

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN



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SHORT CUTS

AFL-CIO: Dems need to drop union-busters

WASHINGTON (PAI)—AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler says she expects the Democratic Party, whose campaigns and candidates heavily depend on union volunteers and contributions, to ban anti-union consultants from serving those candidates and campaigns.

In a brief statement, Shuler told *Politico* the Democratic National Committee decided “to amend their contract and RFP (request for proposals) processes to exclude firms actively working with clients who seek to prevent or limit working people’s basic rights to act collectively.”

The DNC responded it is “reviewing” that issue, *Politico* reported. Some of those consultants, including one who served former Democratic President Bill Clinton, are union-hostile. That tripped up one consultant, Washington-based GSG, and raised the issue.

News reports showed Amazon hired GSG to advise and participate in its vicious campaign to stop the grass-roots Amazon Labor Union from winning a National Labor Relations Board recognition election at the monster retailer and warehouse’s large JFK8 facility on Staten Island. ALU won a substantial majority for unionizing, in a heavy turnout.

Who’s working in construction?

The Center for Disease Control’s National Health Interview Survey provides some interesting demographic and socioeconomic details on construction workers.

As of 2020, here’s what the data shows, according to Center to Protect Workers’ Rights researchers who released their findings in January:

- Nearly one-third (31 percent) of construction workers are in the age 18-34 demographic.
- 11.4 percent of construction workers are female
- 31.4 percent are Hispanic
- About three-quarters (74 percent) of construction workers were born in the U.S.
- 43 percent of construction workers are married
- The highest concentration of construction workers is found in the South (40 percent); followed by the West (26.1 percent); Midwest (18.1 percent) and Northeast (15.8 percent).
- Nearly three-quarters of construction workers (73.3 percent) have no college education.

Death On The Job by the numbers

Following are a few other numbers gleaned from this year’s *Death On The Job* report from the AFL-CIO, found elsewhere on this page:

- Older workers were at high risk, with more than one-third of workplace fatalities occurring among workers ages 55 and older in 2020.
- Musculoskeletal disorders accounted for one in five of all workers who reported workplace injuries or illnesses, more than any other type of injury or illness.
- The average employer penalty for a serious violation was only \$4,460 for federal cases and \$2,421 for state plans. Only 115 worker death cases have been criminally prosecuted under the OSH Act since 1970.

Quotable

“In playing ball, and in life, a person occasionally gets the opportunity to do something great. When that time comes, only two things matter: being prepared to seize the moment and having the courage to take your best swing.”
—Hank Aaron (1934-2021)



GOING UP IN EAST LANSING is the seven-story MSU Federal Credit Union building, under the project management of Granger Construction. The project will add some 87,822 square feet of business space to a city which is happy to diversify from its traditional role as host to Michigan State University. The building will also offer a credit union branch, one of 22 in the organization.

MSU Federal Credit Union branches out with campus tower

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

EAST LANSING—Michigan State University and its 50,000 students, faculty and staff dominate the comings and goings of the city, its streets and buildings.

Of course it never hurts to diversify, and the MSU Federal Credit Union is helping the city do just that in the neighborhood just north of Grand River at Abbot Street. The longtime banking fixture is building a new seven-story, 87,822-square-foot office building that will include a credit union

branch, office space for the company, two floors of leased space and a community room for non-profit organizations.

“We have wanted to have a larger presence in the core of East Lansing but it just wasn’t possible 15 years ago. It is possible today,” said the credit union’s Board of Directors and President/CEO April Clobes when ground was broken at the site in July.

“This building will bring office workers, student interns, and a new branch to serve members with knowledgeable employees and integrated technology. It will also have a community space for

events and for people to gather together to celebrate, much like we are doing today. There will also be additional space available, perhaps retail space for start-ups or for art exhibitions. The Credit Union is committed to the community and to the community’s success, and to bringing vitality to this space.”

Granger Construction is managing the project, which is currently employing an abundance of Iron Workers Local 25 members employed by Assemblers Precast & Steel Services, (Continued on Page 2)



SORTING STRUCTURAL IRON for placement at the Michigan State Federal Credit Union building in East Lansing is Jerry Thomas of Iron Workers Local 25. He’s employed by Assemblers Precast & Steel Services, Inc.

Growth likely ahead for fidgety industry

The zig-zag line of building activity in the nation has continued into the first quarter of 2022, but the long-term trend still looks good.

That’s the latest from the Dodge Construction Network, which reported on April 19 that despite a major dip in nonresidential construction spending in March (dropping 29 percent from February), U.S. construction

starts were 9 percent higher in the first three months of 2022 compared to the same period in 2021. The numbers indicating the large drop in the nonresidential sector in March had been skewed upward a bit by the start of three major projects in February.

“The volatility caused by the ebb and flow of large projects masks an underlying trend of strengthening in construction

starts,” stated Richard Branch, chief economist for Dodge Construction Network. “Nonresidential construction has benefited from the growing confidence that the worst of the pandemic is in the rear-view window. The pipeline of projects waiting to start continues to fill, suggesting this trend will continue. However, higher prices and a shortage of skilled labor will slow the

progress of those projects through the design and bidding stages, resulting in moderate growth in starts activity.”

For the 12 months ending March 2022, nonresidential building starts were 25 percent higher than in the 12 months ending March 2021, while residential starts improved 15 percent, and nonbuilding starts (usually infrastructure) were down 1 percent.

“In 2020, the most recent year data is available, 4,764 U.S. work-

ers died daily from hazardous working conditions, or 340 per day. Deaths declined by 569, compared to 2019, but Reindel noted the pandemic skewed the data.

The number of hours worked at jobsites in the U.S. declined by almost 10 percent in 2020, compared to 2019. The data omits workers who worked at home.

“An estimated 120,000 workers died from occupational diseases. That includes slow-moving diseases, such as black lung and silicosis – even after-effects from toxic gases that, 20 years

(Continued on Page 14)

“Every day, we’re standing 12 hours” on the job, with only one 30-minute break, Thomas explained. “Working in a warehouse in this heat is absolutely insane. People become delirious.”

Incomplete data about how many workers the coronavirus on the job infects, and how many die, by industry, is one big job safety problem workers face, according to the report, AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler and the federation’s safety and health director, Rebecca Reindel.

“Every single day, 340 people die from work-related injuries and illnesses,” Shuler said. That includes deaths of former workers from ailments such as black lung disease.

Using data from all sources, including cases where employers actually reported coronavirus cases to the feds, “other sources” i.e. not specific reasons, such as falls, cost men 169,260 days away from work in 2020, and were the leading cause of such missed days for men. For women, health care was the worst occupation for illnesses, causing them to miss – in three sectors – 341,700 days.

Other summary figures are stark:

• In 2020, the most recent year data is available, 4,764 U.S. work-

Workers Memorial Day emphasizes hardships, safety at worksites

By Mark Gruenberg
Press Associates Staff Writer

Shoving merchandise around Amazon’s giant warehouse in Bessemer, Ala., isn’t easy, Isaiah Thomas says. It also isn’t safe.

And, according to the AFL-CIO’s 31st annual *Death On The Job: A Toll Of Neglect* job safety and health report, that’s unusual, either

That’s because federal fines against bosses for job safety and health violations are still too low “to be a deterrent” to lawbreakers on safety, the report adds.

“I’m 20 years old, and I already have back problems,” says Thomas, a lead advocate in the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union’s ongoing unionization drive at the monster facility. And since Bessemer opened two years ago, six of his co-workers have died.

“The company I work for, Amazon, puts profits above safety of its workers,” Thomas told an April 26 Zoom press conference the AFL-CIO hosted to release the report, honoring Workers Memorial Day, April 28. “Every day, we’re standing 12 hours” on the job, with only one 30-minute break, Thomas explained. “Working in a warehouse in this heat is absolutely insane. People become delirious.”

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Anxieties aside, contractors optimistic about U.S. construction

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

The nation’s construction subcontractors certainly have their share of concerns these days – but they remain a confident lot.

So says the results of a new survey, conducted in February, of nearly 800 commercial construction subcontractors, most of whom have been in business for more than a decade. The survey, called the 2022 *National Subcontractor Market Report: How Labor Shortages & Market Volatility are Impacting Subcontractors*, “indicates subcontractors remain concerned about volatile material prices and labor shortages but are optimistic about continued growth over the next year, says Billd, the report’s sponsor.

This was the second annual survey on the subject by Billd, a leading provider of material and labor financing solutions for commercial subcontractors,

“Billd’s 2022 *National Subcontractor Market Report* confirms a lot of the known challenges and opportunities subcontractors experience across the industry,” said Chris Doyle, CEO of Billd. “The labor and material challenges for subcontractors is not just a headline, it’s the day-to-day reality for every subcontractor in the country. Despite these challenges, subcontractors remain optimistic about their businesses. This report highlights the entrepreneurial spirit subcontractors continue to exhibit each and every year, despite an industry that’s largely turned its back on them.”

According to the report, released April 26, 88 percent of those surveyed expect continued price turbulence to impact their business this year, a 9 percent

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Your health and safety matters



Pandemic leads to spike in construction worker anxiety, depression

By David Acord
The Association of
Union Constructors

More construction workers are feeling anxious or depressed since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a study released in January. While this increase mirrors general nationwide trends, it’s especially troubling given that the construction industry already has the second-highest suicide rate in the country.

Researchers at CPWR – The Center for Construction Research and Training – analyzed data from the CDC’s National Health Interview Survey, including a subset of construction workers who were interviewed about their mental health in 2019 and again in 2020. In that subset, nearly 43

percent reported feeling more anxious or depressed in 2020 (after the pandemic) than in 2019 (before). Specifically, 37.3 percent felt more anxious and 18.4 percent felt more depressed.

Of those workers who said they experienced more anxiety or depression, just under half (46 percent) were under 55 years old, compared with just 33.7 percent of workers over age 55. Slightly more females (49.8 percent) than males (42.2 percent) reported more anxiety/depression.

Not surprisingly, CPWR also found that “workers whose general health worsened during the pandemic were also more likely to report growing anxious/depressed feelings than those whose health improved or did not

change. Looking at 2020 in isolation, more than one in three (36.3 percent) construction workers reported that they were “not in very good or excellent health.” Over-

all, 24 percent reported “binge” drinking in the past month, and 7.2 percent said they had used prescription opioids in the same time frame.

Another interesting data

PLA executive order boosts worker wages, jobsite safety

By Nick Fox
Laborers Health and Safety
Fund of North America

In February, President Biden signed an executive order that will substantially strengthen the use of project labor agreements on federal construction projects. The order requires PLAs on directly funded large-scale projects with contracts of \$35 million or more.

All contractors and subcontractors on the project will be required to participate in the PLA.

This new executive order goes beyond a similar 2009 executive order issued by the Obama Administration, which permitted federal agencies to use PLAs on a project-by-project basis, but didn’t require them.

President Biden’s executive

order also expands the scope of applicable projects to include reconstruction and modernization projects for buildings, highways and other federal property. This is a significant addition, since many upcoming projects under the \$1.2 trillion bipartisan infrastructure bill will involve revitalizing and modernizing existing

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Viewpoints



Low wages become a public burden

President Joe Biden's tenure has been marked by a relentless focus on creating good jobs for working Americans. In addition to the record 7.9 million jobs created during his time in office, he recently signed into law the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), which will create hundreds of thousands of new jobs and sustain millions more.

The United States urgently needs more high-quality jobs, and the administration has also taken several steps to boost wages such as by raising the contractor minimum wage to \$15; increasing equity and access for workers from all walks of life; and holding accountable corporations that violate workers' rights.

Now, the Biden-Harris administration is updating regulations governing the Davis Bacon and Related Acts (DBA) to ensure that workers on construction projects that receive federal funding are paid fairly. While the draft rules may be overlooked by some, they will improve the lives of 1.2 million workers; ensure local, law-abiding contractors can compete on an even playing field; and help guarantee that IIJA investments and other government spending provide a good value to the public.

DBA protections — which require recipients of government contracts, loans, grants and other types of government spending to pay their workers local, market wages and benefits — apply to approximately \$217 billion in construction spending per year. In addition, the vast majority of the infrastructure law's investments include prevailing wage protections.

