up to

TIC, Aetna, Labor First: If you have issues with any of our fund service providers please contact Ryan Bennett at rbennett@ua174.org. Please try to remember who you spoke with, this will help the company fix the

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

Medicare Retirees: Effective Jan. 1, 2021 your insurance premiums will be reduced by approximately 12.5%. New rates are

Single Medicare, \$262.55 Retiree and Spouse Medicare, \$525.09 Retiree and Non-Medicare

Spouse, \$677.55 **Dispatch:** We will be splitting up the dispatch responsibilities between the business agent

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

New insurance carriers: Active and NON Medicare Retir-

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

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

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

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

working in our jurisdiction. Metal Trades, Helpers, and **Trainees:** Please remember that if you are working as a Metal Trades, Helper, or Trainee your raises are based on the day you

were first dispatched to work at that classification. If you are not sure of your dispatch date, please contact the Union office. It is up to you to let the Union office

Labor Councils: - Kent Ionia - 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month / 5:00pm / Contact Nathan for lo-

Lakeshore – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month / CIO Hall 490 Western / 6pm

All members are encouraged to become active in our area Labor Councils. Please contact a Union Officer for details. \*The Kent Ionia Labor Council has recently moved from the building on Benjamin and will be rotating meeting locations monthly.

#### FRINGE PLAN THIRD **PARTY ADMINISTRATOR:**

West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters and Service Trades Local No.174 Fringe Benefit Funds

> 6525 Centurion Drive Lansing, MI 48917-9275 (517) 321-7502 Phone (855) 40-PLUMB Toll Free (517) 321-7508 Fax

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

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

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

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

Training News: The Training Center will be closed on May 4, 5, 6, 2022 as the staff will be out of town for the 2022 Apprentice Contest.

FIRST AID: First Aid/CPR/ BBP class will be the second Thursday of the month, from 5:00p-9:00p. The next classes will be held Thursday, May 12, 2022, and Thursday, June 9, 2022.

**BACKFLOW:** ASSE Backflow Repairer class will run May 23, 25, 31, June 1, 2, from 5 pm-9pm. Test Saturday June 4 at 8 am.

The next weld test event will be Saturday, May 14, 2022 @ 8:00am. The capability demonstration will be on Thursday, May 12, 2022 @ 5:00p – 9:00p. Please call and sign up if you plan

Open Welding on Wednesday nights is currently cancelled until further notice.

If you have a certification that has expired in the last few months and have questions regarding recertification, please contact the Training Office. Many certifications have extended grace periods on expiration dates.

Please contact Jeff Rumsey or Nicole Schumaker if you have questions. Call the Training Office @ (616)837-0222 x16 (Jeff) / Nicole @ (616)837-0222 x30. Or via text Jeff (231)923-8140 / Nicole (231)206-4213.

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

"Raise your sail one foot and you get ten feet of wind.' -Chinese Proverb

'Sometimes I get the feeling the whole world is against me, but deep down I know that's not true. Some smaller countries are neutral.'

- Robert Orben



#### Local 149 Roofers & Waterproofers

#### Roofers Local Local 149

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

Regular Membership Meeting. The regular membership meeting is scheduled for Tues, May 3, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

**Executive Board Meeting.** The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., May 3, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

**Detroit Wage Allocation.** The proposals to determine what to do with this year's \$1.65 raise are as follows.

Proposal 1-\$0.50 Check, \$1.00 Annuity, \$0.10 Health & Welfare,

\$0.05 Hourly Dues. Proposal 2-\$0.10 Check, \$1.00 Pension, \$0.50 Health & Welfare,

\$0.05 Hourly Dues. Proposal 3-\$1.00 Annuity, \$0.10 Health & Welfare, \$0.50 Vaca-

tion, \$0.05 Hourly Dues.

Proposal 4-\$0.50 Check, \$0.50 Annuity, \$0.10 Health & Welfare, \$0.50 Vacation, \$005 Hourly Dues.

Voting on the proposals is scheduled for the Tuesday, May 3,

2022, at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216, from 2:00pm thru 7:00pm. Nominations. Nominations for the following officers and trust-

ees: Please note this meeting is scheduled for the Tuesday, May 3, 2022, at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216, 7:00pm. All elected Officers and Trustee of this Union shall serve for a period of Three (3) years.

- (1) Business Manager/Financial Secretary/Treasurer
- (2) Business Agent
- (5) Executive Board (1) President
- (1) Vice President
- (1) Recording Secretary
- (3) Trustees
- (1) Sergeant-at-Arms
- (1) Pension Trustee (1) Insurance Trustee

Scholarship Grant Program. Roofers Union Local No. 149 and the Roofing Industry Promotion Fund are working together to offer college scholarship grants to worthy individuals. This year the program offers four (4) scholarship grants in the amount of \$1000 each, to those eligible individuals who are attending or are planning to enroll at an accepted College or University. Previous winners will not be eligible.

This year the committee is proud to announce the offering of four scholarship grants, for those planning a post high school higher

A. Three (3) scholarships offered to those persons who are dependents of Active Roofers Union Local #149 Members, and

B. One (1) scholarship offered to those persons who are dependents of RIPF member contractor office employees. Dependents of company owners or principals are not eligible.

HOW TO WIN. Those individuals interested in obtaining one of four (4) scholarship grants, should submit an essay to the Joint Scholarship Committee. The essay should contain 250 words or more. You may select one or more of the following topics:

- Roofing Technology Old vs. New
- Roofing Safety Safety practices and their importance
- Roofing Impact What does roofing mean to you, based on your life experiences?
- Roofing Ethics Is my parent and/or guardian in a job that matters to society?

DEADLINE. All essays MUST BE RECEIVED (NOT POST-MARKED) at the RIPF office by mail, fax, or email no later than Friday, June 3, 2022. Essay should be type written, and be accompanied by the "Application Form," which includes the applicant's name, address, telephone number, college applied to, selected study major, parent or guardians name, and parent or guardian employer.

NOTICE OF AWARD. Winners will be notified by mail. The Roofers Union Local No.149 – Roofing Industry Promotion Fund Scholarship Committee are the sole judges of essays.

For additional information, contact the Union Hall at 313.961.6093. Union Dues. Make sure you pay your monthly dues before the end of every month to stay in good standing. You can pay dues at the Hall with a cash, money order, credit, or debit card. Union dues can be paid over the phone with a credit or debit card. Monthly dues can be taken out of your vacation check by filling out a form at the Hall (active Members only). The mailbox is only to be used for checks and money orders, do not put cash in the mailbox. To be eligible for the International Union Burial Benefit, a member must be in continuous

If you have any questions please call the Hall at 313-961-6093 Website for announcements, news, and updates: www.

Moving. If you have a new address please make sure to let the Union Hall know. We will take care of your account with the Union Hall that includes the Building Tradesman Paper, International Union, and Trust Fund.

**Reminder.** Members, please call the Hall when you see a roofing project whether it is one of our signatory companies or not. The Hall needs this information for recruitment purposes, and hopefully to get a picture of our members for Facebook. 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.

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

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

TJaranowski@DetroitRoofers.org to make arrangements. Vacation and Holiday Check Direct Deposit. Members will have the option to have their Vacation and Holiday check direct deposited in their bank account starting with the April 2022 payout. This in-

cludes 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. The Member will need to know the following Financial Institution information, Routing No., Account No., name of Financial Institution, address, and telephone

number. MID-MICHIGAN AREA – Clio Office. The next Mid-Michigan regular membership meeting scheduled for Tue., April 12, 2022 at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420.

Notice of Election - Mid-Michigan Negotiating Committee. The following members are the Mid-Michigan Negotiating Committee: Robert Coats, Jesse Wangler, Frank Ostrander

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

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

f you are interested in any of these classes, contact the Union Hall/Training Center, 810-687-1368, or midmichroofers149@gmail.com to make arrangements.

**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 4/18/2022, 2:00p.m. In Solidarity, Brian Gregg Business Manager, Roofers & Waterproofers Local 149

"A problem is a chance for you to do your best."

-Duke Ellington (1899 - 1974)



#### Heat and Frost **Insulators**

#### Local 25

**Heat & Frost Insulators Local** 25

SOUTHFIELD-UNION MEETING - The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, May 12, 2022 at



6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge St., Southfield, MI 48033. This Meeting will be special called for wage increase allocation. This meeting is manda-

tory for all ap-

**McGLONE** 

prentices. GOLFLEAGUE: Any member interested in a Local 25 golf league should contact apprentice member Jeff Matties, (313) 400-

NOTICE TO ALL: When you move into the Medicare Advantage Program, your deductible balance for the year, is supposed to carry over. Whatever vou 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 vour deductible, please contact the Fund Office.

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

M.U.S.T. SAFETY MOD-ULES: 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

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

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

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

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



#### Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 47

LANSING – The next Special Called Union Meeting will be held on Friday, May 13, 2022 at 7:30

The meeting will be held at the J.A.T.C. Training center located at 906 Terminal Rd., Lansing, MI 48933. The purpose of this meeting is for our 2022 Wage Disbursement. The May 13, 2022 Meeting is also a Notified Meeting for the purpose to elect the 4<sup>th</sup> Quinquennial Delegate as stated in the International Constitution and Bylaws: **Article 5, Conventions. Please** note, this is a Mandatory Meeting for All Apprentices.

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

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

The Funds Trustees have waived the 79-hour rule.

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

Per the Rules and Proce**dures:** 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

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

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

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

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

Invites and Scholarship Applications have been sent out to all Active Members and Retirees. Please fill out the invite and send it in as soon as possible so we can get a count on how many to expect.

Local 47's Annual Golf Outing will be held on Saturday, July 30, 2022. The cost will be \$75/ person or \$300/team. If you wish to participate please call the office with the names of your team members, and you can either pay by check or Venmo.

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 Number: (800) 323-8079

Telephone Number: (517) 321-7502

"What is written without effort is in general read without plea-

sure. -Samuel Johnson (1709 - 1784)

"A man does not sin by commission only, but often by

ommission.' -Marcus Aurelius Antoninus (121 AD - 180 AD)

"A thing is not necessarily true because a man dies for it."

-Oscar Wilde (1854 - 1900)



#### Local 47 **Heat and Frost**

# **Insulators**

Fax Number: (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 abovementioned forms into the fund ASAP and you will be reinstated retroactively

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

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

Please complete and return the working spousal forms to

**JATC Coordinator Phil** Wilson (616-466-8736)

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

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

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

"Never bear more than one trouble at a time. Some people bear three kinds - all they have had, all they have now, and all they expect to have." -Edward Everett Hale (1822

"Tip the world over on its side and everything loose will land in Los Angeles. -Frank Lloyd Wright (1869 -

1959) "What you cannot enforce,

do not command.' - Sophocles (496 BC - 406



#### **Abatement** Workers Local 207

**Abatement Workers Local 207** TAYLOR – There are a lot of upcoming projects slated for early



for certain sites. KEVIN Remember to MEAGHER call in if you are

unemployed for help with future placement.

Updated, working telephone numbers are necessary to help you with work placement. Do not get caught without the necessary current job site credentials.

Work in other areas of the region will be picking up in Ohio, West Virginia as well as Kentucky. Spring outages in all areas in the region are on the horizon so make sure if you can travel that you make sure to get

licensed as soon as possible. With most state agencies working from home during this pandemic filling out on-line renewals is the way to go. They are processing much quicker than traditional mail in applications. If you have any questions about on-line applications or what states you may want to get a license for do not hesitate to call the office or my cell.

If you can recommend anyone that you know can handle this work have them call the office to get an application filled out and sent in so we can get them into the next class. You can also fill out application on our website WWW.local207.ORG

**UPCOMING ASBESTOS** TRAINING CLASS. Asbestos Supervisor Refresher Saturday June 4th 2012 Check with the Office to ensure

the classes will occur as scheduled.

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

— Classes begin promptly at 8AM and end at 4PM, followed by a Lead Awareness Update. If you are due to expire and

need one of these refreshers now,

please call the Taylor Office (1-

800-207-5622) to register. —Class sizes are being limited due to state guidelines currently in place.

#### **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 approxi-

mately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits. Attorneys J.B. Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi have

55 years combined experience



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

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

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

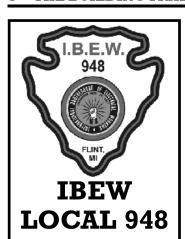
Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi offer free phone or office consultation. If they represent you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

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



IBEW Local 948

FLINT – Our May Union Meeting will be held on Monday, May 2nd, 2022, at 6:00pm.

Our April Executive Board Meeting will be held on Monday, April 25th, 2022, at 4:30 pm.

The Next Retiree Club Meeting will be Tuesday, May 3rd, at 9:00am then Tuesday, May 16th, 2022 at 8:00am.

#### OFFICIAL NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS AND ELEC-

I.B.E.W. LOCAL UNION 948

The nominations for all officers of Local Union 948, IBEW will be held on Monday, May 2, 2022, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the local meeting hall located at 1251 W. Hill Rd., Flint, MI. 48507. Anyone desiring to be nominated must be present during the nominations or provide a written and signed statement that they will accept the nomination prior to being nominated. No member may be a candidate for more than one office. Anyone nominated to more than one office must choose the office for which they will be a candidate. Nominations do not require a second to be accepted.

Nominations will proceed in the order of offices as listed in the IBEW Constitution whose term of office shall be 3 years:

President Vice-President

Recording Secretary Financial Secretary/Business Manager

Treasurer Executive board (7 to be elected)

Examining Board (5 to be elected).

In order to be nominated, a member must have a minimum of 2 years of continuous good standing in Local Union 948. Good standing means that the member is current in their payment of dues and has been for the 2 years preceding the nomi-

No Apprentice shall be eligible to hold office in the Local Union.

As stated in Article XII, Section 7 of the Local Union bylaws; all members in good standing shall have a voice and a vote one year after being sworn into Local

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

The election of officers shall take place between the hours of 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. on Monday, June 6, 2022 at the local union meeting hall located at 1251 W. Hill Rd., Flint, MI. 48507. The ballots will be counted immediately following the closing of the polls and the results shall be announced immediately after all ballots are counted. A complete listing of the results shall be posted at the Union Hall by the close of business on the day following the

Absentee ballots shall be available to any member upon written request to the election judge. Mail Request to Steven Teel, Election Judge, PO Box 320527 Flint, MI 48532. Such requests will be accepted up to 5 days prior to the date of the election. Anyone receiving an absentee ballot will not be entitled to vote at the polls without first presenting the election judge with their unused ballot and the envelope used in the mailing. Absentee ballots received at the post office box after 4p.m. on June 6,

2022 will not be counted. Candidates shall be entitled to an observer at the polling place, during the counting of the ballots and when the absentee ballots are picked up from the P.O. Box. Observers may not interfere with the orderly procedure of the election. There shall be no campaigning or electioneering at the polls nor within 50 feet from the entrance to the polling place. No postings except for instructions shall be permitted at the polling place.