Research shows that

strong construction wage protections allow workers to earn middle-class incomes; expand access to health insurance and pension plans; and increase homeownership rates. These standards also help close wage gaps between Black and White construction workers and, when paired with other interventions supported in IIJA such as local hiring requirements, increase recruitment of historically marginalized groups to good jobs in the construction industry.

In other words, prevailing wage laws help create the sorts of jobs that are essential to a healthy American middle class but are currently in short supply. For example, recent analysis from the Economic Policy Institute finds that while net productivity grew by nearly 62 percent over the past four decades, average hourly pay for the typical worker increased by just 17.5 percent.

Yet, existing federal prevailing wage standards are woefully outdated. The typical American worker was still in preschool the last time these regulations were updated. Moreover, Reagan-era changes weakened the law's ability to support working people by divorcing wage determinations from actual market pay. And today, weak enforcement tools result in wage theft that can reduce a misclassified construction worker's total compensation by approximately 29 to 36 percent.

When low-road contractors beat out law-abiding contractors based on low and even illegal wages, the public shoulders the burden. Weak prevailing wage protections increase Americans' reliance on assistance programs like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

And recent research from the Center for American Progress finds that nearly 30 percent of contractors with the worst records of workplace law violations also have significant performance problems on subsequent government contracts — including submitting fraudulent billing statements; falsifying qualifications for contract employees; accruing major cost overruns; and producing defective and sometimes dangerous equipment.

The DBA draft regulations would uphold fair treatment of working people by ensuring wage determinations are updated more frequently, keep pace with inflation and better reflect the actual wages most widely being paid in local communities. Moreover, the regulations will improve compliance with the law by increasing remedies for workers who are illegally fired or otherwise retaliated against for reporting violations and ensuring that the worst violators are barred from doing business with the federal government.

Indeed, after Maryland increased contracting wage standards, bids for government contracts increased by nearly 30 percent. By modernizing DBA standards now, the federal government will encourage more law-abiding companies that respect their workers and the public to compete for contracts and help guarantee that new IIJA investments create the good jobs that the American economy so desperately needs.

Karla Walter
Senior Director of
Employment Policy
Center for American Progress
Washington, D.C.



CUTTING STRUCTURAL iron at the MSU Federal Credit Union project in East Lansing is Mike Rau of Iron Workers Local 25. He's employed by Assemblers Precast & Steel Services, Inc. The project is at Abbot and Albert streets.

MSU Federal Credit Union branches out with campus tower

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Inc., performing structural work.

Precast installation started about a month ago with the west tower, then the north precast wall followed — erected in unison with the center section of structural steel. Steel erection is expected to be completed in June. Mechanical and plumbing work has also commenced.

"This project will continue MSUFCU's longstanding commitment to East Lansing, with

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or, e-mail:
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new and sustained job growth in downtown East Lansing," said Kathy Buck, senior project manager at Neumann/Smith, the architectural firm for the building. "It will introduce office space, which is currently lacking in the downtown core, and establish a workforce that will help to support other local businesses. It will build upon other developments that have been constructed over the last several years to help strengthen and create a more diverse downtown for the citizens of East Lansing to enjoy."

In recent years the area has seen construction of a new small format Target store, the 12-story, 464-unit Landmark apartment building, and the 13-story, 196-unit Abbot Apartments.

The space is also something residents have wanted for a long

time but that developers haven't offered until now, Mayor Aaron Stephens said.

"The new credit union building "is going to help our businesses, this is going to help our downtown succeed, and it's going to lead to a lot of diversity of options in East Lansing," Stephens told Fox 47. "Typically we think of East Lansing downtown as a bunch of college bars, and that's just not how it is any more. And this just proves that."

"Fortune does not change men, it unmasks them."
—Suzanne Necker (1739 - 1794)

"It's amusing how people express the fact that they're speechless by speaking."
—Patrick Kenzie

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BUILDING MICHIGAN: Dolomite HISTORY IN THE MAKING

By Marty Mulcahy



DURING THE CONSTRUCTION of the Mackinac Bridge's foundations in 1954, a section of a double-walled tower caisson pokes up above Lake Huron. The outer ring is filled with dolomite, which acts as weight to drive it down. The "overburden" material inside the ring – rock, sand, and mud – is removed by crane and clam bucket and dumped over the side. The weighted cutting edge drives the sharpened edges down into bedrock, like a cookie cutter. When positioned the whole caisson is filled with aggregate and grouted to make it one solid mass of concrete.

Photo credits:
Mackinac Bridge Authority

Hail dolomite!

When the North American glaciers receded 10,000 years ago, they left behind all manner of rock formations and minerals that made Michigan a uniquely geologically diverse state. Nickel, copper, iron, limestone, gypsum, potash and even salt have all been harvested and monetized, just to name a few.

Then there's the rock with a funny name: dolomite (made of calcium magnesium carbonate) which is basically a cousin of limestone (made of calcium carbonate). The chemical properties of dolomite make it a rock of potentially tremendous versatility.

Perhaps dolomite's most notable use was in the foundations of the Mackinac Bridge, constructed between 1954-57. During construction, lake freighters with 12,000-ton loads carrying the stone made the 80-mile, round-trip circuit to a still-operating quarry on Drummond Island in Lake Huron. Dolomite stone from the conveniently located quarry was the aggregate used in the 931,000 tons of concrete that went into the bridge's foundations.

Michigan has significant limestone/dolomite deposits in the northern Lower Peninsula and eastern Upper Peninsula. According to a state government-sponsored 1950s-era geological survey, Michigan has "practically unlimited supplies of high-purity dolomite," measurable in the billions of tons.

"The most common use for dolomite is in the construction industry," says *Geoscience News and Information*. "It is crushed and sized for use as a road base material, an aggregate in concrete and asphalt, railroad ballast, rip-rap, or fill. It is also calcined in the production of cement and cut into blocks of specific size known as 'dimension stone.'"

"Dolomite's reaction with acid also makes it useful. It is used for acid neutralization in the chemical industry, in stream restoration projects, and as a soil conditioner. Dolomite is used as a source of magnesia, a feed additive for livestock, a sintering agent and flux in metal processing, and as an ingredient in the production of glass, bricks, and ceramics."

In addition to its use underpinning the Mackinac Bridge, the rock is also used at numerous ports and shorelines of the Great Lakes, acting as a material in dock installations or for shore preservation. And the state capitol for dolomite is the aforementioned Drummond Island, a 134-square-mile piece of land in Lake Huron on the eastern tip of

the Upper Peninsula.

"Drummond Island," says the Drummond Island Tourism Association, "is part of what geologists call the Engadine corona, which is a vast formation of dolomite originating on the eastern tip of Great Manitoulin Island and extending westward in a great arc to the vicinity of Manistique in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Dolomite, the underlying rock of Drummond Island, is calcium carbonate with a high percentage of magnesium carbonate."

Dolomite is more than just your basic rock. Back in the early 1800s, when the British controlled the region, their soldiers believed dolomite was ordinary limestone, and burned the rock to extract the lime that they used to erect Fort Drummond on the island. Later, Americans employed Drummond Island's dolomite to help build the early locks at Sault Ste. Marie.

"In the late twenties, T. L. Durocher, of DeTour opened the present Drummond Island Quarry to obtain rock for the construction and rip-rapping of docks and breakwaters on the Great Lakes," writes Candis Collick for *U.P. North Life*. "Mr. Durocher, a marine contractor, realized that the blocky nature of Engadine dolomite made it ideal for this purpose."

"Within a few years, several hundred thousand tons of it were quarried and transported for the repair and construction of marine installations at Frankfort, Mackinaw City, South Chicago, and other Great Lakes points. By 1949 Drummond Dolomite was a 24-hour per day operation and they shipped out 2,275,000 tons that year."

According to a 1954 state publication called *Mineral Resources of Michigan*, "By 1945, the Drummond Dolomite Corp. had 'grown into one of the world's largest dolomite producers, by providing a high quality raw material for chemical, steel and construction purposes throughout the Great Lakes area. Dolomite has various uses in industry: concrete, glass making, paper making – even in the making of such medicines as Epsom salts – but the steel industry is by far the greatest user.'"

The Mackinac Bridge builders came calling to Drummond Island as plans for the structure were coming together. The five-mile-long bridge project that would connect the state's two peninsulas began in 1954. And they could use the aggregate as a weighty ingredient in building the piers and foundations. After all, Drummond Island was easily accessible via Lake Huron

and their operations could be ramped up to provide the stone needed for the Mighty Mac.

Dolomite from Drummond Island was shipped in self-unloading lake freighters to the bridge site. These vessels carried 12,000 tons per load.

"One of the first steps" in the construction of the Mackinac Bridge, wrote Collick, "was to sink the large, double-walled cylinders that form the bases of the two main tower piers. These cylinders are called caissons. Sunk down into the bedrock on the lake floor – the caissons presented a great challenge for the divers involved in their fabrication."

"The massive cylinders that would anchor the bridge's two main towers were sunk to bedrock, about 210 feet below the surface," of the Mackinac Straits, wrote Pete Sigmund in *The Mighty Mac: A Sublime Engineering Feat*. "In each watertight caisson section, 44 ft. high and 116 ft. in diameter, grout tubes were placed 20 ft. apart from the surface of the water to the bottom. Aggregate (in the form of dolomite) was then placed around the pipes to a height of 40 ft. on each section so that the interior of the caisson was solid, like concrete. The caissons, with tapered leading sections, could cut into the overburden at the bottom."

Bridge foundation contractor Merritt, Chapman and Scott used an innovative concrete method called Prepak concrete, which allowed them to place coarse aggregate into forms, then place grout tubes within that coarse aggregate, and then use the tubes to pump cement and fine aggregate in among the coarse aggregate, creating concrete. This way builders didn't need big mixers and could create the concrete more quickly.

A bronze plaque affixed to the Mackinac Bridge marks the use of dolomite to build temporary Mackinac Bridge Authority office buildings on Drummond Island – and on the bridge itself. "The face of the Authority's buildings and the foundations of the bridge are built of Drummond Dolomite Stone from Drummond Island, Mich.," says the plaque.

Today, 83,000-acre Drummond Island is accessible by ferry, and the 3,000-acre dolomite mine "is the only actual industry on the island, and it still operates today. The mine is the first thing a visitor sees when arriving on the car ferry. The entire island economy revolves around this mine and tourism," writes Mikel Classen in *Island in the East*.

Anxieties aside, contractors optimistic about U.S. construction

(Continued from Page 1)

jump over 2021. A similar 87 percent say the lack of availability of materials will keenly impact their business in 2022. The survey found labor issues, however, are now the most pressing concern of U.S. subcontractors, with 40 percent reporting availability of skilled construction workers as their "biggest risk" in 2022, compared to 30 percent who stated material price volatility as their top concern.

Subcontractors also reported that despite higher material and labor prices, they surprisingly have not reflected those higher costs in their project bids, putting greater strain on subcontractor profit margins.

The lifeblood of any business – maintaining positive cash flow – is also a critical subject for construction subs. Input prices for construction materials rose 21 percent in the year leading up to March 2021.

"While subcontractors remain satisfied with their financing and credit options," Billd said, "they feel the pressure of paying for large material and labor costs upfront, disrupting their cash flow." The survey revealed that 59 percent of contractors intend to rely on cash to fund business growth in 2022, while nearly half state cash flow remains a significant challenge.

Still, 71 percent of respondents said they planned on growing their business this year (down from 74 percent in 2021), while 50 percent said they planned on pursuing larger projects (down from 62 percent a year ago).

"Subcontractors are resilient and optimistic but need more tools to navigate this increasingly challenging environment," said Doyle. "The payments supply chain in construction is terribly broken, leaving subcontractors to finance a \$1.5 trillion industry with very few cash flow solutions offered to them."



In a dark and hazy room, peering into a crystal ball, the fortune teller delivered grave news to Laura.

"There's no easy way to tell you this, so I'll just be blunt. Prepare yourself to be a widow. Your husband will die a violent and horrible death this year!"

Visibly shaken, Laura stared at the woman's lined face, then at the single flickering candle, then down at her hands.

She took a few deep breaths to compose herself and to stop her mind racing. She simply had to know.

She met the fortune teller's gaze, steadied her voice and asked, "I could see how that might happen. But will I be acquitted?"

PLA executive order boosts worker wages, jobsite safety

(Continued from Page 1)

U.S. roads, bridges and water lines.

"With this executive order, the Biden administration is continuing to send the message that using union labor is the right choice for our economy, for getting projects done on time and for worker safety," says Laborers International Union General President Terry O'Sullivan.

The benefits of projects labor agreements are collective bargaining agreements between unions and contractors that govern project terms and conditions for all workers – both union and nonunion. Under PLAs, workers are paid strong, prevailing wages throughout the project and a steady source of trained, skilled workers helps ensure projects are completed safely, on time and on budget. PLAs also often include provisions such as local hire requirements to ensure projects benefit the surrounding community. As an example, consider this comparison of two projects in the Washington, DC metro area:

Operating under a PLA, Phase I of the (Dulles Metrorail) project was not plagued by the problems that have burdened other large non-PLA projects in the region. For example, the nearby Springfield Interchange – originally a \$200 million project – wound up costing taxpayers nearly 300 percent more. Five workers died during construction and only legal action against a contractor gave it a chance of finishing on time. By contrast, the PLA on the Dulles Metrorail kept the project on time and on budget – and without a single worksite death or lost time due to accidents because workers were skilled and well-trained.

Why operating under PLAs increases safety on projects. Support for PLAs often focuses on the clear economic and business benefits for owners and communities, but the positive outcomes for worker safety and health shouldn't be ignored either. Using union labor on these projects means workers show up with the skills and safety training to do the job safely. Study after study has found that the union safety advantage is real, with union construction projects generally having a superior safety record compared to non-union projects.

In addition to governing wages and benefits, PLAs can also spell out the health and safety requirements specific to the project. This leads to better working conditions by requiring both contractors and workers to comply with project safety rules. Provisions could mandate all contractors on site have a written, site-specific safety and health program or meet certain benchmarks for recordable injury and illness rates or experience modification rate (EMR).

Large union construction firms can meet these requirements because they tend to have strong safety management programs already in place. Because PLAs cover all contractors on a project, including smaller subcontractors or non-union contractors, these firms have to meet the same safety standards as well. This levels the playing field by ensuring the same commitment to safety across the entire site. This is important on large projects, where it's common for multiple crafts and multiple contractors to be working together.

PLAs can bring structure and stability to large construction projects. In addition to strengthening safety and health, PLAs help ensure compliance with equal employment opportunity and labor standards. These agreements open new career opportunities for women, minority groups, veterans and other under-represented populations.

A new standard for federal construction contracting. In addition to mandating PLAs for projects over \$35 million, President Biden's executive order also gives federal agencies the leeway to use PLAs on projects below this threshold. This option should create additional opportunities for LIUNA district councils, local unions and signatory contractors to advocate for bringing the benefits of PLAs to smaller federal construction projects as well.

With the fatality rate for construction laborers the highest it's been in over a decade and the clear safety and health benefits of PLAs, we should be taking steps to bring PLAs to as many projects as possible.

Pandemic leads to spike in worker anxiety, depression

(Continued from Page 1)

to report increased anxious/depressed feelings in 2020 than those without a college education (50.5 percent versus 39.0 percent).

"This was also observed more frequently in white-collar (47.0 percent versus 41.4 percent blue-collar) and part-time (49.2 percent versus 43.1 percent full-time) workers," CPWR researchers said. Overall, the data showed that workers "who were young, female, working part-time, less healthy, or living below the poverty level were hit harder by anxiety/depression (defined by frequency or level of feelings/use of medication). Hispanic workers were more likely to report increased feelings of anxiety/depression during the pandemic compared to non-Hispanic workers. Socioeconomic stressors and job insecurity arising from unemployment and nonstandard work arrangements during the pandemic may underlay some of these differences."

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Local 80 Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers Local 80

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

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The next general membership meeting is scheduled for May 24, 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 General Membership meeting we will be voting on how to allocate the wage increase that is scheduled to take effect on June 1, 2022. The service wage allocation vote will be on May 25, 2022 at 4:30pm at the union hall and the residential wage allocation vote will be at 5pm on May 25, 2022 at the union hall.

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, 2nd Floor, Southfield, MI. The service wage allocation vote will be on May 25, 2022 at 4:30pm at the union hall and the residential wage allocation vote 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 indicated in holiday hours.

RETIREE MEETING SCHEDULE: The 2022 retiree meeting schedule is as follows: June 20, 2022, Aug. 15, 2022, Oct. 17, 2022 (annual party) and Dec. 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 our 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 16! 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!

CONDOLENCES: Retired member Ronald Reginek recently passed away at the age of 61. Ron was a member for 31 years. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family.

Our condolences go out to Business Agent, Eric McPherson and family. Eric's father passed away on May 1, 2022 at the age of 85. Ruel McPherson was also the grandfather to member Joe Laird and uncle to member James McPherson.

THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE: Michael Andersen, Steven Young, Jacob Sementkowski, David Hiller, Jacob Klauss, Michael Porr, Adam Mayne, Dalton Pennington, Kody Gaffney, Gary Miller, Jeremy Goodnough & Christopher Andrus.

DUES GIFT: As of Oct. 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

The **E-Board/Stewards** meeting is scheduled for **May 24, 2022** at 6:00 pm at the Union Hall.

HOLIDAY HOURS: In observance of Memorial Day, the Local 292 Union Hall will be closed Monday, May 30. Have a safe and happy weekend!

2022 ANNUAL GOLF OUTING: Mark your calendars! The Local 292 annual charity golf outing will be held on Sunday, Aug. 21. 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 jackets. 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 suggestions for new items or changes for artwork, contact Paul or Tony.

ADDRESS UPDATES: If you move, please contact the union hall to update your address.

RETIRES NOTICE: MARK YOUR CALENDARS: 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 2nd SMART General Convention is now available online. Go to www.sheetmetal292.com, click on the Constitution/Ritual tab located at the top of the home page. The Union Hall will also has hard copies for members who want one.

SAFETY MODS AND DRUG TESTS: To access your MUST account, please go to www.mustonline.org or access it through the "links" tab at www.sheetmetal292.com. 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 questions, contact BeneSys at 248.641.4992 or the Union Hall.

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

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

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

TEXT BLAST NOTIFICATION: 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.

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 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 and 3 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 cont'd

ally: March 1 through March 20 and September 1 through September 20. If you fail to re-register you will be removed from the list.

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

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

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



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 10th -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 10th -6:00 p.m.
- *Zone 5 –June 2nd -6:00 p.m.

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 (White 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.labelitcanireport.com and download the official app by texting "SMART" to 90975.

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

ZONE 1 Info. Work in the Zone 1 Area 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 12th 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 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 steady 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. Our next meeting is May 17 at 6 pm VFW Post 3195, 5209 Grand Haven Road, Norton Shores. **As always work safe and Thank You, Mike Adams**

ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw) Work in the Saginaw area is still slow but should be picking up soon. Please make sure to check your dues receipt to see if your dues are up to date. If anyone needs to take OSHA 30 or MSHA training for any future work, contact the training center. Please update your contact information with the Lansing office or myself if you have changed addresses or changed your phone number. The next Retirees' meeting is May 28th at the Ponderosa on Wilder Rd in Bay City. **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). Work is steady in our area with it picking up for the school work this summer. If anyone knows of anyone interested in our trade let me know. You can now order FREE covid tests from www.covid.gov. If you need to be in the next CPR class let me know because we will not be having another till next year **Work safe! 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: Our condolences go out to Jim Armatti and his family on the tragic loss of his grandson, our thoughts and prayers are with you. Work in the U.P. remains steady with some projects gearing up to start over the weeks to come. Reminder May 10, 2022 is set for the retirees of Zone 5 to meet at the Dry Dock in Harvey at 9 AM for breakfast. If you can make it please be in attendance it would be nice for the retirees to get together again. **Respectfully, 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.

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

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

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

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

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

Local 7 Officers:
Samuel 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 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



BOB HUTSELL

Beginning Feb. 1st, 2022, union dues will be \$52.35 in accordance with the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers Constitution. The Union Hall accepts, Visa, Mastercard, and Discover. Payments can be made both at the Union Hall and over the phone.

OSHA 10 and OSHA 30 safety training can now be taken online. Please visit our website – www.boilermakerslocal169.com for 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 the Lockview. 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 Rd., St. Clair, MI 48079. 8 am registration with a 9am shotgun start.

Area 1 Annual Picnic will be **July 23** at Camp Dearborn, 1700 General Motors Dr., 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 am at the Brown Derby Bar, 10661 W. Jefferson, River Rouge, Mi.

Area 2 Retirees are holding luncheons on the first Thursday of every month at 11am at Whitlow's Fore-runner Restaurant located at 4610 Airline Rd, Muskegon. 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 St., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858.

The Area 4 retirees' 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 Road 480.

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 Commonarc 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 be forthcoming.



Local 36 Elevator Constructors

Elevator Constructors 36

DETROIT – ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED that our next regular **Membership Meeting is planned for Monday, May 23, 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 meeting (May). Watch your emails for any changes in venue.

The **May meeting on the 23rd** will have Elections for Officers and Delegates, polling times will be from 3PM to 7PM and emailed to all current members. Absentee ballots are available by written request only. All absentee ballots must be turned into the hall no later than 3PM. When the polls open, May 23, 2022.

The Candidates for Elections are as follows:

President: (Vote for one) Russ O'Donnell

Vice President: (Vote for one) David Kuras Jr.

Recording Secretary: (Vote for one) Keith Birkenhier, Ken Bazner

Treasurer: (Vote for one) Brian Breznai

Warden: (Vote for one) Matt Combs

Trustees: (Vote for no more than three) Paul DiPiazza, Eric Copeland, Dan Kuras Jr.

Business Manager/Financial Secretary: (Vote for one) Nick Presson, Sean Walker, Mike Waker

Executive Board: (Vote for no more than five) Jon Bujan, Justin Smith, James Leitch, Mark Austin, Jeff Patti, Kyle Austin, Rob Akers, Dave Boyd

Building Trades Delegates: (Vote for no more than two) Dave Boyd, Dave Kuras Jr, Sean Walker

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.

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!

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 2nd 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.

All Members, Local 36, Local 85 and the EIWPF are holding outreach 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 Journey person. If anyone is interested in a class for QEI training, please call the Hall so we can build a potential class list.

IUEC Local 85 Honorary Member Joe Janca passed away, our condolences go out to the family and friends of Brother Joe Janca. Get well wishes are extended to all our Brothers and Sisters who are on our sick list.

Be Safe and Be Healthy!

"If I had my life to live over... I'd dare to make more mistakes next time."

–Nadine Stair

"Friendship is being there when someone's feeling low and not being afraid to kick them."

–Randy K. Milholland



LOCAL 2

Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

BAC Local 2

WARREN/LANSING – MAY 2022 CHAPTER MEETINGS
HOUGHTON CHAPTER: Thursday, May 19, 2022 at 7:00 PM, 37737 Highway 26, Toivola, MI 49965

KALAMAZOO CHAPTER: Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 6:00 PM, 11847 Shaver Road, Schoolcraft, MI 49087

LANSING CHAPTER: Monday, May 09, 2022 at 6:00 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 CHAPTER: 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 Bruce Price** (Bricklayer & Cement Mason) who passed away on April 19, 2022. Brother Price had been a member for 58 years.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Brother Jeffery Renfro** (Refractory Specialist) who passed away on December 15, 2021. Brother Renfro had been a member for 27 years.

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

CRAFTWORKERS NEEDED: We need Skilled Bricklayers, Restoration workers and Caulkers in Metro Detroit. If you are available for work, or know anyone who is skilled in our crafts, contact your Field Representative on their cell phone. You can also have those who are interested call either the Warren office (586) 754-0888 or the Lansing office (517) 886-9781.

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

A SPEEDY 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 TRAINING 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: May: 14th & 28th • 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 State-wide Apprentice Director, Howard Hipes, should you have any questions.

APPRENTICE WORKSHEETS: Turning in monthly worksheets is a requirement of your apprenticeship. Apprentice Worksheets MUST be filled out completely and submitted online. They can be found at <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org/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 ASSISTANCE: During this COVID-19 pandemic, the IUBAC Member Assistance Program has a number of services available for free or at a discounted rate to BAC members and their families. These confidential services can be seen at <http://bit.ly/MAP-BAC> and are also available via telephone at (888) 880-8222 and ask for membership assistance Monday – Friday 8 am – 8 pm. These services were established and are intended to help get us through difficult life situations.