In the event a runoff election is required, same shall be held on Monday, June 27, 2022. The same rules shall apply to the run-off election as were applicable to the (Continued next column)



**IBEW** Local 275

COOPERSVILLE - Dear Brothers and Sisters, the work outlook remains unchanged from what we've been reporting over the last few months.

Wild game tickets are still available at the Hall. This year's dinner is scheduled for May 5 @ 6 p.m. in Muskegon. Call Walter at the Hall for more information and to reserve your tickets today!

You may be aware that T.I.C. (our health and pension administrators) recently had a data breach. We have been told that they are currently investigating the severity of the breach, but that they do have security and insurance measures in place for just such an occurrence. You will soon receive an informational mailing from them explaining everything. If, after receiving their info you have any questions, please direct them directly to T.I.C. at the contact info that will be provided in the letter.

Please note that nominations for officers will be held at the May monthly meeting, 6:00 p.m. at the Hall in Coopersville.

At the time of this writing, the following members are three or more months behind in dues: Robby Engelsman, Kevin Koon, Dave LeBeck, Nick Perry and Antonio Zizumbo. If you haven't already, please make sure you become current on your dues as soon as possible.

Please remember that re-sign is the 10<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup> of each month. If your re-sign is not in by the 16th, you will be rolled off the Book. You may contact Geoff at the Hall if you need assistance.

Regular meetings for the EWMC and RENEW committees are every month on the 4th Tuesday @ 6 pm at the Union Hall in Coopersville and/or via Zoom. Both of these are great ways to get involved with the local as well as the community.

Dues for 2022 are \$42.90 per month. Please make adjustments when making payments through the mail and automatic bank payments.

#### Local 948, con't

regular election. Members who requested an absentee ballot for the regular election will automatically receive same for the run-off. If there is a tie for an office not requiring a runoff, the Election Judge has ruled that the tie will be settled with a coin toss.

All officers shall be installed and begin their 3 year terms at the regular meeting of the local union on Monday, July 11, 2022. Any member who believes a protest of the election is warranted is urged to contact the election judge as soon as possible before the election is certified.

Once the election is certified any protests of the election is to be filed in writing with the International Vice President of the district within 30 days following the election. The decision of the International Vice President shall conclude the processing of a protest within the IBEW. In the event the protesting member is not satisfied with the decision of the International Vice President, the member may submit his/her protest to the U.S. Department of Labor.

#### Fraternally yours, Steven Teel Election Judge, IBEW Local 948

Do not forget to check our website for new content. Be sure to log in to see all the new content. www.local948.com.

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

2022 - Monthly Dues - Journeyman \$43.70 a month – Apprentices, CE, Sound Tech \$40.70 a month

2021 - Monthly Dues - Journeyman \$43.70 a month – Apprentices, CE, Sound Tech \$40.70 a month

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

#### **Gregory Remington Business Manager**

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



# LOCAL 58 UNION

DETROIT - The next Gen-

**VACATION FUND:** Dis-

eral Membership Meeting will be

Dinner begins at 5:30 and the

bursement from the Vacation

Fund is anticipated to be trans-

ferred to your PNC Bank Stored

Value Card or if you elected, Di-

rect Deposited into your check-

ing or savings accounts, on or

around May 23, 2022. Please

check the listed contributions

from your employers with your

be obtained from the Benefit Of-

fice Website, www.ewjbt.org by

logging into your personal infor-

mation and clicking My Benefits

then Vacation Benefits. If you

require a paper statement, please

contact the Benefit Office for a

printout. If there is an error, con-

tact the Benefit Office at (586)

DATE BANKING INFORMA-

TION THE FUND OFFICE

**MUST RECEIVE CHANGES** 

BY April 29, 2022. You may

check your Stored Value utiliza-

tion history by logging on to

www.pncpay card.com and by

entering your 16-digit card num-

ber listed on the front of the card

and the last 4 digits of your Social

Security No., also referred to as

your Account Access Code (or AAC

for short). Customer Service can

**Center** is offering Continuing

Education classes. Please check

them out at http://www.detroiteitc

.org/continuing-education/.

Members on the Storm Book must

secure their training through the

Continuing Education Program

offered by the school. If you need

assistance in registering for a

class, please call the Training

PLEASE NOTE: It takes 24 hours

for processing if you pay dues

on the APP/Website. If you have

not enrolled in the new dues'

payment system – you will need

to do so before you can pay. If

you forget your Login ID or Pass-

word, you can request it through

the APP/Website on the Existing

Users Login Page. You can call

the hall and pay over the phone

if you choose to or mail in a

check. If you have lapsed, you

will not be able to pay on the APP/

Website. You will need to call

and talk to a Business Agent.

**Local 58 Dues Information:** 

Center at 586-751-6600.

**Electrical Industry Training** 

be reached at (866) 453-5071

ATTENTION - TO UP-

575-9200 ext. 212.

A list of contributions may

pay records for accuracy.

held on Tuesday, May 17, 2022.

meeting will start at 6:30.

IBEW 58

## **IBEW** LOCAL 58

CIO affiliated Local Union families and friends are welcome! The Jerry Gaudi Memorial

Golf Outing will be Friday, June 3, at the Glenhurst Golf Course in Redford. This will be the 21st Annual Gaudi Open. The Entry Fee is \$75 per ticket, which includes cart, golf, prizes, & lunch (at the turn). Everyone is welcome and bring a friend. Limited to 120 golfers due to Covid restrictions. Arrive by 8 AM, Golf starts at 9 AM. Hole sponsorships are available for \$100 and raffle tickets are available for a cooler of cheer and an IBEW golf bag with accessories. If interested in hole sponsorship, raffle tickets or donations please contact Michael Bellhorn, 586-612-5964 or Jim Peltier, 586-610-1154. Thanks again for all your support.

**Members of the Community** Service Committee: The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 10, at 5:30 PM. The Wobbly Kitchen is up and running again and we are assisting them every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4th Sunday with food prep and distribution at Cass Park. We are asking volunteers to show up at the hall at 8 am to help with the Wobbly Kitchen program. To get involved with future community service projects contact Mike Conflitti or Rob Z at the union hall. Local 58 is very active with community service in the Metro Detroit area and has a variety of upcoming projects that require the help of volunteers and helping hands. Contact the Union Hall (313) 963.2130 for further information to volunteer or participate.

Members of the Entertainment Committee- The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 10, following the Community Service Committee meeting that starts at 5:30 pm.

EWMC of Southeastern MI The next chapter meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 16, at 6pm. This will be an in-person meeting with a ZOOM option. If you are not receiving the notices, please make sure that your information is updated here at the hall. Please bring any suggestions that you have for EWMC involvement and engagement. What can we safely participate in that continues to promote the IBEW in the community? Stay tuned for more volunteer opportunities in the near future.

Also, if you are a DPS/ DPSCD alumni, please add your name to our list for future events. You can contact Byron Osbern or Felicia Wiseman with your information. Solidarity Forever.

The RENEW Committee meeting will be on Tuesday, May 24, 2022 at 5:00 PM.

The Safety Committee meeting will be on Monday, May 9, 2022 at 5:30 PM.

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

The Political Action Committee (PAC) meets the first Wednesday of each month Via Zoom. To be added to our email list please contact Jeannette Bradshaw (313-408-1287). PAC contributions can be made through the APP, and at the Union Hall. You can contribute more than the \$4 that is suggested on your quarterly dues, but you cannot exceed \$175 per calendar year. The loss of our deduction cut our resources in half, and we would like to assist local candidates and our members looking to run for office.

Local 58's Women's Committee- Our next regular meeting is Thursday, April 28th at 5:30 pm at the hall and on Zoom. Please watch for emails with further updates and zoom info. Coin number 3 in the "She needed a hero" set is now available. Hurry and

get yours before they are all gone! They are \$25 apiece, funds raised are for the ARC Scholarship. PayPal, Venmo, and of course cash is available for pay-

ment. The 4th coin in the set will

be released at a later date! Applications for the ARC Scholarship are now available! If you have a dependent that is heading to or enrolled in college have them, try for this Scholarship! We also award a scholarship for a whole year of school to one of our apprentices! The due date will be the end of May. Applications are available at the hall and on the website. If you have any questions don't hesitate to call. You can Email us at: 58Womenscommittee @ibewlocal58.org, or call committee chairs Angela Panicucci (586) 291-8014 or Kayla Pauli with any questions. Follow us on Instagram @ibewomen58; Check us out on Facebook Local 58 Women's Committee.

Local 58 Senior 55+ Soft**ball Team** – Now that springtime is upon us, we will be starting practicing soon with games beginning May 9. Weather permitting. Games will be played again at Shelby Twp Ford Fields on 23 Mile Rd. just west of Van Dyke. 10 am are game times. If you have any questions or want more information, please call Joe Schraufnagel at 586-255-1205 or Gerry Cassani at 586-804-8026. **Local 58 IBEW Senior Golf** 

Outings 2022 begins Thursday, May 19 Tyrone Hills Golf Club, 8449 Old US 23, Fenton, MI 48430, tee time 9:30 am, \$30; \*June 16, Maple Lane Golf Club, 33203 Maple Ln Dr, Sterling Heights, MI 48312, tee time 9:30 am, \$28.00; \* July 2, Whitmore Lake Golf Links, 1111 Six Mile Rd, Whitmore Lake, MI 48189, tee time 9:30 am, \$30; \* Sept. 8, no course yet; Oct. 6 Tanglewood Golf Course, 22805 Country Club Dr, South Lyon, MI 48178, tee time 9:30 am, \$30. Call Art DeCoste at 248-887-3396, two weeks in advance for a head count due to the security deposit at most of the golf courses. Remember, All IBEW Local 58 members are welcome to participate!! Call Art for questions or concerns.

**IBEW Local 58 Retirees** Association Retirees Association: Saturday, April 30 is the Annual Pin Party, honoring IBEW members with 50+ years of service. If you received an invitation as an honoree, please RSVP now if you haven't already done so. Guests are welcome, lunch is provided for honorees, guest's cost is \$20 per person.

Please send your checks (payable to the Retirees Association) to Ray Owen, 428 Welch Road, Northville, MI 48167, or if necessary, please call Ray at (248) 348-3626 with questions or to reserve space for the Pin Party.

We appreciate hearing from

## **Bringing** power to 150 Bagley

**ELECTRICIANS Roderick** Wright, Jr. and Ron LaPlante of IBEW Local 58 set up temporary 100-amp, 400-volt electrical service to the Residences @150 Bagley project in Detroit. They're employed by Edgewood Electric.

all of you who are attending our luncheons as soon as possible to keep the caterer informed of our attendance numbers. This luncheon is open to all retirees (and active members too), it will be a good time to see one another and get up to speed on what has been happening in everyone's lives. Come join us for this Annual Event. If you aren't a member yet, come along and see what we are about. You may be happy you did. We look forward to seeing all of you! Board meetings have resumed, the May meeting will be held in the Bill Rushford Room in the lower level of the Union Hall on Wednesday May 11, 2022 at 10 a.m.

There will be no eastside/ westside luncheon in May because of the Memorial Day Holiday. The June Board meeting will be Wednesday, June 8. If all continues to go well with the covid situation, there will be a luncheon in June at the Gazebo.

It's no secret that change is upon us. The changes are there every day, in small incremental ways. That change is also evident within the Board of our fine Retirees Association. We (the Board) are appealing to our membership for more involvement on this level. Our board is getting smaller, and we need enthusiastic new younger retirees to help fill our ranks and keep this organization in working order.

Over these last few years, we have less board members doing more of the work. In the past, we always had enough folks involved so the work necessary to pull off luncheons, parties and picnics wasn't too labor intense for any one individual; that is no longer the case. Board meetings are open to all members, please come join us, see what we do during meetings, we won't hogtie anyone to step up, just come along and consider joining us, remember "many hands make light work of a big job!"

Be sure to keep the Union Hall updated with changes to your phone no., address, and email.

IBEW Pension: Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: Joseph Burke, Steven T. Johnston, Walter Kochan, Phillip Lavallee, Richard Petty, George Philson, and Ludwig Schulz.

Members that have Passed Away: Donald Castell Sr, Fatherin-law to JIW Steven Janes, Grandfather to Apprentice Inside Wireman Johnathan Janes; James Herod, Penson member, 43 year IBEW membership; Michael Lassaline, Pension member, 25 year IBEW membership; David Marcoux, Pension member, 58 year IBEW membership; Eugene McGinnity, Pension member, 73 year IBEW membership; Quintus Stulz, Pension member, 66 year IBEW membership; Donald Sutton Jr., Journeyman Inside Wireman: John Witoszynski, Pension member, 50 year IBEW membership. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss.