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

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

BAC 2 MI TEXTING PROGRAM: We have been communicating by text message more frequently with our membership lately. We encourage our members to sign up to receive our text messages by -texting **2MI** to **877877**

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

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

PENSION AND HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION: BAC of Michigan Health & Welfare Fund – (248) 828-6000 Michigan BAC Pension Fund (Outstate) – (800) 531-2244 Metro 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)

"Repetition does not transform a lie into a truth."

–Franklin D. Roosevelt (1882 - 1945)

"The conventional view serves to protect us from the painful job of thinking."

–John Kenneth Galbraith (1908 - 2006)

"I care not so much what I am to others as what I am to myself."

–Michel de Montaigne (1533 - 1592)

"The best effect of fine persons is felt after we have left their presence."

–Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 - 1882)



Local 514

Cement Masons & Plasterers

Operative Plasterers and Cement Masons' Local 514

DETROIT – The next membership meeting is scheduled for May 17, 2022 at 7:00 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 are safe and well.

Membership gold cards-Congratulations!

Bryan Tripp-25 Years • Brian Antclif-25 Years • Harlan Spear-25 Years • George Labombard-40 Years

Please activate your Blue Cross Blue Shield account. To activate your Blue Cross member account online go to bcbsm.com/register and select register now.

Please Welcome Parrish Hill our new Business Representative! His phone is 313-220-7840 and can be reached by email: parrishhill514@yahoo.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 no, please call the Local, (248) 548-0800.

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

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

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

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

Please refer to website for updated information.

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

Members working for non-signatory commercial contractors are having a negative impact on our market share. The work forecast this year looks better than last. Members working non-union will be brought up on charges and fines will be enforced. Let's work together to secure our future!! We must stay vigilant in our effort to promote our trade. If you are working in a crew of 5 or more an Apprentice must be on the crew. Help out! Call the Local at (248) 548-0800. Training is the key to our future!!

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

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PLASTERERS AND DETROIT COMMERCIAL CEMENT MASONS: You can track your annuity fund status at the Wells Fargo website. You may do so by logging on to: www.retirement.wellsfargo.com or call (866) 640-5138, you can also call the fund office at (248) 645-6550 with any related questions. **PLASTERERS AND CEMENT MASONS** It is your responsibility to fill out reciprocity forms if you plan on working out of the local 514 area. This will ensure that your hours are sent back to your home fund. If you have any questions, or need any forms, please contact the Local.

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

If you have questions concerning your pension benefits, **ROAD BUILDERS** can call: Toll Free at 1-877-876-9357 or (517) 321-7502. **PLASTERERS' AND COMMERCIAL CEMENT MASONS** can call: (248) 645-6550 for pension and annuity, and Toll Free 1-877-876-9357. All **Plasterers and Cement Masons** can contact (517) 321-7502 for health & welfare information now through Outstate Michigan Trowel Trades Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan. **For the INTERNATIONAL PENSION** Call 1-888-880-8222 Toll Free or (202) 638-1996.

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY

REPRESENTING BUILDING TRADES BROTHERS & SISTERS OVER 35 YEARS

BIESKE & ASSOCIATES

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

www.ssdfighter.com



IBEW Local 252
ANN ARBOR – THE MAY MEMBERSHIP MEETING HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED TO MAY 18, 2022 AT 6:00 P.M.

BESURE TO KEEP BENEFICIARY FORM UPDATED: A friendly reminder that beneficiary forms are available at the fund office AND at the hall for anyone that may need to update beneficiary information. If your information needs to be updated it needs to be updated at BOTH.

TRAINING CLASSES 2022: ALL CLASSES START AT 5 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 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.ibew252.org is up and running. There is also a Local 252 App available to download. Search "IBEW 252" in the app store. You must create a new login and password to access the Members Only section. Your login for the old website is no longer valid.

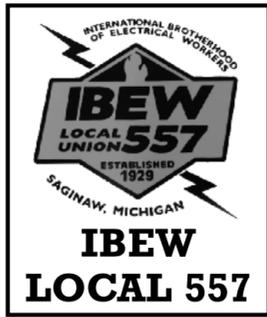
RETIREMENT: The NEBF and IBEW Pension Benefit Fund applications can take three months to process but can be filled out as early as six months before your planned retirement effective date. If you are nearing retirement, please contact Alana at the Union Hall to start your paperwork AT LEAST 3 months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

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

CREDIT CARDS: The Local is now accepting credit cards to pay union dues. We accept Visa, MasterCard, 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 second quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Thursday, June 30, 2022.



IBEW Local 557

SAGINAW – Union News- Hello brothers and sisters! Apprentice interviews are coming around the bend. Good luck to all those who applied and tested well! Thank you to all who helped with the United Way food drive last week. We helped over 600 people in the community! Thank you also to those who were able to walk in the Freeland Walleye Festival Parade. Lots of candy was thrown and good times were had!

Local elections are here! Next union meeting (June 7) the local officer election votes will be tallied. If a run-off election is to occur, it will happen within 21 days of the original election. If you have questions, call the Hall or Nick Iles who will be serving as the election judge. Good luck to all those who decide to run!

Wage allocation was decided at the May 3 meeting. The increase will be reflected on the pay period of May 30 to June 5. The total package increase is \$1.90. May 30 is Memorial Day and a holiday for the Local. Any work performed on this day is double bubble money. Apprentices, the Service Learning Policy was reinstated at the March 21 JATC meeting. You'll need to start attending union meetings again or make up the absence.

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS- Our next meeting will be June 7 at 5:30pm. On this day, local officer votes will be tallied. I sincerely hope all of you will participate in voting this year. Get it in early and make your voice heard!

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

BOOK SIGNING- Many Locals throughout 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-person.

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: currently the low bidder is Thiel Electric. Leddy and Nelson have recently secured the next set of projects at Swan Valley Schools. Leddy will also be doing work at The State Bank also located in Thomas Twp.

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/IBEWPAAC. 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, 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 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

(Continued next column)



IBEW
Local 445

IBEW Local 445

BATTLE CREEK – Special Called Meeting. This is a notice to advise of the Special Called Meeting on May 25, 2022 at 4:45pm at the Hall for a Wage Allocation.

Please plan on attending. Everyone's opinion and vote counts!

Reminder: April 1, 2022 was the beginning of the second Quarter for your dues. Please check your dues receipt. The



IBEW
Local 131

Serving Southwest Michigan Since 1916

IBEW Local 131

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

The election of officers will take place on June 6th, from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., balloting location will be the Union Hall located at 3641 East Cork St., Kalamazoo, MI 49001. The easiest way to request an absentee ballot can be made to ibew131electionjudge@gmail.com. Please refer to the official election mailer for other ways to request absentee ballots.

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

Mark your calendars! The fifth year class of IBEW Local 131 is hosting a golf outing May 14, 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 Scharwitz 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.poweringkalamazoo.com. This website will be used to highlight local signatory contractors and used as an organizing tool. Follow us on

Local 557, con't

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 mielectricalhealth.org

In Solidarity,
Breanna DePottery
Press Secretary

Facebook @poweringkalamazoo, Twitter @PoweringKzoo, Instagram @poweringkalamazoo, and LinkedIn @poweringkalamazoo. 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@ibew131.com

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 payments: 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 payments.

Life events happen, and we'd always like to make sure you have updated beneficiary forms. If you're questioning whether yours is up to date, stop on down to the Hall to get new 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 cancellations if you need to re-schedule for another available Code Update Course.**

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

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

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 Locations:

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

"Never regret. If it's good, it's wonderful. If it's bad, it's experience."

—Victoria Holt

"To win without risk is to triumph without glory."

— Pierre Corneille (1606 - 1684)

\$10.00 processing fee for Members in Arrears goes into effect on the first day of the month for dues in arrears.

General Membership Meeting 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 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 calendars.



INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS BAY CITY MICHIGAN

IBEW Local 692

BAY CITY – Union Meeting. The June monthly membership meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, June 6, 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. Election Day will be held on Monday, June 6, 2022 at the Electrical Trades Building (1300 W. Thomas Street, Bay City) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Remember to fulfill your Union obligation by voting.

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

Work Report. First, we will start with some good news. It sounds like Karn 3 & 4 may not close now until 2031. If this news holds true, that may lead to more future work.

Projects that are currently bidding include the following: Bay City Schools (a few small projects), a Frito Lay Distribution Center in Monitor Twp., North Peak Brewing, PNC Bank Midland, Monitor Sugar Desugarization (\$65 million total project), Kalita Air Hanger in Oscoda, Small Digester in Bay County, and finally the Independence Bridge in Bay County.

Projects that may hire are obviously SK Siltron. The steel is still going up on this project and has seen some delays due to material. The good news is another \$300 million is headed towards this project late this fall with the next phase to begin in January of '23. Gage Grow, Liberty Bridge, Cheboygan Wastewater and both Goyette Mechanical Projects (Hale Schools and the Ground Water filtration system at the old Wurtsmith) may also hire in the near future.

Rest assured both organizers and myself are working very diligently to secure whatever work is being bid in our jurisdiction for our membership. Detroit and Lansing are the place to be in the state right now if you are looking to travel. Ann Arbor will be good shortly. 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 undoubtedly 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 "4+" 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.

Local 692 Retirement Party. This year's party will be held on **Friday, October 7, 2022.** It will be located at the DoubleTree in Bay City. Please mark your calendars and make every effort to attend this great event to honor our retirees!

Retirees Lunch. The next retirees' lunch will be held on **Thursday, May 19, 2022** at 1:00 PM at Decker's Lounge located at 402 E. Ellsworth Street in Midland.

Renew. Our annual Bags for Brotherhood event will take place on September 17, 2022. Please come out and support us!

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 hall.

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

Important links & numbers

IBEW Local 692, 989-684-4510, www.ibew692.org

Health Plan, 517-321-7502, www.mielectricalhealth.org

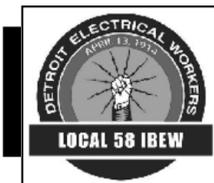
Michigan Pension Fund, 517-321-7502

www.michiganelectrical.org

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

NEBF/NEAP: 301-556-4300

IO Pension: 202-833-7000



IBEW LOCAL 58

IBEW Local 58
DETROIT - The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 17, 2022. Dinner begins at 5:30 and the meeting will start at 6:30.

VACATION FUND: Disbursement from the Vacation Fund is anticipated to be transferred to your PNC Bank Stored Value Card or if you elected, Direct Deposited into your checking or savings accounts, on or around May 23, 2022. Please check the listed contributions from your employers with your pay records for accuracy. A list of contributions may be obtained from the Benefit Office Website, www.evjbt.org by logging into your personal information and clicking **My Benefits** then **Vacation Benefits**.

If you require a paper statement, please contact the Benefit Office for a printout. If there is an error, contact the Benefit Office at (586) 575-9200 ext. 212.

ATTENTION - You may check your Stored Value utilization history by logging on to www.pncpaycard.com and by entering your 16-digit card number listed on the front of the card and the last four digits of your Social Security Number, also referred to as your Account Access Code (or AAC for short). Customer Service can be reached by telephone at (866) 453-5071.

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

Local 58 Dues Information: 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 Password, 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 Motorcycle Group: Group meetings have moved to the 3rd 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 @ aaanderanin@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 Benevolent Fund meeting will be Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at 5:00.

The 13th Annual Local 58 Detroit River Walleye Tournament will be Saturday, May 7, 2022, beginning at 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.ibewlocal58.org. Last day to register is Wednesday, May 4, 2022. AFL-CIO affiliated Local Union families and friends are welcome!

The Jerry Gaudi Memorial Golf Outing will be Friday, June 3, 2022, 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 2nd 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, 2022 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. 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 Osborn 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 1st 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 dollars 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, May 26th 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 a piece, funds raised are for the ARC Scholarship. PayPal, Venmo, and of course cash is available for payment. 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+ Softball 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 is the game times. If you have questions or want more information, please call Joe Schraufnagel at 586-255-1205 or Gerry Cassani at 586-804-8026.

Wiremen's Golf Association (WGA) Members: This year the 2022 Wiremen's Golf Association Tournament will be hosted by Local 481, Indianapolis, IN on Aug. 16-19, with the optional scramble being held on Tuesday

Aug. 16. The golf courses being utilized for the tournament are Trophy Club (Lebanon, IN), Ulen Country Club (Lebanon, IN), Purgatory Golf Club (Noblesville, IN), and the optional scramble will be played at Eagle Creek Golf Club (Indianapolis, IN). The host hotel/tournament headquarters for this year is the Sheraton Keystone @ Keystone Crossing, 8787 Keystone Crossing, Indianapolis, IN 46240 - phone: 317.846.2700. There will be a meeting at the Local 58 Union Hall in the basement classroom on **Thursday, May 12** at 6 PM regarding the Tournament. Entry fees (\$235 per man for the Tournament and \$65 per man for the optional scramble) will be collected and Tournament information will be available at this time. They are anticipating a large showing in Indianapolis so it will be imperative to have your entry money for the tournament turned in ASAP this year. Any WGA member who is planning on participating in the Tournament should plan on attending. Any questions call Ron Krajenke at 313-475-0487 or Brad Garrity at 313-850-1837.

Local 58 IBEW Senior Golf Outings 2022 begins Thursday, May 19, 2022 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; * July 21, 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 headcount due to the security deposit at most of the golf courses. All IBEW Local 58 members are welcome to participate! Call Art for questions.

Local 58 Hockey Team Champions of the over 40 Division! Congratulations to the IBEW Local 58 over-40 hockey team for winning their division at the 57th annual OPC hockey tournament. The men worked their tales-off to proudly represent Detroit, competing and going undefeated (5-0) in their division. As always, hockey is secondary to the brotherhood and networking that happens at this IBEW event. The comradery that is displayed among these hockey playing electricians is second to none. Local 58s team played well, with great defensive play in their end as well as goaltending to great play making and scoring from their forwards. Having six players in the top 10 in points for the weekend lead by Tom Sheehy from Local 58 at the number one spot. A special congratulations goes to Claude Tunison Sr for taking home the award for best team manager as well as the oldest player award. A special thanks to our brothers from Windsor, Ont. for bringing the trophies home on their bus! Great job Local 58!

IBEW Local 58 Retirees Association Retirees Association: Board meetings have resumed, and the next one will be May 11 in the Bill Rushford Room in the lower level of the Union Hall, at 10 a.m. All members are welcome to attend board meetings, and we are actively recruiting folks to join us on the board, and to get involved in our Retirees Group. We have monthly

(Continued next column)



IBEW 275
COOPERSVILLE - Dear Brothers and Sisters, the work outlook for the Local remains the same as I've been reporting for the last few months. We are getting sporadic calls as spring is slowly trying to reach west Michigan so call the recorder each night so you don't miss one.

At April's monthly membership meeting, the body voted to allocate our 4% wage increase. It was decided to leave the percentages the same as they are currently. I had said that it looked as though \$0.25 may have to go towards the health plan this year. I also stated that it could possibly be a little more, or a little less. The final amount that the Trustees agreed to was \$0.30.

The following is a breakdown of the new rates that will go into effect May 29:
 Health Plan: \$8.57
 MEEPP (25%): \$8.61
 NEAP (10%): \$3.44
 NEBF (3%): \$1.03
 Hourly Wage: \$34.41
Total Package: \$56.06

As you are all aware, we are rapidly approaching political season. Many labor-friendly candidates in west Michigan will be reaching out to the Local for support on their campaigns. Please try to find time to help if asked by the Local.

The following members are three or more months behind in dues: David Lebeck and Nick Perry. If you haven't done so already, please bring your dues up to date.

Please remember that re-sign is the 10th through the 16th 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 @ 6:00pm 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.

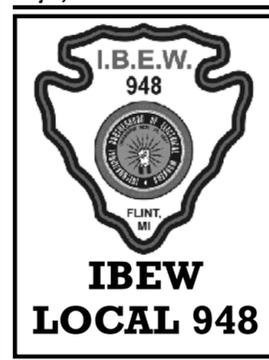
Local 58, con't

luncheons, with the exception of May and November because of holidays that happen those months. Our next luncheon will be on June 22, 2022 at the Gazebo Banquet Center in Warren. If you haven't been to one of our luncheons, consider joining us in June, perhaps contact some fellow retirees, and make it a monthly habit. The more the merrier!

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

IBEW Pension: Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: Dale Durham, and Lawrence Jock Sr.

Members that have Passed Away: Narvin David, Pension member, 26 year IBEW membership; Michael Gurry, Pension member, 57 year IBEW membership; Carl Meininger, Pension member, 33 year IBEW membership; Barbara Niewoit, Wife to Pension member John Niewoit, Mother to JIW Keith Dobner, Sister to Pension member James Stepinski, Sister-in-law to Pension member Alexander Danko; Frank Palermo, JIW, Brother to JIW Vincent Palermo. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss.



IBEW Local 948
FLINT - Our June Union Meeting will be held on Monday, June 13th, 2022, at 6:00pm.

Our May Executive Board Meeting will be held on Monday, May 23rd, 2022, at 4:30 pm.

The Next Retiree Club Meeting will be Tuesday, May 16th, at 8:00am then Tuesday, June 7th, 2022 at 9:00am.

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

TRaverse CITY - Meetings.
Regular E Board - The next regularly scheduled E-Board meeting is set for Thursday, June 2, 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 June 2, 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.

Union Work - At last month's regular union meeting we opted into an online Book registration and credit card payment system. We had our 1st training class on the referral system and will have one soon for the credit card system. You will be able to pay your dues and purchase items for resale from an App, as well as other convenient options. I hope to be able to have it up and running live by this Sept/Oct.

Habitat for Humanity Update - A big thank you to William Lee, Cody Wright, Collin Bush, Laurie Thybault, Billy Hampton and Dave Fashbaugh who helped out on the trim out of the Williamsburg house. We got a lot done and will be scheduling soon to finish the Williamsburg house and start the trim out of the Kalkaska house.

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 yet 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 \$10.00 each. We also have Local 498 t-shirt, 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 5-county area around Traverse City. To access it go to www.gtrcf.org/scholarships/. Local 498 Union members' children get preference to the endowment. A huge thank you in Memory of Bob Dost for his generosity and being a great union member.

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

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

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

Important numbers for you to write in your address book:
 MEEHP (Health) 1-855-633-4584 or 1-517-321-7502 Fax# 1-517-321-7508

MEEPP (MI Pension) 1-517-321-7502
 (New address Michigan Pension and Health Plan)
 TIC International Corporation, 6525 Centurion Drive, Lansing, MI 48917

NEBF 1-301-556-4300
 NEAP 1-301-556-4300
 IO Pension 1-202-833-7000

DUES RATES. Jan 1, 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.

Please remember it is your responsibility to pay your dues on time.

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



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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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| Louisville, KY | Salt Lake City, UT | |



Local 149 Roofers & Waterproofers

Roofers 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., June 7, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Executive Board Meeting. The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., May 31, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Detroit Wage Allocation. The winning proposal to determine what to do with this year's \$1.65 raise will be in the next Building Tradesmen Paper. You can also contact the Hall on 5/4/2022 to find out the winning proposal. This publication is as 5/2/2022, 2 p.m.

Nominations. Those nominated for officers and trustees on 5/3/2022 will be in the next Building Tradesmen Paper. You can also contact the Hall on 5/4/2022. This publication is as 5/2/2022, 2:00p.m.

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 education.

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

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

HOW TO WIN. Those individuals interested in obtaining one of four 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 RIFP 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 standings. 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 good standing.

If you have any questions please call the Hall at 313-961-6093 Website for announcements, news, and updates. www.rooferslocal149.com

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 includes all contracted areas.

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

Dues must be current in order to enter the Training Center. If 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 5/2/2022, 2:00p.m.
In Solidarity, Brian Gregg Business Manager, Roofers & Waterproofers Local 149

"You've achieved success in your field when you don't know whether what you're doing is work or play."

–Warren Beatty (1937 -)

"Silence is one of the hardest arguments to refute."

–Josh Billings (1818 - 1885)

"All progress is based upon a universal innate desire on the part of every organism to live beyond its income."

–Samuel Butler (1835 - 1902),

"One should always play fairly when one has the winning cards."

–Oscar Wilde (1854 - 1900)

"Have the courage to be ignorant of a great number of things, in order to avoid the calamity of being ignorant of everything."

–Sydney Smith (1771 - 1845)

"He that climbs the tall tree has won right to the fruit."

–Sir Walter Scott (1771 - 1832)

"People with courage and character always seem sinister to the rest."

–Hermann Hesse (1877 - 1962)



Laborers Local 1191

DETROIT – **Monthly Membership Meetings: Union meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Union hall (except for holidays), the next membership meeting will on May, 6th 2022.**

Retirees: Retiree Council's meetings are the last Friday of the month. The meetings are held 11:00 a.m. at the Local Union Hall, located at 2161 West Grand Boulevard Detroit Michigan 48208.

Union Dues For 2022: Effective **January 1, 2022** regular monthly dues are **\$35.00 for active members.** Retiree monthly dues will remain the same **\$8.00.**

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 instructions...Please also check out our website and "Laborers' Local 1191" Facebook page for important information about your Local Union.

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 Michigan 48917.

MUST Safety Awareness Training: Please check the MUST website at www.mustsafe.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.mlta.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. Journeyman and apprentices may still obtain training through MLTA's online training at <https://lms.mlta.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 License, 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 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm and put their name on the out-of-work list. You must have an out-of-work skills sheet filled out and on file in order to be referred out for work by 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.michiganlaborers.org

*Delta Dental: (800) 524-0149

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Pension)

*Telephone: (248) 641-4942

*Fax: (248) 813-9898

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Healthcare)

*Telephone: (800) 228 0048

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Vacation)

*Telephone: (877) 645-2267

*Web Site: www.metrodetroitlaborers.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.

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



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: MLDC 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,



Local 25 Iron Workers

Iron Workers Local 25

NOVI – A wage allocation VOTE for the 2022 AGC Structural, Rigging & Rod raise increase will take place Thursday, May 19, 2022 from 7:00 am through 7:00 pm at ALL Local 25 Union Halls & Masonic Lodge. **This is for the East Michigan Agreements.** Journeyman in good standing are eligible to vote.

The Next Novi Union meeting will be Monday, May 23, 2022 at 7:00 pm. (in-person & via Zoom).

All Halls will be closed in observance of Memorial Day on Monday, May 30th, 2022.

Ironworkers Local 25 APP - Sign up for our Alerts & E-mails via our website (www.ironworkers25.org). We continue to communicate through the **PUSH NOTIFICATIONS** – download the APP if you haven't done so yet!

Steward meeting(s): 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. The Saginaw Hall Steward Meeting will be May 26, 2022 at 6:00 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.

Iron Workers Local 25 Annual Picnic will be Saturday June 25, 2022 at the Wixom Training Center.

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

Pay union dues with personal check or money order and mail to: Iron Workers Local 25 – P.O. Box 965 – Novi, MI 48376-0965. Pay union dues in person at the Novi Union Hall (M-F) from 8 am to 3 pm (NO Cash).

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

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 to 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 Retirees meeting will be Tuesday, May 17, 2022 at 10:00 am in Novi. The Novi Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday June 7, 2022 at 9:00 am. All are welcome.

The West Michigan Chapter Retirees breakfast will meet Tuesday June 7, 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 stay informed on union matters.

A celebration of Mac's (D. Craig MacIntyre's) life is scheduled to take place at 5073 Conklin Rd., Lowell, MI on May 14, 2022 from 1PM - 5PM. Friends of Mac invited and bring along "Mac stories and memories" to share. Members of The International Iron Workers will also commemorate Mac's life at the annual Festival at Mackinaw City the second weekend in August.

In Memory: Thomas Perry #1121497 passed April 18, 2022 at the age of 55. He was a 36-year member. Tom is survived by his sons, former members Aaron Perry and Dustin Perry. Tom was predeceased by his father Auttie Perry #821294. John Taber #670580 of Lennon MI passed away Friday, April 15, 2022 at the age of 79. He was a former member of Local 25 for 43 years from 1961 through 2004. Bobbie Morgan #814985 passed away April 18, 2022 at the age of 86. He was a member of Local 25/340 for close to 53 years and survived by his sons Duane Morgan #1243605 and former member Robert Morgan #1069551. Gregory Culp #1182082 passed away April 23, 2022 at the age of 72. He was a Local 340/25 member for 31 years. James Davis #1353565 passed away April 23, 2022 at the age of 58. He was a member for 16 years and survived by his sister Diane (Davis) Bielski #1253872. Billy Allen Edwards #1251829 passed away April 16, 2022 at the age of 66. He was a 23-year member.