AFL-CIO affiliated Local Union families and friends are welcome to join us for the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual **IBEW Local 58 Benevolent Fund** 

**Detroit River Walleye Tournament** SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2022

7:00 AM - 3:00 PM (Rain or Shine) Outside Event 50% of Entry Fees to Benevolent Fund

\$25 Per Person / 4 People to a Boat 3 PRIZES AWARDED INCLUDING BIG FISH CONTEST FISH FRY FOLLOWING WEIGH-IN @ **UNION HALL AT 3:30 PM** 

Entry Form & Rules are available at Local 58 or on our website at: www.ibewlocal58.org

ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY WED, MAY 4th, 2022 Make checks payable to: Local 58 Benevolent Fund Mail or Bring to: 1358 Abbott St., Detroit, MI 48226 Attn: Michael Bellhorn For further information call 313.963.2130

**Local 58 Motorcycle Group:** Group meetings have moved to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the Month @5pm in the basement classroom before the General Membership Mtg. Open to everyone and all riders are encouraged to join us! Requirements need to be met for patched membership. Visit our Facebook page for planned rides and updates @ IBEW Local 58 Motorcycle Group. Contact Anthony Anderanin @ aanderanin @gmail.com or Grace Trudell @ 517-715-7563 for more info. Join us at our upcoming meetings to plan for next year's events and rides. Local No. 58 Benevolent

**Fund**: The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 3, , 5 p.m.

The 13th Annual Local 58 **Detroit River Walleye Tourna**ment will be Saturday, May 7, 7 AM until 3 PM - Rain or Shine! Fish Fry following weigh-in at the Union Hall. \$25 per person, 4 people to a boat, 3 prizes awarded including Big Fish Contest. Fish Fry following weigh-in 3:30 pm at the Union Hall. Entry form and rules are available at the Hall and on our website www.ibewlocal 58.org, Last day to register is Wednesday, May 4, 2022. AFL-

IBEW Local 906

UPPER PENINSULA— **MEETINGS** 

MARQUETTE UNIT-First Tuesday

IRÓN MOUNTAIN UNIT— Second Tuesday

ESCANABA UNIT—Second Wednesday

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS AND ELEC-**TION.** The nominations for all officers of Local Union 906 will be held on May 7, 2022, beginning at 1 p.m. during the General Membership Meeting being held at the Masonic Center, at 128 W. Washington St., Marquette, MI.

Anyone desiring to be nominated must be present during the nominations or provide a written and signed statement that they will accept the nomination. No member may be a candidate for more than one office. Anyone nominated for more than one office must choose the office for which they will be a candidate. Nominations will proceed in the order of offices listed in the IBEW Constitution whose term shall be 3 years: President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Business Manager, Executive Board

Additionally Unit positions of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Recorder and 2 Executive Committee slots are available in the Marquette, Iron Mountain and Escanaba Units.

In order to be nominated, a member must have a minimum of 2 years of continuous good standing in Local Union 906. Good standing means that the member is current in their payment of dues and has been for 2 years preceding the nominations. (Apprentices cannot be nominated or elected to any office.)

The election shall be conducted by mail ballot and they shall be counted beginning at 10 a.m. on June 11, 2022 at the Hall, at 119 S. Front St. Marquette, MI.

All members in good standing shall be mailed a ballot not less than 15 days prior to the above specified date. Ballots received after the close of business on June 10, 2022 will not be counted.

If you do not receive a ballot in the mail by May 28 please call the election judge immediately at 906-869-1685 and request a replacement ballot.

In the event a run-off election is required, same shall be held on (21 days after the election), 2022. The same rules shall apply to the run-off election as were applicable to the regular election.

All officers shall be installed and begin their three-year terms at the regular meeting of the Local Union in July, 2022

The following members received their 5 year pins: Craig Bachelor, Brandon Bean, Craig Gordon, Josef Husar, Michael Fournier, Wayne Johnson, Max Nault, Lyle Perry, Gabriel Sasman and Curtis Weber. Congratulations to these members.

Work is picking up and we will need all hands on deck to cover the calls. We will need 35 people for a 5 day, 12 hour shifts at the Sagola LP mill. This outage will begin on May 2. Please contact the Hall to get on the list. We expect to need travelers for all the upcoming work.

Also in May at the General Membership meeting we will decide on the allocation of monies for this year's Inside Agreement. Your input is requested.

A reminder that the monthly dues are \$40. We have received some at the old rate of \$39 and a few members are overpaying. This makes the bookwork difficult. Please if you have a service that pays your dues monthly inform them of the correct amount.

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

If you have any information you would like to see noted in this article or something you believe should be published please email the Hall with your request. Ibew906@gmail.com



IBEW Local 557

SAGINAW - Union News-Brothers and Sisters! Apprentice interviews are coming around the bend. Good luck to all those that applied and tested well! We hope to have new apprentices out in June before they start class in September.

Local elections are coming up! Nominations will be in May and the vote tally in June. You must be present at the May meeting or submit a written confirmation prior to the meeting. If you have any questions, call the Hall or Nick Iles who will be serving as the election judge. Good luck to all those who decide to run!

We also need volunteers for the United Way Food drive happening on Wednesday, April 27th, and 10am. This will take place at Storage of America parking lot at 5135 Gratiot. Please come out and help support those in our community. Apprentices, the Service Learning Policy was reinstated at the March 21st JATC meeting. You'll need to start attending union meetings again or make up the absence

MEMBERSHIPMEETINGS-Our next meeting will be May 3rd at 5:30pm. On this day, local officer nominations will be held. If you wish to run you must be present or submit written confirmation prior to the meeting. I sincerely hope all of you will participate in voting this year. Get it in early and make your voice heard! We will also be dealing with wage allocation this meeting. A total of \$1.90 total package increase will be discussed and distributed across wages and ben-

MICHIGAN INITIATIVE-Please contact Brother Gus Voisine for any organizing issues you see or have. If our members have any questions or work tips they can reach out to him on his cell: 989-941-8046.

UNION HALL OPERA-TIONS- If you have any questions or issues, our Business Hours are M-F 7-4:30pm.

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

WORK OUTLOOK- Van Herweg continues work at Handley school, Saginaw County Animal Shelter and the new Value City Furniture. The new Saginaw United High School will bid soon. Leddy and Nelson have recently secured the next set of projects at Swan Valley Schools. We look forward to continuing this great relationship in the district where our Hall resides. Nelson will also be doing some work for St. Louis Schools this summer. Congrats to the apprentices who have recently passed their JIW state exam! Well done gentlemen!

**ELECTIONS-** 2022 brings with it Election time! If you would like to stay informed and contribute to labor friendly candidates, please visit www.ibew.org/ IBEWPAC. It's going to take all of us to contribute to labor friendly candidates so please do your part to ensure our future yields labor positive results.

**HEALTH CARE-** We would like to inform our members that any purchased at-home Covid test is now reimbursable through the Health Plan and Blue Cross. The Michigan Electrical Employee's Health Plan continues to cover 100% of the costs related to testing for COVID-19. During this pandemic, remote care is encouraged and Blue Cross members can call the 24-Hour Nurse Line at 800-117-BLUE. You may also want to inquire if your primary care provider offers telemedicine. Also, if you used Express-scripts for your RX needs, BCBS has opted to use Optum RX in its place. This mainly applies to members who have their RX delivered to their homes. You may need to contact Optum to make sure the change is seamless. This is also part of the reason we were issued new BCBS cards in January.

> Don't forget to schedule (Continued next column)



IBEW Local 445

BATTLE CREEK - A Huge Thank You! To all that participated in the move to the new Hall! We appreciate you all!!!

Reminder: April 1, 2022 was the beginning of the second Quarter for your dues. Please check your dues receipt. The \$10.00 processing fee for Members in Arrears goes into effect on April 1, 2022.

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

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

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

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

**IBEW Local 445 Annual** Golf Outing. The Annual Golf Outing is scheduled for July 16, 2022. Please mark your calen-



#### Local 557, con't

your annual physical with your doctor. By completing your annual physical, you could catch a health concern early and also help keep the cost of health care down. Registering on the Blue Cross/Blue Shield website is highly recommended. Please take the time to visit www.bcbsm.com. Upon registering you can take the Free Health Assessment test and find instant results that can lead to living a healthy lifestyle.

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

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

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

STAY CURRENT ON **DUES** –Please check to see if you are current. The Hall has the ability to accept credit cards and also E-checks. The credit card service can accept payments for dues, merchandise, apprentice book payments and other purchases. There is a convenience fee to use either service. Both payment methods to pay dues can also be accomplished over the phone to ensure you are current.

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

In Solidarity, Breanna DePottey Press Secretary



IBEW Local 252

ANN ARBOR - THE MAY **MEMBERSHIP MEETING HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED TO MAY** 18, 2022 AT 6:00 P.M.

BESURETO KEEPBENEFI-CIARY FORM UPDATED: A friendly reminder that beneficiary forms are available at the fund office **AND** at the hall for anyone that may need to update beneficiary information. If your information needs to be updated it needs to be updated at **BOTH**.

TRAINING CLASSES **2022: ALL CLASSES START** AT 5:00 P.M.

1. CPR/First Aid: Tuesdays, June 7 & 14.

There will not be a code update required in 2022. We will offer classes as soon as the state adopts a new NEC 2020 or 2023.

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

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

Retirees' Breakfast: The Retirees' Breakfast will take place the second Wednesday of each month at 8:00 a.m. at Leo's Coney Island, 160 South Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. There is parking and entrances in both the front and rear of the restaurant.

Annual Picnic: This year's picnic will be at 12 p.m. on Aug. 20 at Apple Creek Campground, 11185 Orban Rd., Grass Lake, MI 49240. Campsites are available. Contact Travis Stachlewitz to reserve (734) 985-8025.

M.U.S.T DRUG TESTING: Please make sure your MUST drug testing is current as you cannot work on a U of M project or several other projects in the jurisdiction without being current. Local 252 has a zero tolerance for alcohol or drug use.

**ERTS**: Please make sure that you are signed up in the Electronic Reciprocity Transfer System. You must be signed up in ERTS before working outside of Local 252's jurisdiction or your benefits will not be transferred back.

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

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

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

**RETIREMENT:** The NEBF and IBEW Pension Benefit Fund applications can take 3 months to process but can be filled out as early as 6 months before your planned retirement effective date. If you are nearing retirement, please contact Alana at the Union Hall to start your paperwork AT LEAST 3 months before your planned retirement date.

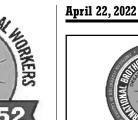
**NOTICE TO RETIREES:** If your 50-year commemorative watch stops working for any reason please contact the hall.

Get Well: The Local sends get well wishes to Thomas Kik.

**CREDIT CARDS:** The Local is now accepting credit cards to pay union dues. We accept Visa, Master Card, American Express and Discover. There is a fee of 3.5% to use your card.

**DUES PAYMENTS** – Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 3/ 2022, your dues are not current. "A" members pay \$119.25 per quarter for 2022. "BA" members pay \$61.80 per quarter for 2022. Please mail your check to 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Your second quarter dues (April through June) are due now.

Payments for 2nd quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 30, 2022.



**IBEW** Local 498

'Powering Northern Michigan Since 1949" IBEW Local 498

TRAVERSE CITY - Meetings. Regular E Board- The next

regularly scheduled E-Board meeting is set for Thursday, May 5th, 2022 @ 6pm. Regular Meeting – At the

last meeting in April there was a motion to change the meeting date to the first Thursday of every month. The next meeting is scheduled for 7pm Thursday May 5, 2022. Currently, the Solidarity Picnic before the Regular meeting is on hold for now due to Covid.

Work Outlook - The local will be very busy this spring and summer into fall. If you are on the road please consider manning the work in your home local. If we are to retain our market share, we have to man the work.

Negotiations - Local 498 ratified the proposed contract changes at the last regular called membership meeting. The increase to the total package for the 1st year will be \$2.05/hr and \$1.80/ hr for the second year. We do not have an allocation amount vet as we do not know what or if we will have an increase to the health plan. The Health Plan meeting will be in April, so the allocation meeting will be at the May regular meeting.

Resale Items – Local 498 Challenge Coins are in the hall for your purchase. They are \$10 each. We also have Local 498 tshirt, and Beanie Hats for resale. Proud Union Home signs are in and available at the hall. Free to members in good standing.

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

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

**Made in America Websites** www.theunionbootpro.com 100% American made/union made. Union member discounts 27% off. Use this code when ordering. Be0498mD or order toll free 1-800-723-5384

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

Important numbers for you to write in your address book:

MEEHP (Health) 1-855-633-4584 or 1-517-321-7502 Fax# 1-517-321-7508

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

(New address Michigan Pension and Health Plan) TIC International Corpora-

tion, 6525 Centurion Drive, Lan-

sing, MI 48917 NEBF 1-301-556-4300 NEAP 1-301-556-4300 IO Pension 1-202-833-7000

**DUES RATES.** Jan 1, 2021 -No increase. Still remains \$140.10/Quarter

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

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

**Columns for IBEW Locals** 692 & 131 See Page 10

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN



IBEW Local 665

LANSING - WORK OUT-**LOOK:** Local 665 is expecting excellent employment for our local members through the summer and we anticipate needing help on several projects from our travelling brothers and sisters.

For our travelling brothers and sisters, Local 665 is still accepting initial sign by fax or email from a member's home local.

Work is looking very busy for this coming summer and beyond.

APPRENTICESHIPAPPLI-**CATIONS:** We often get calls or emails on how and/or where to apply to Local 665's apprenticeship program.

To apply, go www.lejatc.org and navigate to the application page on the website.

Applications are accepted on the first Monday of each month.

FIRST AID / CPR: First Aid / CPR is scheduled for Wednesday, April 27th here at the Union Hall. Please contact Sara at the JATC to sign up. The Lansing Electrical JATC phone number is 517-483-9688

DRUG TEST / MUST **MODS:** Contact the hall if you need your annual drug test or the completion of your 18 must mods.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Our general membership meeting is on the third Monday of each month and starts at 6:30 pm at the Hall. Our next two general membership meetings will be quarterly parties. There was no party in March due to a miscommunication.

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

**DUES AND DEATH BEN-EFITS:** We are into the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, dues should be paid through Jun 2022. We are currently at death benefit # 327. Please check your dues receipt to ensure that you are current.

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

IN REMEMBRANCE: In remembrance of Local 665 brothers who have passed away this year. May their memory be eternal. Elden Rockafellow, 02/11/2022, Victor St Clair, 03/09/2022

"A discovery is said to be an accident meeting a prepared mind.'

–Albert Szent-Gyorgyi (1893 -1986)

"It is just the little touches after the average man would quit that make the master's fame.'

–Orison Swett Marden (1850

"It is difficult to produce a television documentary that is both incisive and probing when every twelve minutes one is interrupted by twelve dancing rabbits singing about toilet pa-

-Rod Serling (1924 - 1975)

"Never go to bed mad. Stay up and fight."

-Phyllis Diller (1917-2012)

"It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change.

-Charles Darwin (1809 -



INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS **MICHIGAN** 

BAY CITY - Union Meeting. The May monthly membership meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on Monday, May 2, 2022.

**Executive Board Meeting.** The May Executive Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, May 16, 2022.** 

Message from the Business Manager. Nominations for all elected officers within the Local will occur on Monday, May 2. Please be involved and run for an office.

The retirement party has once again been rescheduled. The new date is October 7, 2022. Please make all necessary arrangements to

Work Report. The jobs our signatory contractors are performing in our jurisdiction are as follows: Work on the two Bay City bridges is ongoing with a large-scale remodel of the Liberty bridge followed by the construction of a new Independence Bridge in the spring. Clements has secured the Liberty Bridge. Master Electric is finishing up the new Meijer store in West Branch and will begin the new Isabella County Jail located in Mt. Pleasant later this year. The new jail is seeing some delays, steel for this project is scheduled to arrive in the fall. Master continues work at Wise Guy Farms in Loomis along with

Electric was awarded the Beaverton Schools lighting retrofit project. John's Electric in Alpena has slowed considerably and is now waiting for summer school work. Countyline is continuing their work at the Cheboygan Wastewater Plant. Countyline has also been awarded the Meridian Concession Stand along with some emergency primary work due to the large fire at Robinson Industries. Goyette Electrical has secured a decent job at PFAS mitigation sites in Oscoda.

just beginning a small project at Ascension in West Branch. Ted's

Consumer's Energy has awarded the re-lighting project at the service center on Wilder Rd to Escon Group. Consumers is also continuing with some dam work. Northern Valley Electrical and J. Ranck Electric are currently finishing up a shutdown at the LaFarge cement plant in Alpena. Nelson Electric out of Local 557 has secured a nice project at two of the high rises in Bay City. Wilkinson Mineral and SK Siltron both have large projects coming up in the local with J. Ranck securing a large portion of that work. Ranck is on site at SK Siltron along with Escon who has also picked up a piece of the project. As soon as we have an update on manpower for these projects, we will let you know.

Rest assured both organizers and myself are working very diligently to secure whatever work is being bid in our jurisdiction for our membership. Detroit is the place to be in the state right now if you are looking to travel. Please contact the hall if you would like to sign any books.

In Solidarity, Ryan Charney

Business Manager / Financial Secretary

**Organizers Report.** 692's Organizing team continues to reach out to unrepresented workers in our jurisdiction about the benefits of joining the IBEW. The second quarter of 2022 will see demand for local manpower increase considerably. The ability to provide adequate manpower to larger-scale projects will only strengthen our contractors' chances of securing this work. The IBEW work outlook looks strong statewide as well, with larger projects coming to Detroit, Lansing, West Michigan and elsewhere. If you'd like to register on any other IBEW out-of-work lists, please reach out to the hall.

Bay City commissioners recently adopted a Responsible Contracting ordinance that will ensure projects funded by taxpayers are completed by reputable firms. Responsible Contracting language prioritizes criteria such as workplace safety, the utilization of a local workforce, and adhering to licensing and permitting requirements when awarding contracts on larger-scale construction projects and city contracts. No longer will cost be the only criteria when considering contractors looking to secure work in the city. As with any new process, there will undoubtably be some growing pains. 692 agents will continue to assist our signatory contractors in navigating the new bidding process included in this important ordinance.

IBEW organizers in the State of Michigan are currently involved in a campaign against United Electrical Contractors, a large merit shop based in Lansing. A Federal EEOC lawsuit has been filed by six former United employees due to the unfair treatment, discriminatory and blatantly racist behavior they experienced at the hands of management. The IBEW stands in solidarity with the United Six+ (the "+" has been added as more than the initial six former employees have joined the lawsuit).

We also stand up for all other working people who demand accountability from employers who fail to respect their human rights. Local 692 continues to join other locals in protest to demand contractor accountability and promote dignity for all working people within our industry. Please follow the Justice for the United Six campaign on Facebook, and do everything in your power to keep our jobsites safe, inclusive, and free from discrimination.

Please continue to let us know if you have any questions about upcoming work or if you notice any under-the-radar projects that we should be made aware of.

Brian Klele 989.252.9225 • Brendon Baranek 989.327.4131

Union Dues. 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.

**2022 Dues:** • Monthly \$41.20 • Quarterly \$123.60 • 6 months \$247.20 • Yearly \$494.40

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

**Death Benefits.** We regret to inform you of the death of active Brother Robert Chritz, Card Number 7535572, who passed away on

Brother Chritz was born on February 28, 1983 (39 years old). He was initiated on August 1, 2016. Rob resided in Midland, Michigan. #335. Local death fund assessment \$5.00 each (due within 30 days) payable to: IBEW Local 692, 1300 W. Thomas Bay City, MI

Local 692 Retirement Party. This year's party will be held on Friday, Oct. 7 at the Double Tree in Bay City. Please mark your calendars and make every effort to attend this great event to honor our retirees!

Renew. It is the goal of the RENEW committee to increase younger members' involvement in their local union. If you are a member in good standing, 35 years old or younger and would like to participate in 692's RENEW committee, please contact Jacob (989.316.6811) or Cody (989.600.4643) for more information. RENEW meetings are held once a month following our general membership meeting.

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

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

Important links & numbers

IBEW Local 692, 989-684-4510, www.ibew692.org Health Plan, 517-321-7502, www.mielectricalhealth.org

Michigan Pension Fund, 517-321-7502, www.michiganelectrical

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

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

"The saying 'Getting there is half the fun' became obsolete with the advent of commercial airlines.

-Henry J. Tillman



# Local 131

Serving Southwest Michigan Since 1916

IBEW Local 131

KALAMAZOO – The next **General Membership Meeting** will be held on May 2, 2022 at 6 p.m.

The next Executive Board meeting will be held on May 16, at 5 p.m.

Mark your calendars! The fifth year class of IBEW local 131 is hosting a golf outing May 14th 2022 at Pine View golf course in School Craft. More information to follow. Contact Eddie Leboeuf with any questions e.leboeuf. 1985@gmail.com 269-580-0767.

Work Outlook: The poor spring weather continues to hamper projects and our anticipated timeline of job calls for several projects. We expect in the near future to be placing calls for the Pfizer MAPS Project. Additionally, Moore Electrical has work on the new Justice Facility and the Bronson Outpatient Surgery Center, both projects are currently coming out of the ground.

We are also tracking projects awarded to Scharwtz and Shaum Electric, Indiana based contractors who have been awarded several projects in the Southern part of our jurisdiction.

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

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

Dues pricing - The price for dues in 2022 is \$40/month. If you're unsure about your balance, please call the Hall for the exact amount or email Christine. If your dues ticket reads paid through Mar. 2022, your dues are not current; please contact the Hall.

At the time of this writing, the following members are three months or more behind in counter dues navments: Anthony Falvo Nick McKenna, Jason Streit

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

We have also now integrated **Death Benefit and Retirement** payments into the online portal. You should expect to start seeing them accounted for in your month dues payments, both at the window and in the form of online

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

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

All Memorials (members and members families) and full obituaries can be viewed on the website under the Memorials Tab.

FROM THE APPRENTICE-**SHIP:** \*\*Code Update Classes: it is now required for Journeyman to pay in advance to hold your spot in the Code Update Class. We require 48 hours' notice for cancelations if you need to reschedule for another available Code Update Course.\*\*

**Drug Test Renewals:** Please keep track of your drug test expiration date through www.safe2 work4you.com. It is your responsibility to stay current on your drug test. Please contact Nicole (269) 388-4434 to get your authorization form printed for you to pick up. If you don't want to come to the Hall to pick it up, please email Nicole and request your form to be emailed to you. office@kalamazoo jatc.com.

Organizing: As much technology as we use to track nonunion electricians in our jurisdiction, often, our best resources are you, the members. If you see a

(Continued next column)



#### **New use** for historic **United Artists Building**

ADDED TO THE NA-TIONAL Register of Historic Places in 1983, the 18-story **United Artists Build**ing has been an empty hulk along Bagley Street in Detroit for the last half-century. The developers of the Residences @ 150 Bagley will create more than 140 apartments in the building, 20 percent of which will be designated as affordable. Commercial properties are planned for the street level space. Work just began on the project, which is being managed by Brinker/ Christman.

## **NLRB General Counsel proposes** outlawing captive audience meetings

By Mark Gruenberg PAI Staff Writer

WASHINGTON. D.C. (PAI) National Labor Relations Board General Counsel Jennifer Abruzzo, its top enforcement officer, wants the board to outlaw so-called "captive audience meetings," a common and abused employer tactic which she says breaks labor law.

In an April 7 memo to all NLRB field offices, Abruzzo called such meetings a "license to coerce" and said past board rulings for them fly in the face of labor law text, its mandate and – most importantly – of workers' right not to listen to bosses when considering unionizing.

"This license to coerce is an anomaly in labor law, inconsistent with the act's protection of employees' free choice. It is based on a fundamental misunderstanding of employers' speech rights," Abruzzo wrote.

"NLRB case precedent, which has tolerated such meetings, is at odds with fundamental labor-law principles, our statutory language, and our congressional mandate."

"In carrying out its duty to ensure employers do not unlawfully impair employee choice, the board must keep in mind the basic 'inequality of bargaining power" between workers and employers "as well as employees" economic dependence on their employers," Abruzzo wrote.

"Over 75 years ago, the board recognized the act protects employees' right to listen as well as their right to refrain from listening to employer speech concerning the exercise of" the right

'Over 75 years ago, the board recognized the act protects employees' right to listen as well as their right to refrain from listening to employer speech'

to organize.

Often drawing on tactics recommended by paid "consultants," aka union-busters, employers lie about what would happen if the workers vote union. Bosses also often discipline workers who either resist attending or speaking out when they do, with punishments up to and including arbitrary – and illegal – firings.

"Forcing employees to listen to such employer speech under threat of discipline—directly leveraging the employees' dependence on their jobs—plainly chills employees' protected right to refrain from listening to this speech in violation of" the law, she wrote. "The Supreme Court has made clear that threats fall statutory and constitutional freespeech protections," Abruzzo's memo adds.

But Abruzzo can't unilaterally outlaw the meetings, which employers use during most organizing drives. She needs a case to take to the board, which now has a 3-2 Democratic-named majority, to let it outlaw the meetings. That's where the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union enters the picture.

During its recent campaign,

its second, to unionize the big Amazon warehouse in Bessemer, Ala., RWDSU formally asked the labor board to outlaw the captive audience meetings in all organizing drives nationwide.

'Captive audience meetings must be declared illegal," union President Stuart Appelbaum said. He also applauded Abruzzo's

And after an inconclusive vote in Bessemer, RWDSU formally complained to the board's regional office in Atlanta, which also covers Bessemer, saying Amazon broke labor law in many ways during this campaign, just as it did in 2021. He wants this vote overturned, too.

'We filed an unfair labor practice (labor law-breaking) charge...on Feb. 22, opposing captive audience meetings in union elections. They are the major weapon employers use to spread disinformation, intimidate workers and interfere with their choice...Whether workers want a union should be the workers' choice – not the employers' – free of intimidation and interference. Captive audience meetings make that impossible," Appelbaum saic

In this campaign, RWDSU added Amazon illegally disciplined and fired union advocates and supporters among Bessemer workers, illegally spied on union supporters, illegally banned workers from talking about the union, illegally yanked pro-union literature off the Bessemer plant bulletin board while permitting anti-union literature and illegally told one worker the plant would close if the workers voted RWDSU in.

## Starbucks unions' organizing wins, and drives, accelerate

By Mark Gruenberg, PAI Staff Writer, and Tim Rowden, Editor, St. Louis Labor Tribune

Workers United's drive to organize the low-paid, exploited baristas at Starbucks stores from coast to coast is accelerating, with the union's win count up to at least 17 in recent weeks. And the number of stores with organizing drives is 201 and counting, says the union, a Service Employees sector which aids grass-roots worker-organizers.

The win count includes six more stores in upstate New York and two in Boston, where workers voted union on April 7-8. And the National Labor Relations Board ruled elections can be held in coming weeks at stores in Seattle, St. Anthony, Minn., Minneapolis, and in Atlanta, which employs 35 workers.

Those organizing drives monitored in various news stories include four more election filings in the St. Louis area, the St. Louis Labor Tribune reported.

"We are proud to be part of this movement, and we are proud to inspire others to step forward and demand to be heard," the Chesterfield workers tweeted on the Workers United website. "We are acting with courage and challenging the status quo, and that is what it truly means to be a part-

Like other Starbucks workers nationwide - and other exploited workers in industries ranging from fast food to warehousing to port trucking to adjunct professorships – the workers said employer mistreatment motivated the workers in the St. Louis area to unionize. And the workers started on their own, before Workers United entered the

The Starbucks workers also seized on leverage gained from rising recognition of low-wage

#### **IBEW Local 131, continued**

non-signatory in the area working at a location, please let the Hall know.

Retirees: We are working on updating the Retiree's List for Julius, if you believe we do not have a good phone number for you please call the hall and contact us.

Retiree Lunches all start at 11 A.M. at the following Loca-

April 20th, La Rue's, 6375 Stadium Drive May 18th, Niko's Landing, 5852 King Hwy, Kalamazoo June 15th, Julianna's, 205 Lake St., Kalamazoo July 20th, Red Lobster, 6535 S. Westnedge, Portage

Brian O'Donnell Business Manager/Financial Secretary workers' plight - and that they have alternatives – due to the coronavirus pandemic. Also like the other exploited workers nationally, the Starbucks workers are far younger than the average unionist, which is a sign of hope for the labor movement.

Around St. Louis, workers at the Starbucks store on Lindbergh Blvd., in Ladue, Mo., filed with the NLRB for union recognition on March 29, as did workers at the Natural Bridge Road store in Bridgetown two days later. On April 4, workers at the stores at 3700 South Kingshighway Blvd. and at Hampton and Wise avenues, both in St. Louis City, filed,

Ladue store workers said managers ignored safety concerns amid the coronavirus pandemic, promised and then delayed raises, and cut hours so drastically a number of workers have been forced to seek second jobs or quit.

One Ladue employee told the St. Louis Labor Tribune the store's former manager announced her resignation in February, telling the staff "Starbucks is going to start doing some stuff and I don't want to be here for it."

'We think Starbucks is a great company, but there have been changes in the past few months that don't match what they say they stand for, and we don't agree with, and we think we can fix them by having a union," said Ladue barista Carla Helberg, 22.