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

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (May 2, 2022 12:00 pm E.S.T.).

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.



New venue for U-M vehicles

THE NEW DEAN ROAD Transportation Facility on the campus of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor will bring 70,000 gross square feet of space for the university's Logistics, Transportation and Parking vehicle maintenance functions. The \$39 million project is being led by the Devon Industrial Group LLC. The new building "can accommodate larger articulated buses, and heavy equipment, and meet current safety guidelines for vehicle maintenance, circulation, and appropriate work zones," according to the U of M. The project is expected to be completed later this year.

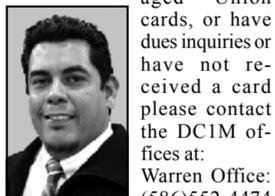


Michigan Painters District Council



Painters DC 1M
WARREN – Dear Members,
DC1M WEBSITE: www.iupatdc1michigan.org
DC1M FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/iupat1m
DC 1M UNION CARDS* Any questions regarding a lost, damaged Union cards, or have dues inquiries or have not received a card please contact the DC1M offices at:
Warren Office: (586)552-4474 extension 100
Freeland Office: (989)695-6888

PAINTERS DISTRICT COUNCIL IMSMART PHONE APP. Painters District Council 1M is pleased to announce its' all new APP.



ROBERT GONZALEZ
Business Manager

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

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

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District Council 1M
Business Manager: Robert Gonzalez
Meeting date: 2nd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m., with the Executive Board meeting at 6 p.m.
Place: 14587 Barber Ave, Warren MI 48088 & 419 S. Washington Ave, Lansing MI 48933

Local Union 312
Business Rep: Tim Schwerin
Meeting date: 2nd Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.
Place: 1473 N. 30th St., Galesburg, MI 49053

Local Union 514
Business Rep: Scott Mikulen
Meeting dates: 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m.
Place: 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI.
Web site: www.iupat-local514.org.

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

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

Local Union 1052
Business Rep: Jake Fluty
Meeting date: The Fourth Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.
Place: 3115 Joyce St., Burton MI 48529

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

Local Union 2352
Business Rep: 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.

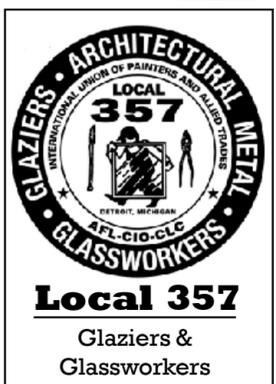


"I'm not sure I want popular opinion on my side -- I've noticed those with the most opinions often have the fewest facts."
– Bethania McKenstry

"Experience is what you get when you don't get what you want."
– Dan Stanford

"Economics is extremely useful as a form of employment for economists."
– John Kenneth Galbraith (1908 - 2006)

"The greatest discovery of my generation is that a human being can alter his life by altering his attitudes of mind."
– William James (1842 - 1910)



Local 357
Glaziers & Glassworkers

WARREN – Our next scheduled union meeting will be held on Monday, June 6th, 2022 at 6pm. Please attend.

The negotiations committee has been meeting with the owners over the past several weeks. We are making progress, but don't have a tentative agreement yet. Meetings are continuing. Please watch for future communications on this. Our current CBA expires June 1st, 2022.

Apprentice School classes have resumed. If you have a question on a class night, or an assignment please contact your instructor.

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

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

Dues payments may be mailed to the Union Office at 14587 Barber Avenue, Warren, MI 48088. Make checks payable to: **DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M** in care of Glassworkers #357.

When traveling to work out of town, all members are reminded that they must check in with the local that you are working in as per the International Constitution and our local C.B.A.

The Fund Office address is Michigan Glass and Glazing Joint Funds, P.O. Box 966, Troy, MI 48098-0666; phone number: 248-641-4957; fax 248-813-9898.

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

–Business Rep- Don Stepp

"If you want to make peace, you don't talk to your friends. You talk to your enemies."
– Moshe Dayan (1915 - 1981)

"Live neither in the past nor in the future, but let each day's work absorb your entire energies, and satisfy your widest ambition."
– Sir William Osler (1849 - 1919)

"There is nothing as stupid as an educated man if you get him off the thing he was educated in."
– Will Rogers (1879 - 1935)



Local 671
Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 671
MONROE – The next Regular Union meeting is scheduled for **June 3rd, 2022 at 7 p.m. Elections of Union Officers will be held on June 3rd as well. Polls will be open from 7am until 7pm.**

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

There will be a SPECIAL MEETING on MAY 19th, 2022 for potential contract ratification.

At the 40th UA Convention, a UA Constitution by-law was changed regarding dues for 40-year 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 January 1st, 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.

Retirees' luncheon will be held on Thursday, May 19th at the Union hall. All retirees' and widows are welcome. If you are interested in volunteering to help Jerry please contact Mike at the Union office.

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.

Union Promotion: The 2022 UA National Softball Tournament is scheduled for June 24th, 25th and 26th 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.

Congratulations: Congratulations go out to Brother Greg Spohn and his wife Jessica on the birth of their baby girl, Ellie James Spohn (8lbs 6 oz 21" long) on April 26th. Enjoy this awesome time together!

Cultivate Community: The Cultivate Community Event will be held on May 21st 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 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: Brothers and Sisters we are fast approaching the election season. For your Michigan and Local legislatures. We also have Local 671 elections next month on June 2nd. Make sure you stay involved and get out and vote. Hope to see you all in June at the Union hall.

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

Carly Neely: Insurance Line (734) 241-6180 email: carly@ualocal671.com
Local 671 Fax: (734) 242-4692



Plumbers and Steamfitters 85
SAGINAW – The next Union Meeting will be on Wednesday, May 25, 2022 at the Union Hall located at 3535 Bay Road 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 located at 2476 Industrial Dr. in Grayling, Michigan.

Please note: Our new mailing 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 jbadour@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: 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 Benefits: Must be on file in order to receive SUB Check. Available at the Hall.

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

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

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

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

Website Address: Please visit www.ualocal85.org.

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

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

CONDOLENCES: Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Jeffrey Pontious who passed away on April 22, 2022.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Cecil DeMott who passed away on April 19, 2022.

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

"Language exerts hidden power, like a moon on the tides."
– Rita Mae Brown

"Work is not always required... there is such a thing as sacred idleness, the cultivation of which is now fearfully neglected."
– George McDonald

"Good manners sometimes means simply putting up with other people's bad manners."
– H. Jackson Browne,

"The Americans have need of the telephone, but we do not. We have plenty of messenger boys."
– Sir William Preece, chief engineer of the British Post Office, 1876

"Until you've lost your reputation, you never realize what a burden it was."
– Margaret Mitchell (1900 - 1949)

"They (who) seek to establish systems of government based on the regimentation of all human beings by a handful of individual rulers... call this a new order. It is not new and it is not order."
– Franklin Delano Roosevelt

"Better be despised for too anxious apprehensions, than ruined by too confident security."
– Edmund Burke (1729 - 1797)

"You will never find time for anything. If you want time you must make it."
– Charles Buxton

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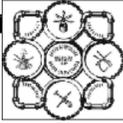
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Local 357 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service

Plumbers, Pipefitters & Hvac Service 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 REMINDERS: 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 calling 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 13th, 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.

PLUMBING LICENSE: Your Plumbing License needs to be renewed with the State of Michigan by April 30th, 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: Retiree lunch meetings are on the 1st Tuesday of every month. The lunches will commence at 11:30 am at Travelers Café located at 5225 Portage Rd, Portage, MI. The phone number for the location is (269) 775-1775.

MEDICAL CLAIMS ISSUES: As a member, TIC International and Labor First provide a dedicated team of member advocates to assist with the resolution of any and all medical claims issues. If at any time you experience an issue with your claims being processed and paid correctly, please contact TIC International at (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/UALocal357/. 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 REGISTER** button that is surrounded by a Blue Box. Your User Access will be granted the next business day. To access your account, once it is set up, all you need to do is access the Membership Button again – type in your email address and password – and all your information will be presented. As a member via the website, you will be able to keep track of all your hours and receive an e-mail when hours are posted to your account. **This is very important as it is up to you to keep up to date on the hours being paid on your behalf by ANY CONTRACTORS.**

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

There seems to be a continuing problem regarding notification of divorces. Note that you, the member, will be responsible for any bills incurred and paid on claims of an ex-spouse or de-

(Continued next column)



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

Pipe Fitters 636

DETROIT – June 9, 2022 will be here before you know it so submit your applications in for the UA Scholarship Trust Fund. 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. Applications are accepted electronically through: uascholarshipfund.communityforce.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, located at 50395 Ten Mile Rd. in Novi. We will be playing a four-man scramble with an 8:00am shotgun start. Tickets are limited to 216 GOLFERS and available on a first come first serve basis. Foursomes can be reserved at a cost of \$500.00. 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 3rd 2022, 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 3rd 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 Journeyman and Executive Board Member, Dan Gurley, on the passing of his Father Patrick Gurley. Mr. Gurley is the Uncle to Journeyman, Michael Gurley.

Also, our Deepest Sympathy goes out to Journeyman John Abdo, on the passing of his Brother Steve.

Retiree Leonard Kareus passed away April 28, 2022. May they all rest in peace.

Make sure you inform the Union Hall when you have a change of address, phone number 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 with these matters.

Update on Brother Brian Mierendorf – Brian still has a long road of recovery ahead of him so, please keep Brian and his family in your thoughts and prayers. The GO FUND ME Page is still active so, if you wish to donate 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.

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.

Financial Advisor Jason May with Merrill Lynch Wealth Management has a new contact number 248-655-4048 or email him at jason.may@ml.com

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

You can now login to your Defined Contribution account on the Local's website. Just click on the "Defined Contribution login here tab" and it will take you to the BeneSys login page. The Defined Contribution 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 mustsafe.org and if it is time for renewal call the Training Center 248-585-0636 and they will register you. Be "ready" when the calls come in. Safety modules and drug tests are paid for by the Contractors Association. **WHEN YOU STAY CURRENT WITH YOUR SAFETY MODULES, DRUG TEST AND FIRST AID, YOU WILL QUALIFY FOR FUTURE 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.

Local 357, continued

pendents. (See Pages 6 and 27 in the Summary Plan Description Booklet for clarification).

CONGRATULATIONS:

Congratulations to Brody Kent on the birth of a daughter, Marion. Congratulations to Ryan Nowakowski on the birth of a son, Rhett. Congratulations to Zackary Alzate on his recent marriage.

CONDOLENCES:

Condolences to the family of brother, Albert Dale Sparks, on his recent passing.

Condolences to the family of brother, William Welsh, on his recent passing.

Condolences to the family of William Landreville on the recent passing of his sister-in-law.

"Do not listen to those who weep and complain, for their disease is contagious."

—Og Mandino (1923 - 1996)



Plumbers Local 98

Plumbers 98

DETROIT – 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 and take time from your busy schedules, 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.

We normally do not get involved in a primary race in politics unless we see a need or an ally of the past who needs our support. I believe you all have met our Office Professional Kristina Lodivisi by now, she is a tuff woman who is a Veteran and has a strong Union background.

Please support her in the upcoming primary as she runs for a State Representative in the new 14th District. Which covers all of Center Line and a portion of Warren and Detroit. For other candidates your PAC committee has endorsed, we will be finalizing our endorsements soon and updating the website. Your voice your vote! Do not wait for the last minute to know your candidate.

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 happening.

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

Special Called Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 19 at 7 pm for the Allocations of Monies.

Retiree Meetings. The APRIL RETIREE MEETING is, Wednesday, May 11th from 12 pm – 2 pm.

Education Opportunities.

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, 313-580-0148 or Dan Nixon, 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 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. 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 OPPORTUNITIES. 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 later.