#### **Henry Ford North Tower rises in Macomb County**

HENRY FORD MACOMB HOSPITAL is undergoing the largest expansion and renovation in its history with a new five-story, 225,000-square-foot North Tower addition. Site work began in April 2021 and construction on the expansion is expected to be completed in 2023. Barton Malow/Dixon is the construction firm and AECOM is managing the architectural and engineering design. The \$318 million project will feature 160 private patient rooms that can be converted to manage critically ill patients on par with an intensive care unit. Inpatient units in the existing hospital will also be renovated to create spacious private rooms. Once completed, the project will transform the hospital campus for years to come as the county's first hospital to provide all 361 of its licensed beds as private rooms. Located at 15855 19 Mile Road in Clinton Township, between Garfield and Hayes, the project will also include an increase of ICU rooms from 48 to 60, a newly redesigned hospital entrance and lobby area, and an expanded power plant.



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

Any questions

regarding a lost,

damaged Union

cards, or have

dues inquiries

or have not re-

ceived a card

please contact

the DC1M of-

Warren Office:

fices at:



ROBERT GONZALEZ

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

FTIAPPRENTICESHIPUP-**GRADE CLASS.** The FTI of the Great Lakes will be conducting Aerial Lift(scissor and articulating boom), forklift and telehandler certifications. The classes will take place Monday April 25th – Thursday April 28th,

classes start at 5 pm. Lift training also held on Saturday April 30<sup>th</sup>, this class starts at 8 am. Saturday class you must pre-register with the school by April 28th

Any questions please contact Director Shawn O'neill at (517)304-4425 or email at dot@iupatdc1m.org.

#### PAINTERS DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M SMART PHONE

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

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

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

Password: painters With this APP you can access training classes, Local Union meeting times and dates, receive alerts, and communications from

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

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

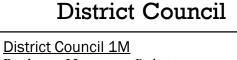
Warren office# is 586-552-4474 or Freeland office# is 989-

695-6888. New job starts should be reported to the Union office, please

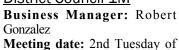
Get involved. Work smart. Work safe.

District Council

**1M MICHIGAN** 



Michigan Painters



every month at 6:30 p.m., with the Executive Board meeting at 6 p.m. Place: 14587 Barber Ave, Warren MI 48088 & 419 S. Washington Ave, Lansing MI 48933 Local Union 312

**Business Rep:** Tim Schwerin Meeting date: 2nd Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. Place: 1473 N. 30th St., Galesburg, MI 49053

Local Union 514 Business Rep: Scott Mikulen Meeting dates: 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. Place: 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI. Web site: www.iupat-

local514.org.

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

Local Union 845 Business Rep – Fred Frederickson Meeting date: 1st Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. Place: 419 S. Washington Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933

Local Union 1052 **Business Rep** – Jake Fluty Meeting date: The Fourth Wednesday of every month at

6:30 p.m Place: 3115 Joyce St., Burton MI 48529

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

Local Union 2352 **Business Rep:** 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:** Keith Anderson **Meeting date:** 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. Place: District Council 1M, 14587 Barber Ave, Warren, MI.



**Local** 591 Sign, Pictorial & Display

Sign Pictorial & Display 591

WARREN – The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 3, at 6:30p.m. Trustees and union stewards meet at

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 who 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, or Keith Anderson at 586-899-7958, your Business

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.

-Business Rep – Don Stepp



Local 25 **Iron Workers** 

Iron Workers Local 25

NOVI - April's Union meeting will be Monday, April 25, **2022 at 7 pm.** (in-person & via

Ironworkers Local 25 APP Sign up for our Alerts & E-mails via our website (www.ironworkers25.org). We continue to communicate through the PUSH NO-TIFICATIONS - download the APP if you haven't done so yet!

Steward meeting(s): The Saginaw Hall Steward Meeting will be April 28, 2022 at 6:00 pm. The Lansing Hall Steward Meeting will be Monday May 9, 2022 at 6:30 pm. The Flint Hall Steward Meeting will be May 18, 2022 at 5:30 pm. All are welcome.

**Stewards' Notes:** 

1) The link for Online Steward Report forms is found in the upper right-hand corner of our website www.ironworkers25.org. LOG-IN DIRECTIONS will follow once you click the link that reads "Electronic Steward Reports." These forms are much easier than the paper forms, we encourage you to give it a try if you have not yet done so.

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

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

4) Doby/Travel Service Dues are \$10.00 per week.

24/7 CREDIT-DEBIT CARD processing for Union Dues: Pav via our APP or website www.ironworkers25.org. The phone number is 866-635-2826.

Local 357

Glaziers &

Glassworkers

Glaziers & Glassworkers 357

will be a special-called vote on

Saturday 4/23/22 in regards to

choosing an international pen-

sion improvement schedule. The

vote will be held from 11am-4pm,

at our Warren Union Hall. 14587

meeting will be held on Monday

May 2, 2022, at 6 p.m. Please at-

class from Monday, April 25th

thru Thursday April, 28th, and

then also a class on Saturday

April 30th. The classes from

Monday, thru Thursday will start

at 5pm. The Saturday class will

start at 8am. Location will be held

at our Warren Office, around back

have resumed. If you have a ques-

tion on a class night, or an as-

signment please contact your in-

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 all has a digi-

current; this helps protect your

benefits. If you have a mailing

address and/or telephone num-

ber change, please notify the

Union and Fund Offices of the

mailed to the Union Office at

14587 Barber Avenue, Warren, MI

48088. Make checks payable to:

**DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M** in care

of town, all members are reminded

that they must check in with the

local that you are working in as

per the International Constitution

Michigan Glass and Glazing Joint

Funds, P.O. Box 966, Troy, MI

48098-066; phone number: 248-

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 meet-

641-4957; fax 248-813-9898.

The Fund Office address is

If you are in need of safety

of Glassworkers #357.

and our local C.B.A.

Dues payments may be

When traveling to work out

Keep your working status

tal copy of your union card.

Apprentice School classes

The IUPAT has a new app

in the school area.

structor.

changes.

Our next scheduled union

We will also be holding a lift

Barber Ave, Warren Mi 48088.

WARREN - Notice: There

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).

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

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

New Apprentice Applications are being accepted BUT you MUST go to ironworkers25.org, print the application, gather documentation then phone the school for an appointment; no walk-in foot traffic. The Wixom Training Center - Phone: 248-960-2130

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

To view classes at the Local 25 Apprenticeship School, please go the ironworkers25.org to view the block schedule. The 2022 Raising Gang Training schedule has been added to the website. Please call the school to make up days ... Do not just show up and expect to be allowed to stay.

The Iron Workers' Local 25 Retirees' Club: The Novi Chapter Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday May 3, 2022 at 9:00 am. The Retirees meeting will be Tuesday, May 17, 2022 at 10:00 am in Novi. The All are welcome.

The Retiree Club Scholarship Fund applications are avail-(Continued next column)



## Local 36

Elevator Constructors

**Elevator Constructors Local 36** 

DETROIT - ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED that our next regular Membership Meeting is planned for Monday, April 25, 2022, at 5:30 pm at 1358 Abbott Street Detroit, MI. (Electricians Hall) **Attention,** we are going to use a larger facility (Electrician's Hall) for the next two meeting (April and May), watch your emails for any changes in venues. Correction-From a previous article the April Meeting (not the March Meeting), will have nominations for Officers of the Local, per Article XI of the Locals Constitution and By-Laws.

The April Meeting is on the 25th and will be a Special Called Meeting. The **May meeting is on the 23**<sup>rd</sup> and will have Elections for Officers and Delegates, polling times will be in the next article and emailed to all current members.

We have the new International's Constitution and By-Laws (Revised edition October 2021) at the Hall, Article XXVII (Safety) was created. Your Company's Safety policy states the same, so always follow Your Company's Safety policies. The new contract (July 9th, 2022, to July 8th, 2027) has been ratified, when new books become available, we will have them at the Hall. The Third and final reading of changes to our Locals Constitution and By-Laws will be at our April meeting, with discussion and voting. Per Article XIX (Amendments) of the Locals Constitution and By-Laws.

Attention all Apprentices, monthly OJL forms are now online at NEIEP which **must** be completed before the 9<sup>th</sup> day of the next month.

If you are working out of our jurisdiction, laid off or a probationary, OJT forms must be filled out and turned into the Hall. This is a requirement of the Department of Labor.

Reminder to All that the NEIEP website is available to All interested in Reviewing and Continuing Education. Any apprenticeship certifications missed, or non-current can be retaken if we can build a class as part of continuing education program through NEIEP. CPR/ First-aid OSHA, Scaffolding, are available to all members though some classes may require fees. Go to the NEIEP website for the status of your apprenticeship. Continue to watch your NEIEP and personal emails for further information, this is a responsibility of your apprenticeship. The Local is seeking Instructors for NEIEP, anyone interested please contact the Hall.

Attention all Members, save the Date for July 30th, 2022, as we will be having a Picnic. There is a need for members to assist with the Picnic from start to finish as this will help all enjoy the time with families and friends. The Local also has committees that NEED members to run/assist. Safety, Organizing, Mentoring, Golf outing and Picnic, please call the hall! Local elections are coming this year; members' participation keeps the Local moving in a positive direction.

Notice, a Death Assessment for Brother John Hawkins of Local 31 Houston TX, will be collected with the next quarter dues. Please add \$5.00 for this assessment with your 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter payment.

All Testing must be done according to Code and your Companies Maintenance Control Program. Document all tests that are due and only tasks you have completed. Keep all job logs current with this information. When you need assistance, technical or for safety, request, receive and document. Check your paystubs weekly, are you getting what you put in? Paper copies can be requested as stated in Article XI, Par. 2. Forms are available at the Hall. Check your recent pay stubs for proper Holiday pay and hours.

All Members, Local 36, Local 85 and the EIWPF are holding outreaches sessions on Monday nights, 6:00 – 8:00 pm. Reviewing and answering any questions pertaining to Michigan and Detroit Elevator Codes. Contact the Hall if you are interested. The link will be sent to you for either online or phone participation. We are holding code book layout sessions monthly, call the hall if interested. Maintenance Control Programs (MCP) reference the Codes, are you being Code compliant? Know what the MCP is referencing for you the Licensed Journeyperson. If anyone is interested in a class for QEI training, please call the Hall so we can build a potential class list.

Reminder, Keep your State of Michigan, and City of Detroit licenses current. Sign up to receive Safety Alerts at IUEC.org for safety and product alerts to your phone. All Construction and Modernization work is Teamwork. Keep the hall informed of all jobs, Crane picks and Cab work, while having permits as required before starting When your Company Assignment takes you outside our jurisdiction it is your responsibility to report in to that Local before you start, as stated in the International Constitution and By-Laws.

**All Members**, you are obligated to keep current with the Local your contact information, including address, phone, and email information, notify any changes including company phone numbers. Your company should take care of all business during regular working hours, after hours' phone calls are not acceptable.

Get well wishes are extended to all our Brothers and Sisters who are on our sick list. Be Safe and Be Healthy!

#### Local 25 cont'd

able. Contact John Miller for rules, application, and deadline 734-812-8036 or email ilmillertime50@yahoo.com

The West Michigan Chapter Retirees breakfast will meet Tuesday May 3, 2022 at 9:00 am at Red Rock Grille & Café, 228 N. Ball Creek Rd, NW, Kent City, Michigan 49330. Future meeting scheduled for the 1st Tuesday of each month. All are welcome.

The Bay City Chapter Retirees quarterly meeting will be Thursday July 21, 2022 at 1:00 pm at the Bay City American Legion Post 18, 700 Adams Street, Bay City, Michigan 48708. All are welcome.

The **Downriver Chapter** Retirees breakfast will meet Friday May 20, 2022 at 9:00 am at Mom's Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, Michigan, 48183. Future meetings scheduled for the **third Friday** of each month. All are welcome.

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

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (April 18, 2022 12:00 pm E.S.T.).

"Saying what we think gives us a wider conversational range

than saying what we know.'

–Cullen Hightower

"The most important work you and I will ever do will be within the walls of our own homes.'

-Harold B. Lee (1899 - 1973)

'Go often to the house of thy friend; for weeds soon choke up the unused path."

-Scandinavian Proverb

MONDAY-FRIDAY 8 A.M.-5 P.M.

Democracy is a device that ensures we shall be governed no

better than we deserve." -George Bernard Shaw (1856 - 1950)

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#### Local 7 **Sheet Metal Workers**

Sheet Metal Workers Local 7

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

The next Statewide Meeting will be, June 9, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 1- May 10<sup>th</sup> -6:00 p.m. \*Zone 2 –May 17th -6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 3- May 11th -6:00 p.m. (Saginaw)

\*Zone 3- June 16th -6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)

\*Zone 4- May 10<sup>th</sup> -6:00 p.m. \*Zone 5 –June 2<sup>nd</sup> -6:00 p.m.

MSMTA Seeks Part-time Instructor for U. P. Training Center. Michigan Sheet Metal Training and Apprenticeship is currently seek-



ing a knowledgeable and outgoing Member to join our staff of Instructors. New Instructor will be asked to teach apprenticeship classes at our Gwinn Training Center, with probability of additional continuing education classes from time to time. Good communication skills, self-motivation, and commitment to the future of our Trade are essential. Instructor training will be provided. Qualified members in the fields of HVAC, AutoCAD, Welding/Industrial, Architectural Sheet Metal, and Testing, Adjusting and Balancing are invited to submit resumes by May 1, 2022 to: Training Coordinator Darek Scarlavai, Michigan Sheet Metal Training, 5815 S. Dangl Rd., Fruitport, MI, 49415, or by email to: dscarlavai@gmail.com. For

FULLER more information, please contact Darek at (231)288-6325. SMART Local 7 Picnic: Local 7 will be hosting a picnic on Saturday, July 23, 2022 at the Double JJ Resort located at 5900 Water Rd,

Rothbury, MI 49452. If you are interested in making reservations at their campground, call their offices at 231-894-4444 or go to their website at www.doublejj.com Let them know you are with Local 7. All Local 7 Members and their Families are invited to Attend. Renew Old Acquaintances and Make new ones with Games, Food, Beverages, Kids Games, and Door Prizes Etc....view the Picnic Flyer on our local website www.sheetmetal7.org.

**NEWS**: Local No. 7 – **Union Hoodies** available through the Lansing office for \$44.00/each (While Supplies last). Hoodies are Red with White logo. Payment via check, cash or credit card. Payment must be received before shipping.

Please register on our website at www.sheetmetal7.org for the most up to date information on meeting schedules for 2022. 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.