In Memoriam. Our heartfelt condolences go out to the family and friends of our Brother Richard McKenney who passed away on 4/11/2022 and Brother Edward O. Gay who passed away on 4/17/2022.

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 being bid out. The information is posted on our web page ualocal98.com/2022uaLegislativeOverview/ please read it and share.

ATTN: HOCKEY PLAYERS! 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 contact BA Dan Nixon. Call/text 248-752-3702 or email dnixon98@ualocal98.org for more information.

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, contact Manager Jeremy Pitts at (586) 405-9425. In addition, the UA National Softball Tournament held in Cincinnati, OH on the weekend of June 24-26 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 nonunion or is a past member that may be interested, have them call Organizer Rob Moses, 248-763-2187.

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

TRAINING CENTER NEWS. Phone # 248-585-1435. Check out The Training Center's website www.Plumbers98tc.org

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.

CALL THE TRAINING CENTER TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CLASSES OFFERED IN 2022. All classes are register and pre-pay by check or money order only. Deadlines for registration and prices are listed with each class.

Medical Gas Installer (Full 40 hour): Fall Class: Sept. 1 – Nov. 10. Deadline is Aug. 12, \$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 Recertification: 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
(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 states: 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 questions.

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

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

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

Local 98, con't

4 hour recert class Oct. 25 and 26. Deadline is Sept. 23.

ASSE Tester (Full 40 hour): Fall Class: Aug. 30 – Nov. 8 Deadline is Aug. 5.

ASSE Repairer: *** Prerequisite: Must hold a current 5110 Tester Certification Fall Class: Aug. 31 – Oct. 5, Deadline is Aug. 12, \$75

Industrial Rigging: June 30 – Aug. 27, Deadline is June 10 \$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.

WELDING Test sessions will be May 7 and June 4. You must call to schedule your welding tests at least 3 days prior to the test. The next BRAZING Cert Sessions will be Friday, May 13 and June 3. Please note: All members must be dressed appropriately to be in the shop area.

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 Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2022 to be eligible for the \$100 reimbursement.

OSHA Training - OSHA 10, available as 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.

"I haven't spoken to my wife in years. I didn't want to interrupt her."

—Rodney Dangerfield (1921 - 2004)



Local 370 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters and HVAC Service

Plumbers, Pipe Fitters HVAC Service 370

FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday June 14, 2022 at 7:00pm.** and has been designated a *special called meeting for Election results of officers and trustees.*

Election will take place Tuesday June 14th 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.** 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.

The following positions are up for election:

- (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 3rd year are now eligible to vote if they meet the requirements listed above.

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 sign up sheet with all the information. We are limited to 38 teams so sign up early if you want to play.

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, June 14, 2022, at 4:00pm
- FMR Committee – Tuesday June 14, 2022, at 4:00pm
- PAC committee – Tuesday June 14, 2022, at 5:00pm
- Executive Board – Tuesday June 14, 2022, at 5:00pm
- Building Committee – Tuesday June 14, 2022, at 6:00pm
- Finance Committee – Tuesday June 14, 2022, at 6:15pm
- JATC Committee – Wednesday June 15, 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 MUSTSAFE.com website and complete all 18 safety modules. Members will not be eligible to work at any job site requiring them until all 18 modules are complete and are current on their drug test. If your drug test is expired, you must take one before you can be dispatched to any GM work. Drug tests are only valid for 1 year.

Call the hall and we will print you a drug test authorization form.

Local 370 office hours 7:30am–4:30pm.

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

Attendance award drawing for membership meeting information. 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 Apprentices and Training Committee voted to reimburse any active member of Local 370 that takes and passes any training, testing or certification that may be required to perform their work. This includes Rigging, Med-Gas, Back flow or any work-related training or certification expense. Members will be reimbursed after successful completion and verification of the cost. Lost wages will not be covered by the JATC. Plumbing license renewal is still the responsibility of the member. If you have any questions, please contact Local 370 JATC.

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

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

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. The books are \$75.00 each.

Remember to keep your dues current. Any member failing to pay for 3 months shall stand suspended, unable to vote for a period of 1 year or run for office for a period of 2 years and subject to a \$50 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.

If you shop on the internet, **SHOP UNION MADE**, log on to www.shopunionmade.com.

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



"Household tasks are easier and quicker when they are done by somebody else."

–James Thorpe (1888 - 1953)

Really listening and suspending one's own judgment is necessary in order to understand other people on their own terms... This is a process that requires trust and builds trust.

–Mary Field Belenky

"Success is following the pattern of life one enjoys most."

–Al Capp (1909 - 1979)

"You find yourself refreshed by the presence of cheerful people. Why not make an honest effort to confer that pleasure on others? Half the battle is gained if you never allow yourself to say anything gloomy."

–Lydia M. Child

"America believes in education: the average professor earns more money in a year than a professional athlete earns in a whole week."

–Evan Esar (1899 - 1995)

"It's a sad day when you find out that it's not accident or time or fortune, but just yourself that kept things from you."

–Lillian Hellman (1905 - 1984)

"An appeaser is one who feeds a crocodile, hoping it will eat him last."

–Sir Winston Churchill (1874 - 1965)

"Fall seven times, stand up eight."

–Japanese Proverb



Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service Local 111

Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 111

UPPER PENINSULA – The next Union Meeting will be in **Marquette on May 26, 2022 @ 7:30 p.m. EST.**

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 on-line safety training, go to our web site ua111.com and click on Safety Links. Members must take these safety trainings for each site to work at each mill. Please take note they are valid for 1 year.

MSHA Training: The 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.



Plumbers, Pipe Fitters, Service Technicians, Gas Distribution Local 190

Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 190

ANN ARBOR – UNION MEETING: The Wage Allocation meeting will be held on Monday, May 9 and will start 6 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

MICHIGAN GAS JOURNEYMAN: Requalification testing for Consumer Energy and Semco Energy will start Monday, May 30 and run the whole month of June. Testing will be held at our training center. Please contact Ralph Booth 734-369-1432 for more information and to schedule your testing date.

UNION HALL CLOSING FOR AN UP COMING HOLIDAY: Our office will be closed all day Monday, May 30 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 8. The UA scholarship will now only be accepted electronically, no later than June 9 <https://uascholarshipfund.com>. You can reach the benefits office Monday through Friday by calling 888-390-7473.

48th ANNUAL GOLF OUTING: Our annual golf outing will be held on Saturday, July 30. 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 DISTRIBUTION: A "Special Called Meeting" for the Ohio Gas Distribution Wage allocation is scheduled for Saturday, May 14 from 9 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 22nd 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) 369-1432.

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 no. 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 to date.

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. The link is now on the website in the "Members Only" section under "Helpful Member Forms"

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 card number.**

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

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

then mail you your dues receipt and credit charge slip.

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

A REPRESENTATIVE FROM FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE WILL BE AT THE UNION HALL: Each month on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Wednesday. Members will be able to meet with Bernadette from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 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, 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 SEPT. 15, 2022!**

2022 Schedule - Thursdays - May 12, 2022, and June 2, 2022. All classes will start at 5 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 lab is closed for the summer. It will reopen on Wednesday, Sept. 7. The schedule is Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 4:30pm-8:30pm, until Thursday, Dec. 15. The welding lab will be closed on Union meeting days. Weld tests will be scheduled after participants are approved by welding instructors.

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 at 5 pm. 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. Course is on Tue and Wed and starts at 5 pm. The course is limited 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 pm. Course will run for 5 weeks on Tue and Thu. These courses are limited to 16 participants. Call Retha to secure your spot.

Med Gas Installer Up-Date (8hrs): Call Retha to be put into the next class.

2022 Schedule: Next course Sept 27 & 29 at 5 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.

CONDOLENCES: Our member Quenten Ackerman passed away April 24. Quenten initiated Aug. 8, 2019. Quenten's father, Shad Ackerman and brother, Ron Ackerman are also members of Local 190 and our heartfelt condolences go out to both of them. To all family members and friends please know we have gained an angel in heaven that watches over all of you. Hold onto all of the happy memories that have been shared with Quenten, this will keep Quenten alive in our hearts and in our minds, and he will continue to live on through us.

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

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

"We are made to persist. That's how we find out who we are."

–Tobias Wolff

"Beware when the great God lets loose a thinker on this planet."

–Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 - 1882)

"There is always more misery among the lower classes than there is humanity in the higher."

–Victor Hugo (1802 - 1885)

"It's so much easier to suggest solutions when you don't know too much about the problem."

–Malcolm Forbes (1919 - 1990)

"Stress is an ignorant state. It believes that everything is an emergency. Nothing is that important."

–Natalie Goldberg

"There is nothing new under the sun but there are lots of old things we don't know."

–Ambrose Bierce (1842 - 1914)

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Local 333 Plumbers & Pipe Fitters

Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 333

LANSING – May’s union meeting will be held Wednesday, May 18, 2022, at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr Blvd., Lansing, MI. 48911 at 7:30pm.

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.

Retirees’ Golf Outing: Wednesday, June 22, 2022, Binder Park Golf Course, 7255 B Drive-South, Battle Creek, MI. 9am Shotgun start. (Scramble Format) \$45.00 per person, 18 holes of golf and cart. Coffee, donut, lunch is provided. Prized included. Registration forms are at the three halls.

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 ext#4. Scholarship applications must be postmarked by June 25, 2022 and in the Jackson office by July 1, 2022.

Please check your certifications such as 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 Tests are the second Tuesday of each month at the Lansing Training Center.

Masters test prep is Monday’s and Wednesday’s 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) 323-0333.

PLEASE NOTE FOR ALL CERTIFICATIONS: Per the UA, as of January 2019, all Braze and Weld Certifications shall be updated within 120 days of their expiration date, or you will lose your certifications. Check the date(s) of your Certifications, if they have expired please contact Diana at 517.323.0333. Though we send out everyone’s continuities to be renewed; between 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 members.

SAVE THE DATE Breakfast for Kids!! 22nd Annual Doug Griffith Community Service Award Breakfast will be held 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

Make checks payable to the Children’s Miracle Network and mailed to: UA Local 333 Plumbers & Pipefitters, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 48911

Our thoughts and prayer to Battle Creek member Del Fausey on the loss of his Ryan Fausey who passed away April 18, 2022. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Our sincere condolences to Lansing member James Cross, on the loss of his mother Sue Cross who passed away April 20, 2022. Our heartfelt sympathy to you and your family.

“The easiest way for your children to learn about money is for you not to have any.”

–Katharine Whitehorn

“The more I want to get something done, the less I call it work.”

–Richard Bach



Local 174 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & Service Trades

West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters & Service Trades Local No. 174 COOPERSVILLE – **JUNE MEETING DATE CHANGE - SPECIAL CALLED.** The June meeting will be held on MONDAY, JUNE 6 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 purpose of wage allocation.

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

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 assisted.

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 agreement jobs calling for manpower are not eligible for the 50/50 provision.

Covid Test Reimbursement: If you purchase an at-home COVID Test please save your receipt. Effective Jan. 15 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 Thursday June 9 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 COVID 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

date.
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 problem.

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 January 1st 2021 your insurance premiums will be reduced by approximately 12.5%. New rates are as follows:

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

Organizing Update: Please contact Chris Pelton if you know of any jobsites with a non-union plumbing or mechanical contractor or if you are interested in actively assisting with our organizing efforts. There are plenty of opportunities available, ranging from a one-day ride-along with a

Business Agent or Organizer all the way up to full blown salting.

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

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

Labor Councils: - Kent Ionia - 3rd Wednesday of the month / 5pm / Contact Nathan for location Lakeshore – 3rd Thursday of the month / CIO Hall 490 Western / 6pm

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

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

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

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

Contract Requirements: Please remember Section 5.7 of

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

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

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

BACKFLOW: ASSE Backflow Repairer class will run May 23, 25, 31, June 1, 2, from 5pm-9pm. Test Saturday, June 4th at 8:00am.

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

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 Schumaker ext. 30.

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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 Street, Southfield, MI 48033. This Meeting will be special called for wage increase allocation. This meeting is mandatory for all apprentices.



CURT GOLFGOLF LEAGUE - Any member interested in a Local 25 golf league should contact apprentice member Jeff Matties, (313) 400-3099.