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

**ZONE 1 Info.** Work in the Zone 1 Area has started to pick up and will continue to increase as we get into summer. There will be a Youth to Youth committee election held at the May 12 Zone 1 meeting in Marshall, if interested please be in attendance. Contact James or Eric with your employment status should you become unemployed. Apprentices, please inform Ryan at the Training Center of your employment status as well. If you are experiencing any problems with unemployment or health insurance and would like further information regarding retirement, please contact James or Eric for further assistance. Any Journeypersons interested in upgrade classes, please contact Ryan at the Training Center for more information (269) 781-7183 (class availability depends on the level of interest).

Zone 1 Retiree monthly meetings: 1st Wednesday 8:30 am at Bob Evans 1725 N W Ave, Jackson, MI 49202; 2nd Tuesday 1:00 pm at Rocky Top 1900 Lansing Ave, Jackson, MI 49202.

In Solidarity, James Callahan and Eric Farrington.

**ZONE 2 Info:** Work in Zone 2 remains busy with some good size projects coming up. Please keep me informed of address and phone number changes, also dues are to be paid by the first of every month. Reserve the date Saturday, July 23rd, the Local 7 picnic at the Double JJ Resort in Rothbury. Let's have a good turn out with it being held in the Zone 2 area. You can reserve a campsite or a room by calling 231-894-4444 and tell them you're with Local 7. As always work safe and Thank You Mike Adams

**ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw)** Currently we have 12 journeyman and 4 apprentices off and 11 members working in other areas. If you are laid off please contact me so you can be added to the out of work list, there is some travel work available if you're interested. Please contact the Lansing office or myself if you need to update your contact information. Please make sure you pay your dues on time so you don't become suspended. Next Retirees' meeting is June 28th at the Ponderosa in Bay City on Wilder Rd. Thank you, Joe Dotson

**Zone 3 Retiree meetings** – (Saginaw) Tuesday June 28 and Tuesday Sept 27 at Ponderosa located at 2861 Wilder Rd, Bay City. Retirees and spouses welcome to join.

**ZONE 3 Info:** (Traverse City). Save the date: July 23, Local 7 Picnic at the Double JJ Resort in Muskegon. Reservations can be made at (231) 894-4444, let them know you are from Local 7. The first CPR class is scheduled for May 13 @ 8am at 735 S. Garfield, Lower level B150, TC. The class is full as of now. Please contact me if you need to be in the next class. Work in our area is picking up with a ton of school work breaking along with some bigger work being bid right now. Please let me know if you see McCorvey Sheet Metal or MMC Contractors trucks or vans in our areas. We are going to try Willies again for the next retirees meeting at 9 am on May 6, it looks like they are back open. As always work safe and keep your dues up and if anyone needs anything please contact me. Regards, John Amalfitano

**ZONE 4 Info:** Spring is here and Summer right around the corner, and with that a ton of work. Zone 4 currently has ten members on the out of work list. There are a lot of projects starting up and more to follow through the summer and fall. If you are laid off please contact the hall. Your Brother, Larry Kinzie

**ZONE 5 Info:** Work in the U.P. remains the same with some projects starting up over the next few weeks. If you are in need of MSHA training contact me for the link to sign up.

The retirees have scheduled a morning meeting for May 10, 2022 please contact me if you'd like to attend. Thank you, Greg Faust

**SASMI Information – Zone 3 and 5:** Underemployment – Filing for period 2021-B is from July 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021. Eligible members who worked less than 700 hours from July 1, 2021. through Dec. 31, 2021, may receive an underemployment benefit. Health and welfare benefits paid on your behalf will be deducted from your benefit. **NOTE:** Members who received an Emergency Advance Benefit must file for Underemployment to receive the remainder of that benefit for the stabilization period. In addition, you must provide copies of all W-2 forms for the entire year of 2021.

**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.

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

882-4064 Local 7 Officers:

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

Eric Farrington (Agent-Lansing/Jackson) 517-242-3223 James Callahan (Agent-Battle Creek/Kalamazoo) 269-569-9200

Mike Adams (Agent-Grand Rapids/Muskegon) 616-299-3752 Joe Dotson (Saginaw) 989-225-0095

John Amalfitano (Traverse City) 231-590-1112 Larry Kinzie (Agent-Flint) 810-836-3552 Greg Faust (Agent-Upper Peninsula): 906-372-9288



#### Local 80 **Sheet Metal Workers**

**Sheet Metal Workers Local 80** 

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

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The next general membership meeting is scheduled for April 26, 2022 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, 48076

NOTICE OF WAGE INCREASE ALLOCATION VOTE. At the May 24, 2022 General Membership meeting we will be voting on how

to allocate the wage increase that is scheduled to take effect on June 1, 2022.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:** The next executive board meeting is scheduled for May 17, 2022 at 5:00 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Southfield, MI. The service wage allocation vote will be on May 25, 2022 at 4:30pm at the

will be at 5pm on May 25, 2022 at the union hall. UNION HALL REGULAR HOURS Monday through Friday 7:30 – 4:00, unless otherwise indi-TIM cated in holiday hours.

MULLIGAN

RETIREE MEETING SCHEDULE: The 2022

union hall and the residential wage allocation vote

retiree meeting schedule is as follows: April 18, 2022, June 20, 2022, August 15, 2022, October 17, 2022 (annual party) and December 19, 2022. 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 out general membership meetings. Please see the general membership meeting schedule above.

**SUB CHANGES:** As of May 1, 2021 the sub fund has been raised to \$250 per credit for building trades journeyman. Bereavement & Jury Duty is now \$500 but you must be off 2 days.

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 on Tuesdays from 12-4pm (appointment only) and 12-5:30pm (walk-ins) on union meeting nights. If you are interested in setting up an appointment, please contact LaShone at 248-813-9800 ext. 3250

GOLF OUTING: Tickets are now available for members only until May 16th! Please join us on July 16 at Cracklewood Golf Club in Macomb Twp. Tickets can be reserved at a cost of \$90 a ticket for members and \$125 a ticket for non-members. Your ticket will include coffee, donuts & danishes, a bloody mary bar, lunch at the turn, open bar up until 1 hour after golf, beer & pop available on the course and a wonderful steak dinner. Please contact the hall with any questions you may have or to reserve your ticket!

RETIREMENT CLASS: Saturday, May 7, at 9am we will host a FREE retirement education class with Graystone Consulting. This will give you the opportunity to ask questions about your retirement plans. Please call the hall to rsvp 248-557-7575. Spouses are welcome.

CONDOLENCES: Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of retired member Sam J. Consiglio. He is survived by his wife; Dolores, brother and retired member; Ralph, two daughters; Samantha and Tammy, and son; Kenneth, who is an active member of our union. The following members: Mike; nephew. Ricky; cousin. Samuel; cousin. Samuel Jr.; cousin. Rest In Peace Brother Consiglio.

THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES AYEAR IN ADVANCE: Todd Lesiak, Jay Kuczynski, John McGow, Jose Cespedes, Mike E. Anderson, Michael Foley, Gordon Peans, Donald Dluge, Robert Beaufait.

**DUES GIFT**: As of October 1, 2021 current, active members who pay for a year of dues at a time will receive a gift from the union hall. DUES PAYMENTS: YOUR DUES PAYMENTS ARE DUE PRIOR **TO THE FIRST OF THE MONTH.** The books will close at the end of the business day on the last day of the month. Payments made on the 1st of the month are considered late for that month. There will be no exception, once the books are closed it cannot be undone. Members will receive a text message dues reminder prior to the end of the month. If you are not receiving our text messaging, please call the hall. REMINDER: We ONLY take Visa, Master Card & Discover and do not accept American Express

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

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.

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

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

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

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

SHORT WORK WEEK SUB PAY: If you work 16 hours or less in a week or have a short work week due to weather you may collect sub for that week but only if it is at the beginning or the end of a (Continued next column)



## Local 292

**Sheet Metal Workers** 

**Sheet Metal Workers Local 292** 

TROY-MEETING NOTICE: The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 11, 2022.

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

The E-Board/Stewards meeting is scheduled for April 26, 2022 at 6:00 pm at the Union Hall.

2022 ANNUAL GOLF OUTING: Mark your calendars! The Local 292 annual charity golf outing will be held on Sunday, August 21, 2022. The outing is being held at Boulder Pointe

Golf Club in Oxford. More details will follow. LOCAL 292 ONLINE STORE: Check out the online store to purchase Local 292 shirts and iackets. Purchased items will be shipped directly to you. Access through Sheetmetal292.com at the online store tab or https://sheetmetalworkers292.itemorder.com/sale. If you have any suggestions for new items or changes for artwork, contact Paul or Tony.

PAUL

**ADDRESS UPDATES:** If you move, please GUALDONI contact the union hall to update your address.

RETIREES NOTICE: MARK YOUR CALEN-DARS: The 2022 schedule for the Local 292 Retiree luncheon are as follows: June 2, Aug. 4, Oct. 6, Dec. 1. The retirees luncheon will be held Thursdays at: Tavern on the Main @ 12:30 p.m., 235 S Main, Clawson MI 48017; (248) 588-1696. It is located 3 blocks south of 14

Mile on the east side of the street. Please contact the union hall via our website www.sheetmetal292.com, click on the "Contact Us" page if you would like to be added to the retiree email list.

Please join us for lunch, great conversations and story telling. 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, click on the Constitution/Ritual tab located at the top of the home page. The Union Hall will also has hard copies for members who want one.

SAFETY MODS AND DRUG TESTS: To access your MUST account, go to www.mustonline.org or access it through the "links" tab at 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.

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

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

DUES: Membership dues are required to be paid in advance of the month for which they are due. The union hall is not open on Saturday or Sunday, therefore, if you pay dues on either of those days, it will not be processed until Monday. If you are on suspension warning, your dues are 60 days late. To avoid suspension, dues must be paid online or at the union hall by 4:00 p.m. on the last business day of the month. Payments received after 4:00 p.m. on the last business day of the month will not be processed and you WILL go suspended. All members are responsible for making sure any required fees, i.e. late fees or service fees, are included if paying online (sheetmetal 292.com).

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

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

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

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

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

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

Attention all Welders! We are looking for any member interested in a Saturday welding classes April 23 and 30 and May 7, 14 and 21.

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

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

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

#### **Local 80 continued**

layoff. You may NOT collect if you are not laid off. You must complete a sub application at the hall, provide a pay stub for that week and the hall will submit it to the fund office. If you are not laid off and it is due to weather the company MUST provide written documentation that it was weather related.

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

**2022 SAVE THE DATES:** 

Building Trades Wage Allocation: May 24, 2022 5:30 pm Service Wage Allocation: May 25, 2022 4:30 pm Residential Wage Allocation: May 25, 2022 5:00 pm Local 80 Golf Outing – July 16th Local 80 Picnic – August 13th

Feel the Power

Laborers Local 1191

DETROIT – Monthly Membership Meetings: Union meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at 7 pm at the Union hall (except for holidays), next membership meeting will on the April, 1, 2022.

**Retirees:** Retiree Council's meetings are the last Friday of the month. The meetings are held 11 a.m. at the Local Union Hall, 2161 West Grand Blvd. Detroit, 48208.

Union Dues For 2022: Effective Jan. 1, 2022 regular monthly dues are \$35 for active members. Retiree monthly dues will remain the same \$8.

Reminder: Be sure to keep the Local Union updated with any changes to your phone number, address, and/or email.

Members can now Pay Dues online 24/7 on our website at www.laborerslocal1191.org! Upper right-hand corner Pay Dues tab, and follow the instruction. Please also check out our website and "Laborers' Local 1191" Facebook page for important information about your

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

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. Members who sign up for Vacation monthly dues deduction and pay (6) months at a time will receive a 1-month rebate! To better serve our membership, we are accepting Credit & Debit payments.

Vacation Monthly Dues Deduction Authorization: Members may revoke vacation monthly dues authorization at any time by signing a vacation deduction cancellation form. This cancellation form must be sent to the Local Union 1191 office, however understand that Local 1191 needs to have this form on file at least 60 days before the next vacation checks are distributed for the months of May or November.

Vacation Check Direct Deposit: If your mail delivery is slow or your mail is getting lost, then it is highly recommended to get your vacation check direct deposited into your bank checkings or savings account. A Payee Deposit Agreement must be completed and signed, and the member must return the payee deposit agreement at least 60 days before the following vacation distribution for the month of May, or November to Michigan Laborers Vacation Fund, 6525 Centurion Dr. Lansing MI 48917.

MUST Safety Awareness Training: Please check the MUST website at www.mustb safe.com to see how many modules you have.

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 visit the training school website 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: Asbestos Awareness-Silica Awareness-Infectious Disease Awareness-Respirator Awareness-Hazard Communication-Blood borne Pathogens Awareness-Covid-19 Awareness-Lead Awareness.

NOTE: Classes & Certifications contractors have been asking for are: OSHA 30, Asbestos & Lead Awareness, Hoisting & Rigging, Pipeline Safety, Class A Cdl License, Asbestos Removal Supervisors Licence, Confined Space Permit Required, Grade Checking Blueprint Reading & Measuring Tools, Gps Location. The above training and certifications are all available at the training center. It could mean the difference of being sent to work or not! FYI: By taking the OSHA 30 your 18 MUST Safety modules are updated as well. If you are not able to go to the Training Center for MUST Safety Modules contact the Local Union to assist you with making arrangements to complete them.

**Referral List:** Every member who is looking for work must call, or come to the Local Union Office on Mondays between 1-4 pm and put their name on the out-of-work list. You must have an out-of-work skills sheet filled out and on file in order to be referred out for work by the Local Union. Also be sure to Check & Update your Skills regularly.

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

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

**CONTACT NUMBERS.** Michigan Laborers' Fringe Benefits Funds (Annuity, Insurance, Pension & Vacation)

**Telephone: (877) 645-2267 •** Fax: (517) 321-7508

Website: www.michigan laborers.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' (Vacation) (877) 645-2267

Web Site: Www.metro detroitlaborers.org

**BENEFICIARY REMINDER:** Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice especially after a divorce on all of your LIUNA Local 1191, American Income Life Accidental Benefit, Pension and Healthcare funds. The law requires that in the event of an untimely death your benefits go to your estate and may be taxable. Each individual benefit needs to have a designated beneficiary.



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 Download the scholarship application and instructions here:

DC Scholarship Application Packet

MICHIGAN LABORERS' SCHOLARSHIP FUND 2022-2023 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. The Michigan Laborers' Scholarship Fund is pleased to announce the 2022-2023 Scholarship Program, which provides scholarships for the continued and further education of eligible individuals who have been admitted or are already enrolled as a student in an accredited post-secondary institution. Applications must be received by the fund office on or before May 1st, 2022 to receive full consideration.

In general, eligible individuals who may apply for a scholarship under the Scholarship Program are members in good standing of a Local Union affiliated with the Michigan Laborers' District Council, their biological children, adopted children, stepchildren, a person for whom the member or spouse is or was named full legal guardian (other than a limited or temporary guardian), or survivors of deceased members who were members in good standing of a Local Union affiliated with the Michigan Laborers' District Council at the time of their death. Survivors include all persons listed above.

Eligible individuals must also have been admitted or be already enrolled in an accredited vocational school, technical school, or a two or four-year degree granting college or university accredited by the Board of Education.



## **Cement Masons**

& Plasterers

Operative Plasterers and Cement Masons' Local 514

bership meeting is scheduled for May 17, 2022 at 7 p.m. We will practice social distancing for everybody's safety. Masks will be required.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the retirees that you all

Our deepest condolences

Membership gold cards-

Derek Demers-25 Years Julian Lewis-25 Years

Please activate your Blue Cross Blue Shield account. To activate your Blue Cross member account online go to bcbsm.com/

our new Business Representative! His number is 313-220-7840 and he can be reached by email: parrishhill514@yahooo.com

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

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

**Attention all Apprentices:** now you will need to go to the website: www.micementplasterertraining.com to enter your hours so Larry can keep track for your raises. Any questions please feel free to contact Larry

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

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

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE

PLASTERERS AND CE-MENT MASONS: It is your responsibility to fill out reciprocity forms if you plan on working out



DETROIT - The next mem-

are safe and well.

go out to Bro. Joseph Schifano family. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Congratulations! Jason Blattert-25 Years

Derek Radjenovich-25 Years Bryan Tripp-25 Years

register and select register now. Please Welcome Parrish Hill

Lawrence Nemeth is the Ap-

work hours. When you get to the website click the link "About" and then click on "Apprentice monthly work form instructions". You will be able to put in your with any questions you might

The Local's website is: www.opcmiami.org. Please refer to website for updated informa-

O.P.C.M.I.A. Local 514 has a

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

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

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

FOR PLASTERERS AND DE-TROIT COMMERCIAL CE-MENT MASONS: You can track

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

(Continued next column)



ORGANIZING THE OLD BRICK taken from the United Artists/150 Bagley Building in Detroit is Stephan Jacobs, the Pullman Masons Contractor foreman on the project. He's a member of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2.



#### BAC Local 2

WARREN/LANSING -APRIL 2022 CHAPTER MEET-

**SAGINAW CHAPTER:** Tuesday, April 26, 2022 at 7:00 PM, 1300 W. Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706

MAY 2022 CHAPTER **MEETINGS** 

METRO DETROIT CHAP-**TER:** Tuesday, May 03, 2022 at 7:00 PM, 21031 Ryan Road, Warren, MI 48091

ANN AR-

**BOR CHAP-**

TER: Tues-

day, May 3,

2022 at 6 PM,

8225 Dexter-

Chelsea

Road, Dexter,



MI 48130 **FLINT** PAUL **CHAPTER:** DUNFORD Wednesday,

May 04, 2022 at 7:30 PM, 1701 W. Genesee Street, Lapeer, MI 48446 KALAMAZOO CHAPTER:

Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 6:00 PM, 11847 Shaver Road, Schoolcraft, MI 49087 LANSING CHAPTER:

Monday, May 9, at 6 PM, 3321 Remy Drive, Lansing, MI 48906 **MARQUETTE CHAPTER:** Monday, May 16, 2022 at 7:00 PM, 119 S Front Street,

Marquette, MI 49855 **SAGINAW CHAPTER:** Tuesday, May 24, 2022 at 7:00 PM, 1300 W. Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706

TRAVERSE CITY CHAP-TER: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 at 7:00 PM, 1231 Hastings Street, Traverse City, MI 49686

**DEATHS REPORTED.** Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Brother Frederick Fabris (Tile Setter, Terrazzo Worker & Marble Mason) who passed away on March 08, 2022. Brother Fabris had been a member for 61 years.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Brother** Andrew Lauro (Bricklayer & PCC) who passed away on February 06, 2022. Brother Lauro had been a member for 1 year.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Brother David Vetor** (PCC) who passed away on April 04, 2022. Brother Vetor had been a member for 35

WEBSITE UPDATES. Be

#### Local 514 cont'd

of the local 514 area. This will ensure that your hours are sent back to your home fund. If you have any questions, or need any forms, please contact the Local.

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

If you have questions concerning your pension benefits, ROAD BUILDERS can call: Toll Free at 1-877-876-9357 or (517) 321-7502. PLASTERERS'AND COMMERCIAL CEMENT MA-**SONS** can call: (248) 645-6550 for pension and annuity, and Toll Free 1-877-876-935 All Plasterers and Cement Masons can contact (517) 321-7502 for health & welfare information now through Outstate Michigan Trowel Trades Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan. For the INTERNATIONAL **PENSION** Call 1-888-880-8222 Toll Free or (202) 638-1996.

sure to check out our new website at https://www.bricklayers.org and our app, which can be found in the IOS and Andriod app stores by searching for Bricklayers Lo-

Bricklayers and Allied

Craftworkers

CRAFTWORKERS NEEDED. We need Skilled Brick-

layers, Restoration workers and Caulkers in Metro Detroit. If you are available for work, or know anyone who is skilled in our crafts, contact your Field Representative on their cell phone. You can also have those who are interested call either the Warren office (586) 754-0888 or the Lansing office (517) 886-9781.

SIGNING BONUS FOR SKILLED CRAFTWORKERS. Local 2 will pay up to \$2,000 as a **Signing Bonus** for skilled Journey Level craftworkers who come to work for one of our Union Contractors. Also, Local 2 members working with the tools and non-supervisory members can get the same amount as a Finders Referral Bonus for each new skilled craftworker who they refer, if they work for at least a month for our Union Contractors. For more details and information, call your Field Representative or either the Warren office (586) 754-0888 or the Lansing office (517) 886-9781. You can view the full Signing Bonus policy on our website

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

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

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

**BAC LOCAL 2'S TRAIN-ING CENTERS.** Both Local 2 Training Centers are open to our members. Please contact our Training Centers at the numbers listed below for an appointment for annual RESPIRATOR FIT TESTS and other services.

**DETROIT IMI TRAINING CENTER.** To schedule appointments at the Metro Detroit Training Center, please contact Howard Hipes directly at (517) 749-1102.

TMT RTI CLASSES. To register visit https://www. michiganbricklayers.org and click Calendar. Classes are filled on a first-registered, first-served basis and will be held on the following Saturdays from 7:00am – 3:30pm: \* Apr: 30 \* May: 14 & 28 \* Jun: 4th & 11th

Apprentices, remember that Related Training Instruction (RTI) classes are a requirement of your Apprenticeship, failure to attend will delay your apprenticeship and raises.

Feel free to contact your BAC field representative or the Statewide Apprentice Director, Howard Hipes, should you have any questions.

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

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

Go to https://www.michiganbricklayers.org to view the Apprenticeship and Training website and register for future 2022 online training classes.

MEMBERSHIP ASSIS-**TANCE.** During this COVID-19 pandemic, the IUBAC Member Assistance Program has a number of services available for free or at a discounted rate to BAC members and their families. These confidential services can be seen at http://bit.ly/MAP-**BAC** and are also available via telephone at (888) 880-8222 and ask for membership assistance Monday – Friday 8 am – 8 pm. These services were established and are intended to help get us through difficult life situations.

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

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

accomplish this task. **BAC 2 MI TEXTING PRO-GRAM.** We have been communicating by text message more frequently with our membership lately. We encourage our members to sign up to receive our text

messages by • texting *2MI* to *877877* 

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

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

PENSION AND HEALTH **INSURANCE INFORMATION** BAC of Michigan Health & Welfare Fund – (248) 828-6000 Michigan BAC Pension Fund

(Outstate) - (800) 531-2244Metro Detroit Bricklayers Pension & Vacation Fund – (248) 813-9800

Cement Pension & Holiday Funds – (248) 645-6550

CALL-A-DOC - (800) 835-2362 International Pension/Annuity Fund – (888) 880-8222 or (202) 638-1996 (bacbenefits.org)





#### Level best

LEVELING NEW GRAVEL in front of the United Artists Building at 150 Bagley in Detroit is foreman Stephan Jacobs of Laborers Local 1076. He's employed by Brinker. The trades are just starting work on the redevelopment of the near-century old building into a 148-unit residential



#### Local 169 Boilermakers

Boilermakers Local 169

ALLEN PARK – The next Union meeting will be on Friday, May 13, 2022, at 8:00 pm in Area 1, at the Union Hall located at 1755 Fairlane

Drive, Allen

Park, MI 48101

February 1st,

2022, union

dues will be

\$52.35 in ac-

cordance with

Beginning

the International Brotherhood of Boil-**HUTSELL** ermakers Constitution. The

Union Hall accepts, Visa, Mastercard, and Discover. Payments can be made both at the Union Hall and over the phone.

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

#### Save the dates:

**June 17 & June 18** Local 169 Motorcycle ride to the Soo Locks. All riders and spouses/Family members are welcome to attend. There will be various stops along the way. You can reserve rooms at the: Adoba Lockview Motel 327 West Portage Ave. Sault Ste. Marie 49783 (906) 632-2491 reservations@adobalockview.com

Additional rooms are available at the Ramada Inn in Sault Ste. Marie. Across the street from theLockview. This ride provides a great ride over the Mackinac Bridge the first day, and rides the following day to Whitefish Point, the Tahquamenon Falls, or the

local casino.

**Boilermakers Local 169** Annual Golf Outing is scheduled for **June 24** at St. Clair Golf Club. 1714 N. River Road, St. Clair, MI 48079. 8am registration with a 9am shotgun start.

Area 1 Annual Picnic will be July 23 at Camp Dearborn, 1700 General Motors Drive, Milford, MI 48380. Starts at noon. Please bring a side dish to share, all meat will be provided.

Area 3 Annual Picnic will be August 27 at Lake of Dreams Campground, 1000 South Fenmore Road, Merrill, MI 48637

**Retirees:** Retiree luncheons have resumed. The Area One Retiree luncheon is held on the first Wednesday of every month at 11:00 am at the Brown Derby Bar, 10661 West Jefferson, River Rouge, Mi.

**Area 2 Retirees** are holding luncheons on the first Thursday of every month at 11am at Whitlow's Forerunner Restaurant located at 4610 Airline Rd, Muskegon MI. All retirees and members from all areas are welcome to attend.

Area 3 Retirees' lunches are on the third Wednesday of every month. They will be meeting at Green Spot Pub on 808 N. Mission Street, Mt. Pleasant, MI

lunches are on the first Tuesday of the month at 11am in Rapid River at Jacks Restaurant, 7898 S. Main Street, Rapid River, MI. Area 4 retirees also meet in Marquette on the second Tuesday of the month at 11am at Crossroads Bar on the corner of County Rd 553 and County

Hoodies have been restocked and are available in sizes ranging from medium through 3XL. Cost is \$40.00. Payments can be made with cash, check or credit. If you live out of the area and would like to order one, please call the hall. Additional shipping charges will be added. Baseball caps are also available. Varsity jackets are available by special order. Please contact the Union Hall for details.

Our two-week apprenticeship training session will be this August. The Common-arc test will follow. Apprentices should plan accordingly. Apprentices will be notified of times and dates.

Due to continued demand, the Boilermakers Local 169 Welding Committee will be holding a stainless steel and Inconel weld certification test with B&G Processing. All carbon steel, certified tube welders are encouraged to participate. Boilermaker signatory contractors are seeing an increased demand for these welding skills as we continue working in emerging industries.

As our industry changes, we must continue to develop the skills that make us the best choice for our owners and contractors, just as we have done for over 125 years. Further details will



# AFL-CIO's Shuler: a new look for labor is coming

(Continued from Page 1)

goals, their structures, and their opportunities to accommodate the new wave of workers. "What is going to happen next?" asked Shuler, who got a huge roar as she entered the hall and made her way to the podium, escorted by workers from her home state, Oregon

"It is up to us to shape this investment and take advantage of the strong labor standards we attached," to the law. "And it's up to us to supply the workforce: Women, people of color, of the formerly institutionalized, people who may not realize the power of a union.

"No one is better than training people than we are," she declared, citing construction unions' hundreds of training centers and 75,000 yearly apprentices nationwide. "And we will help President Biden build on his promise to deliver at least 40 percent of the investments in renewable energy to communities of color."

Only four of those current or planned investments, including a semiconductor plant in Ohio and a wind farm in the Atlantic off Rhode Island, will produce 250,000 new jobs – and Biden wants them to be union jobs.

'We have not only a chance to build sustainable infrastructure but sustainable jobs," added Shuler, speaking of both the wind farms and a Biden multibilliondollar initiative, which would employ the Utility Workers and their colleagues, to replace all of the nation's lead-lined water pipes,

thus averting future disasters such as occurred in Flint.

Apprenticeships also come into play, Shuler said. Pointing out a college diploma is not for evervone, and that apprentices, upon graduation and entering a trade, can earn six figures, Shuler urged delegates to start discussing benefits of building trades careers with students as early as middle school.

"Earn while you learn and afterwards you have a good job waiting for you and after that you have a career. You know it, you experienced it. Those folks find hope in their unions."

Biden's infrastructure law was one reason Shuler loaded the administration with praise, subtly reminding the delegates that in an election year, they must remind their members what his proworker government has done for union members both on Capitol Hill and in federal agencies. That reminder dominated McGarvey's speech.

"But we have to shift with the times, with a labor movement with members and leaders who look like our community," Shuler warned. "I know what it's like to be the only woman in the room," she said. Shuler made that same point, in even stronger terms, several years ago when, as secretary-treasurer, she practically read her colleagues the riot act at a closed-door AFL-CIO Executive Council meeting in Atlanta. She was gentler, but pointed, at NABTU, in her first address to them as AFL-CIO President.

'Women will be half of the labor movement in three years," she said. The AFL-CIO is already the largest U.S. woman's membership organization, Shuler noted. 'We want every single one of those women...to see women be at the head of the table."