NOTICE TO ALL: When you move into the Medicare Advantage Program, your deductible balance for the year is supposed to carry over. Whatever you have paid toward your annual deductible, prior to changing over to Medicare Advantage Program, should follow you. As with any system, there can be flaws. Please keep an eye out for any charges, related to your deductible balance not being carried over, when you move into the Medicare Advantage Program. If you receive a charge that should have been covered by your deductible, please contact the Fund Office.

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

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

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

LAY OFF/HIRE: Please be reminded, all members shall notify the Business Manager within forty-eight hours after accepting a job or upon termination of employment. Failure to report will result in an automatic \$50 fine.

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

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



Local 47 Heat and Frost Insulators

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 p.m.

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 4th 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 Procedures: Members must notify the office within 24 hours of being laid off or charges may be placed, you can do so by calling or texting the office at (517) 708-0665 with your layoff date and the name of the Contractor you were laid off from.

Members must notify the office before ANY overtime is worked.

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

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

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

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

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

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 above-mentioned forms into the fund ASAP and you will be reinstated retroactively.

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

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

Please complete and return the working spousal forms to TIC. JATC Coordinator Phil Wilson (616-466-8736)

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

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

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

Local 25 cont'd

ment 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.



Building for MSU Federal Credit Union

GRINDING STRUCTURAL iron at the MSU Federal Credit Union project in East Lansing is Bill Hiler of Iron Workers Local 25. He's employed by Assemblers Precast & Steel Services, Inc. Below is a rendering of the completed seven-story building. The exterior building materials will include red and gray brick, as well as glazed green brick accents. The new building will include a Credit Union branch (their East Lansing Branch will be relocated from its current location on Grand River Avenue); an ATM; three floors of MSUFCU office space; the opportunity for up to two floors of leased office space; and a Community Room available for non-profit organizations.



"Chance is always powerful. Let your hook be always cast; in the pool where you least expect it, there will be a fish."
-Ovid (43 BC - 17 AD)

"Blessed is the man who, having nothing to say, abstains from giving wordy evidence of the fact."
-George Eliot (1819 - 1880)

"When you have given nothing, ask for nothing."
-Albanian Proverb

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You and your health . . .



By Mike Rosenbaum

MISINFORMATION ISN'T new. Given human nature, it wouldn't be surprising if there were radical, pre-historic cave-men who shouted conspiracy theories about neighboring tribes to whoever would listen. In today's digital age, however, misinformation can literally circle the globe at the speed of light, reaching millions of people. And when that misinformation is about medicine, the results can be catastrophic.

Recently, the World Health Organization coined a new word, "infodemic," which it defines as "an overabundance of information, both online and offline" that "includes deliberate attempts to disseminate wrong information to undermine the public health response and advance alternative agendas of groups or individuals."

False information about vaccines makes up a large segment of medical misinformation, though even before vaccines were introduced, misinformation regarding masks and the severity of Covid-19 abounded.

Preventable Deaths

For example, according to research by the Kaiser Foundation, covering June-November of 2021, approximately 163,000 American Covid-19 deaths during those six months would've been prevented if the victims had been vaccinated. We'll never know how many of those individuals refused vaccines due to exposure to misinformation, but the sheer volume of misinformation on this topic makes it probable that the percentage is high.

In a recent survey published by GoodRx, among a representative sample of more than 1100

The Deadly Consequences of Medical Misinformation

While "Truth Decay" has diminished trust in science and educated experts, it has also left many wondering where to turn for reliable information.

Americans, 73 percent reported being exposed to medical misinformation, and another 16 percent were unsure. Not surprisingly, the leading source of misinformation was social media (82%), followed by friends (66%), TV news (64%) and general internet searches (60%).

Look out for "Truth Decay"

On the plus side, the digital age ensures that useful information is out there. But to take full advantage of that accurate information, you must be able to sniff out opinions presented as facts. That leads us to another recently coined phrase, what the RAND Corporation calls "Truth Decay," which it defines as "the diminishing role of facts in American public life."

While "Truth Decay" has diminished trust in science and educated experts, it has also left many wondering where to turn for reliable information.

Writing in the RAND Blog, Jennifer Kavanaugh, lead author of RAND's semiannual Truth Decay report, suggests seeking out experts for information on any complicated subject. "For example," she writes, "if you're looking for information about how Covid-19 spreads, seek out physicians or scientists who specialize in infectious diseases."

Additionally, be careful about taking advice from health professionals who advance political points of view that are out of

the mainstream. Legitimate scientific inquiry includes rigorous questioning and critical thinking, which shouldn't be confused with popular rhetoric that creates fear and distrust.

What And Where To Look?

If you're looking for help online, the National Institutes of Health (a nonprofit, non-political, government organization), lists several criteria for finding sound medical advice, such as:

- verify a website's sponsor/owner
- is the author stating opinions or a limited set of facts?
- what is the site's purpose?
- is the article recent?

Check out the entire article at: <https://www.nia.nih.gov/health/online-health-information-it-reliable>.

Especially for Covid-19 information, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (cdc.gov) is a good starting point. Other medical websites with sound reputations include:

- Mayo Clinic (mayoclinic.org)
- Cleveland Clinic (clevelandclinic.org)
- Harvard Medical School's Health Publishing (health.harvard.edu)

But when it comes to your own health questions and concerns, remember that the internet is no substitute for a conversation with a trusted health professional.

AEPIC is a labor-management purchasing coalition with a proven track record of delivering the best price, service and expertise for benefits. For more info about our programs and health and wellness information, visit our website: www.aepic.us or on Facebook, Twitter, or LinkedIn.

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Outdoors

Mapping Michigan's forests



By Mark Harvey
Archivist, Michigan
Department of Natural Resources

In 2011, ABC's "Good Morning America" named Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore in Michigan's northwestern Lower Peninsula the "Most Beautiful Place in America."

But a hundred years earlier, at the turn of the 20th Century, large swaths of northern Michigan looked bleak.

In a time before restorative forestry practices existed, lumber companies cut through tracts of virgin timber stands, leaving slash and stumps. Once the trees were gone, the companies moved on to another stand. In their absence, property taxes went unpaid and land values dropped.

However, in 1922, a team of state government and university officials launched a survey team to create maps that would change the trajectory of northern Michigan's economy and launch the transformation of stump land into the "Water-Winter Wonderland" we know today.

The lumber boom in Michigan peaked in the 1870s and 1880s, but large-scale operations continued into the next century. Today, there are more than 800 logging and trucking firms, 300 wood product manufacturers and mills, and more than 3,000 secondary manufacturers who use wood resources to produce their products.

Lumber is still a viable, big business in Michigan because of improved forestry practices, but in the 1910s, Michigan stood at the precipice of 40 years of nonrestorative logging and lumbering practices.

Regrowing trees on cutover land or timber cultivation had yet to become a mainstream practice, and many Michigan counties teetered on the brink of insolvency from the unpaid property taxes of absentee owners.

Lumber companies and their workers provided the tax base for many communities, funding schools, infrastructure and local government operations. When the companies' interests moved



MICHIGAN'S FORESTS are enjoyed today because of the foresight of land managers a century ago.

MDNR photo

elsewhere, local governments were left holding the bill.

To make matters worse, lumber companies hired land speculation firms to sell the depleted acreage to get the worthless land off their books. They targeted unsuspecting people who wanted to be their own boss by running a farm in northern Michigan.

While vast tracts were available, the sandy soil produced pine trees, not traditional crops. Even if the soil was good enough to grow food or hay, the markets for goods were either too dispersed or too far away. Good roads to get products to main rail lines didn't exist. The farmers who didn't fail outright eked out a subsistence and couldn't re-

place the lost tax base from the lumber companies.

The cutover land also presented an extreme fire risk. The stumps and brush left by large operations created a tinder box easily ignited by sparks from a locomotive or a lightning strike.

In 1913, the state geologist started to address the issue by convincing the Legislature to appropriate funds for a forest and soil survey, but World War I interrupted the funding. In 1917, the Michigan Legislature passed the Wiley Act to curtail the predatory land sales by speculation companies.

In 1921-1922, with the war over and the state geologist now in the new Michigan Department of Conservation (today's Michigan Department of Natural Resources), he reprised the idea of the statewide survey.

At a forestry conference in 1922, the fast-rising conservationist P.S. Lovejoy championed the survey saying, "Nearly a third of all the land in Michigan has been repeatedly cut and burned over and is now producing little or nothing in taxes or anything else."

Lovejoy shared that financially stable counties had almost three times the education funding per student. Public education in Michigan is funded by property taxes. He continued to press his point.

"These conditions have been denied or winked at rather than offend local pride and because of a vague hope or theory that somehow profitable uses for the idle land would be found," Lovejoy said.

His solution was the economic survey. Lovejoy argued that the state needed to encourage the cultivation and growth of timber as a sustainable resource and a source of tax revenue and that a new survey could help reassess the value of the cutover land, balancing the local tax base and ultimately providing education funding.

Lovejoy helped launch the Land Economic Survey in 1922 as a partnership between the Michigan departments of Agriculture and Conservation, Michigan Agricultural College (now Michigan State University) and the University of Michigan.

The initial survey included Charlevoix County and then expanded, under Lovejoy's direction, to neighboring counties. In 1923, the United States Senate Committee on Conservation met in Michigan and encouraged the state to continue funding the survey as a model for the rest of the nation.

The survey crews worked hard. A typical crew surveyed three to six miles a day. There were two crews, each with a chief assistant who oversaw two field captains. The field captain supervised four foresters and four agronomists. These experts were skilled in the growing of trees or soils and the cultivation of crops.

The crews also had a couple cooks on staff to keep the workers fed in the field.

Unlike with the original surveys of the state that focused on the boundaries of counties and townships, the Land Economic Survey crews noted soil and timber types; bodies of water including streams, rivers and lakes and cultural features, including towns, schools, churches, cemeteries, resorts, mines and lumber camps.

From the initial survey, the team created a base map that other professional engineers and biologists used to create additional layer maps, including soil surveys, cultural features, farms and forests, and maps for hunting and fishing. The team also set up agricultural experiments in certain counties to provide real-time data on crop viability.

The survey work continued into the 1930s, until the Great Depression hampered its progress. The soil surveys continued until 1960, but the story doesn't end there.

The economic legacy of the survey allowed state and local officials to regain some control of a situation in free fall. While it didn't solve every economic problem, the survey provided a literal map for the region's economic future.

Now, 100 years later, the maps serve as a valuable historical resource to view the Michigan cultural and natural landscape. Researchers can compare changing forest types and agriculture, verify ghost town and lumber camp locations, track down cemeteries of family members or locate one-room schoolhouses.

The surviving maps and the records of the Michigan Department of Conservation are available for research at the Archives of Michigan in Lansing.



A LAND ECONOMIC Survey worker numbers a tree.

(Archives of Michigan image)

Workers Memorial Day emphasizes safety at work

(Continued from Page 1)
later, still kill former workers who toiled on "The Pile" in Manhattan after the 9/11 attacks.

"That's tens of thousands of families losing a parent, a child, a sibling, every single year," said Shuler. "Latino and Black workers specifically remain at greater risk of dying on the job than all workers. That is, frankly, unacceptable."

•There were 3.4 on-the-job deaths per 100,000 workers in 2020, down from 3.5/100,000 in 2019. The death rate was 5.2 deaths per 100,000 workers in 1992, dropping to 3.5/100,000 in 2009. It's stalled at between 3.3 and 3.6 deaths ever since.

•2020 death rates for Latino workers (4.5/100,000) and Black workers (3.5/100,000) were higher than the national rate. The death rate for Latino/a workers has risen 15 percent in the last decade, after declining from a peak of 6/100,000 in 2001.

•Job injuries and illnesses cost women workers more days away from jobs (585,540) than they cost men (577,990). More than half the women's losses were in health care.

•Employers reported almost 3.2 million work injuries and illnesses in 2020, and the report repeated that's an undercount. Outside studies, including those of state workers' comp claims, show the actual rate is much higher.

•The federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration lacks enough resources and people to inspect the whole country. It would need 236 years to inspect every current workplace. And about half the states perform their own inspections.

But the biggest resistance comes, still, from business and its political allies, said Reindel. "They try to block and stall worker protections," she noted.

There's one other big difference, Shuler noted: The injury and illness rates decline drastically when union contracts protect workers. "Everyone should have the right to speak out without fear and without retaliation," she declared.

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