"Lean-In Circles. Women In Trades," she said, naming an NABTU initiative and a longtime NABTU sector. "Our movement has to be constantly evolving and changing just as work has constantly evolving and changing."

That means changing methods of organizing and attracting new members to meet what she calls "the Uberization of the workforce all across the economy." Uber, Lyft and other "gig economy" firms using computer-driven platforms, claim their workers are actually "independent contractors," not protected by labor laws, weak as those laws are.

"The gig economy thinks they're unique, so they don't have to pay decent wages or protect their workers," Shuler said. "But it doesn't have to be that way: Building Trades is the original gig model.

We're not going to let outdated labor laws stand in the way...Our members and the American people are fed up, they're fired up. Let's show them the labor movement has their back. Let's build an economy that works for working people, everyone included no one left behind. I cannot wait to see where we go from here," Shuler concluded.

## **Biden administration's 'actions** have matched their words' in supporting U.S. labor unions

people, and he is," McGarvey said. "Their actions have matched their words" in everything from jobless benefits during the coronaviruscaused depression to the child care tax credit to the pension relief.

"The former administration tried to cripple Davis-Bacon," the nation's 91-year-old prevailing wage law, McGarvey continued. "They tried to kneecap registered (union) apprenticeships. They had the most anti-union NLRB General Counsel"- the board's top enforcement officer and staffer - "in history. They tried to devastate our ability to achieve project labor agreements" on federally funded construction "and upend collective bargaining in the construction industry.

"Biden fired that (Trump-appointed) NLRB General Counsel," McGarvey said, to cheers and whistles. "And when he tried to place his deputy in the General Counsel position, Biden fired her, too."

McGarvey's biggest pro-Biden selling points: The five-year \$1.2 trillion Infrastructure and Jobs Act, approved last year, and which he said provides enormous opportunities for construction unions to train apprentices and provide well-paying jobs and recruit new members. And the administration's overall enormously pro-worker record.

The weighted average of polls at 538.com gives Biden a 41.2 percent approval rating and 53.1 percent disapproval. On Inauguration Day in 2021, Biden led the comparison, 53-36 percent. He slowly slid until late August, when the withdrawal from Afghanistan sent his ratings plummeting – and Democratic gloom up.

Which means McGarvey, AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., had a selling job to do at the April 4-6 NABTU conference – to get the delegates, when they go home, to rev up their members to turn out for pro-worker nominees this fall.

The Infrastructure and Jobs Act was bipartisan, the only GOP speaker at the April 5 conference, Alaska Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R) reminded delegates. The Alaskan, a bill negotiator, said its GOP backers overcame internal pressure demanding they refuse to work on it, much less vote for it. "Some said it was the Green New Deal all over again," she said, "and others said, 'Oh, no, no, no, you can't support it. You're a Republican."

McGarvey said Biden's achievements also notably included the rescue of financially ailing multi-employer pension plans, which are common in the construction industry, among other sectors. The 2008 Wall Street-caused crash hammered them. A 2014 rescue let pension trustees reduce current pensioners' and heirs' payouts.

This pension rescue, which McGarvey said is worth \$86 billion, bans such cuts and centers on federal loan guarantees to plans that qualify by showing complete and detailed strategies on how to raise funds to get out of their holes. And while Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, led the rescue legislatively, crafting, backing and building trades lobbying were all bipartisan.

McGarvey's other pitch: He pulled no punches about Trump's anti-labor record, without mentioning Trump addressed the 2017 Building Trades conference in the same D.C. hotel ballroom. Trump pledged to enact infrastructure legislation, using his background as

Trump didn't. Biden did, McGarvey said. And construction union members and families can claim the credit for "the critical votes" that elected Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris. Both, he said, are "forward-thinking leaders" who kept their promises. "And let me make one thing clear: North America's Building Trades members and their families support democracy, full stop," he declared, to applause.

#### **Building material prices** are through the roof

(Continued from Page 1)

"Construction firms have been burdened with cost increases of 20 percent per year or costs. Of course, removing formore since early 2021," said Ken eign tariffs increases cost-cut-Simonson, the association's chief ting pressures on domestic economist. "Since contractors manufacturers. can seldom pass along increases on projects that are underway, these extreme price hikes threaten the viability of many firms. Unfortunately, the continuing war in Ukraine is likely to keep input costs elevated for many more months, if not longer."

March 2022 was the 18thstraight month in which the cost index rose more than the bid-price index on a year-over-year basis, Simonson said. Prices rose faster for a wide range of inputs in the cost index than the 17 percent increase in bid prices during those 12 months.

The index for plastic construction products rose 35.2 percent over those 12 months. Asphalt and tar roofing and siding products were up 22.6 percent; lumber and plywood, +20.9 percent; gypsum products, +20.8 percent; architectural coatings, +20.6 percent, and insulation materials, +17.4 percent.

Given the ongoing war in the Ukraine, the pandemic, and the supply chain woes around the world, which continue to affect the economy and the price of goods, economists have offered few viable policies for lowering inflation. The AGC suggests the Biden Administration should remove tariffs that are as high as 25

**24** HOUR

percent on aluminum in order to provide relief for employers grappling with higher material

Given the impact inflation is already having on the economy, it makes no sense for the administration to continue to needlessly inflate the cost of key construction materials," said Stephen E. Sandherr, the AGC's chief executive officer. "Removing these tariffs will take some of the price pressure off of employers grappling to control costs."

#### **Upstart union** gets historic first win at Amazon

(Continued from Page 1) against Amazon that is being supported by the Teamsters union.

Throughout the campaign, Amazon attempted to paint Smalls as an outsider who was upset that he was fired after an ititial 2020 organizing attempt. While Smalls became the charismatic face of the union, he told Labor Notes that there was an organizing committee of more than 20 workers who made this victory possible.

'He's not smart, or articulate," said a leaked memo by an Amazon lawyer to describe Smalls. The unlikely union leader used the words as fuel to engage Amazon. "When I read that memo, that motivated me to start an organization," said Smalls.

For someone who isn't "articulate," Smalls had a great quote when Amazon owner Jeff Bezos went into a costly joyride into space last year - unintentionally emphasizing that he literally has money to burn instead of paying his workers a better salary. "We want to thank Jeff Bezos for going to space, because while he was up there we were organizing a union," said Smalls.

The Teamsters have vowed to help the fledgling union negotiated a first contract. New Teamsters President Sean O'Brien said it was vital to organize Amazon, asserting that the e-commerce company has "total disrespect" for its workers and was putting downward pressure on standards for unionized warehouse workers and truck drivers across the United States.

"You have an employer like Jeff Bezos taking a joyride into space, and he bangs on his workers to be able to fund his trip,' said O'Brien, who said that Amazon workers would benefit greatly from joining the Teamsters. He said that Amazon's drivers and warehouse workers are treated and paid considerably worse than their unionized counterparts at other companies. "They're awful, they're disrespectful the way they treat their employees," O'Brien said of Amazon. In addition to preparing for

inevitable challenges by the company on the vote, ALU is also gearing up for an election at another Staten Island facility at the end of April. ALU also says that they are talking with employees at two other New York City area facilities about organizing, but those seem to still be in the early stages of discussions. While ALU is clearly in for a long fight to get recognition for their union and a first contract, workers around the country are celebrating ALU's work as the underfunded and often overlooked Staten Island team defeated one of the biggest corporate goliaths in the country.

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www.aiellolawgroup.com email: maa@aiellolawgroup.com

www.teamuis.com





# FROM OUR CORNER.

At the intersection of Congress and Griswold, on the 26th floor of the iconic Buhl Building, Ven Johnson Law is investing in Detroit — on behalf of hard workers like you. From our recently renovated offices, we're fighting the good fight on behalf of labor unions throughout Michigan with decades of experience in personal injury cases, vehicle crash cases, product liability and more. So if you find yourself backed into a corner, remember you're not alone. KNOW JUSTICE. KNOW PEACE.

DETROIT • FLINT • GRAND RAPIDS • NATIONWIDE

#### Outdoors

# Volunteers step up to the plate

By Ada Takacs **DNR Forest Resources Division Volunteer Coordinator** 

Many Michiganders believe spring officially arrives once the robins or red-winged blackbirds return, or the sap flows and buckets show up on maple trees.

Few folks ever think about the other creatures who come out of their winter slumber long before the trilliums begin to bloom, and morels make an appearance.

The creatures I'm talking about are volunteers.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources has close to 1,400 employees year-round and hires an additional 1,600 seasonally. These employees work hard to conserve and protect Michigan's natural and cultural resources for not only today's enjoyment, but for future genera-

Most recreationists are unaware of the 5,000-plus volunteers who work in tandem every year with these DNR employees protecting our resources. Volunteers are unpaid and driven by their connection to the natural environment. They are some of Michigan's most dedicated members of the "work force."

**Shining stars.** For example, who brings snowshoes to a river cleanup? Now nearing retirement. I have worked for a long time as the volunteer coordinator for DNR's Forest Resources Division. Twenty years ago, I was flipping through project photos when I saw something that surprised me.

A volunteer named Jim Heffner from Grand Traverse County had donned snowshoes to walk across a mucky portion of the river to clean up cans and scattered debris.

That was the day I realized the power and perseverance of our volunteers. DNR volunteers are innovative. Jim had the foresight to bring snowshoes on a kayak trip because he had to pass up beer cans that were in deep muck during the prior year's

He and many others were



the volunteer garbage cleanups. Norm Fred photo

ning Boardman River Clean along their entire boot-wearing, Sweep group led by Norm Fred. Almost anyone in the Grand Traverse Region is familiar with Norm's work, including his thousands of hours floating and cleaning the rivers, as well as running a program that pays homeless people to help remove trash illegally dumped on public lands.

Fred has volunteered for DNR programs for more than two decades.

When asked why he started to volunteer, his response was not

"When fishing on the Boardman one day, I thought I reached the end, but I found my beginning," he said.

Individuals and groups from every walk of life - from Cub Scouts to motorsport and hunt clubs – have heartfelt connections to the land and show their

dedication by giving back. They build, install and maintain bird nesting platforms, clear brush from trails and plant trees. They collect native seeds for planting and work hard to help eradicate invasive species.

These volunteers not only

glove-donning sets of friends and family members with pickup trucks and trailers.

The Lansing Motorcycle Club is just one example. Even though most members live in Ingham County with club grounds in Missaukee County, they work on multiple projects across the state every year.

The club's Hunt family and their friends have planted flowers and trees, torn down buildings, pulled invasive plant species, maintained trails, stabilized streambanks and literally removed tons of trash from public land

Educators and watchdogs. DNR volunteers are not just boots-on-the-ground, but also an army of educators and eyes in the field. Volunteer recreational safety instructors teach our children how to operate boats and snowmobiles, as well as how to hunt safely. Year after year these volunteers play an integral role in passing down land and conservation ethics to future generations.

Volunteers are committed for every season.

in the spring with volunteers who move through the woods listen-

winter months to keep the trails groomed for skiing and snowmobiling, the activity really

picks up once the snow clears. Volunteer activities continue

Other volunteers sit near ponds to track frog and toad populations as they emerge after winter's snows retreat. Come summer, volunteers are out protecting piping plover nests and educating visitors about these once near-extinct birds. Autumn brings the popular harvest festivals at state parks, which would not happen without our high-en-

Kirtland's warblers defending

their nesting territories. These bird counts, done every five

years, help monitor the success-

ful recovery of one of Michigan's

most iconic wildlife species.

ergy volunteers. State park and rustic state forest campground volunteer hosts dedicate a minimum of four weeks a year to live on-site at DNR campgrounds. In exchange for a spot at the campsite, they greet customers, conduct light maintenance, host coffee hours and children's activities and help direct traffic during busy weekends.

When filling out park surveys, it is not uncommon for park visitors to write about wanting to return and spend time with these annual volunteers. Harbors and lighthouses also have host pro-

Not surprisingly, these dedicated DNR volunteers become friends with land managers and work side by side to care for the land and water.

Volunteers are most effective at enlisting others and correcting

ing for the songs of male misconceptions about why laws are in place. DNR volunteer coordinators often wake up to an email or voicemail about trees that have blown over a trail or a new trash site that has popped up in the forest. It seems that volunteers never

Even further. Often volunteer groups take the extra step to fund and initiate improvements to public lands. Michigan's off-road vehicle, snowmobile and nonmotorized trails programs are comprised of over 100 grant sponsor, nonprofit organizations and friends groups that volunteer their time clearing, grading, grooming, mowing, writing grants and managing construction projects approved by the DNR.

Many friends groups raise and commit funds for construction projects.

Friends of the Fred Meijer White Pine Trail have raised hundreds of thousands over the years for trail surfacing projects and to fund maintenance operations on the Fred Meijer White Pine Trail. The Friends of the Betsie Valley Trails also have raised thousands of dollars to fund conceptual design of trail paving and extensions into the Village of Elberta. Club members also maintain the Betsie Valley

The Friends of the Porkies at Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park raised \$40,000 to finance the purchase of equipment for important emergency rescue operations at Michigan's largest state park, located in Ontonagon and Gogebic counties.

The next time you are recreating in the forest, visiting a state park, boating or fishing, take the time to look around and consider the impact volunteers have had on your experience.

Michelle O'Kelly, volunteer coordinator for the DNR Parks and Recreation Division, said she realizes that increased gas prices this year will put an additional burden on our volunteers.

History shows that most are so committed that they will find a way to continue the work.

"If all of us would take the time to do something within a 5mile radius of where we live and work, we can accomplish great things," she said.

Want to become part of the team? Check out volunteer opportunities at Michigan.gov/DNR



YOUNG VOLUNTEERS help the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Michigan United Conservation Corps plant trees to MDNR photo

## volunteering with the award-win- obligate themselves, but drag While some work during the improve habitat in Marquette County. \$1.8 Million Goldberg, Persky and White Verdict Considered Largest in History of Michigan Asbestos Litigation. GOLDBERG PERSKY WHITEP.C. TORNEYS AT LA SAGINAW **ALL BUILDING TRADESMEN ASBESTOS CLAIMS Evaluation Request Form Notice of Asbestos Health Hazards in Michigan** Address: Phone No. \_ Exposure to asbestos can cause deadly diseases such as mesothelioma, lung cancer, and asbestosis. Date of Birth: \_\_\_ Many Michigan building tradesmen worked with or near asbestos. Thousands Local No:

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