

# SHORT CUTS

## ABC calls out Biden's union-friendly NLRB

The case for helping elect political candidates friendly to organized labor is often made clear - albeit in a contrarian fashion-by the anti-union Associated Builders and Contractors.

On Jan. 29, the ABC commented on the situation at the National Labor Relations Board, where President Trump last month made the unprecedented move of firing one of the board members - an appointee of President Biden. That left the NLRB - which is effectively a government watchdog for the rights of American workers with only two members, both Republicans, and a lack of a quorum to conduct any business.

"Under the Biden administration," said the Jan. 27 statement by the national ABC, "the NLRB aggressively pushed prounion only policies that tilted the playing field against merit shop (nonunion) contractors and free enterprise. The board's actions have often favored organized labor at the expense of employers, including those in the construction industry who rely on fair and predictable labor regulations."

Trump removed Gwynne Wilcox, the first NLRB member in history to be dismissed prior to the end of the member's fiveyear term. Wilcox has sued to challenge her removal.

Trump is accused of ignoring the National Labor Relations Act, which says board members can be removed "for neglect of duty or malfeasance in office, but for no other cause." A 90-yearold Supreme Court case established limits on the president's power to remove federal board members from their positions



FIVE BUILDINGS comprise the \$631 million Central Campus Residential Development at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. U-M is going big to address the chronic lack of undergraduate residential space on campus. Image credit: Christman Construction

## **Big residential space rises at U-M**

sity of Michigan's Central Campus will be getting some much-needed campus housing – to the tune of an additional 2,300 undergraduate beds.

Ground was broken in October 2023 on the five-building, \$631 million Central Campus Residential Development project, which will include five residence halls ranging between five and seven stories, a dining complex, and a series of green courtyard spaces and quadrangles along a broad pedestrian walkway.

The project is being managed by Christman Construction, working with its subcontractors and building trades union workers. Completion is expected in the summber of 2026.

"This new facility, on the current Elbel Field site, between Hoover Avenue and Division Streets, will enable the university to respond to the increasing demand among stu-

ANN ARBOR – Univer- Campus and better meet the needs of our growing student body," U-M said. "It will also help ensure continued excellence in the overall undergraduate experience."

> U-M reports that this will be the first residential facility built specifically for first-year students since 1963. "Over the last two decades, the university's undergraduate enrollment has increased significantly, yet our

Rendering: Stern Associates

A RENDERING of the completed Central Campus housing project at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, looking west from Hill Street. It is being built on the former Elbel Field site, which had been the practice field for the U-M marching band. dents for affordable, on-campus New expanded space for the band will made available nearby, housing on or near Central along with a new \$15.4 million practice and teaching facility.

# **Billionaires Musk**, **Bezos push Trump** to shutter NLRB

**By Harold Meyerson The American Prospect** 

On Jan. 8, even as firestorms wreaked havoc around Los Angeles, attorneys representing Amazon came to the federal courthouse in downtown L.A. to make clear that their client was still insisting on dismantling the only agency of government that enables private-sector workers to join unions and bargain collectively with their employers.

During Joe Biden's presidency, his appointees to the National Labor Relations Board - a majority of the Board's members and the agency's general counsel had strengthened workers' rights to form unions and sought to penalize employers who illegally thwarted those rights, in a manner not seen since the presidencies of Franklin Roosevelt and Harry Truman.

Vexed by the Board's determination to resurrect the letter and spirit of the original pro-worker National Labor Relations Act,

## (Continued on Page 3) Whitmer's turn: new \$3B road repair plan released

## **By Marty Mulcahy**

Editor LANSING – Now, there are dueling \$3 billion plans to fix the damn roads.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer on Feb. 10 unveiled her \$3 billon "Mi Road Ahead" plan, which her office called "fiscally responsible, balanced, and sustainable." She is proposing additional funding for Michigan road and bridge repairs by ensuring gas tax revenue goes toward fixing the roads, cutting costs within the state budget, clos-

### ing a tax loophole for marijuana and asking corporations to "pay their share" for using Michigan roads.

Why? Union gains

under Biden are a

threat to world's

Viewpoint

Amazon, as well as SpaceX and

Starbucks, had all brought law-

suits during the past year arguing

that the NLRB's power to charge

unions and employers for labor

law violations and have adminis-

trative courts hold hearings and

rule on those charges had sud-

denly become unconstitutional.

This is a power upheld by the

Supreme Court in 1937 that had

ning in 2022, both Amazon and

Starbucks had seen workers at a

number of their facilities vote to go

union, the first time either company

had experienced such an affront to

their hitherto unchallenged power.

Not coincidentally, begin-

gone unchallenged ever since.

richest men

Michigan House Speaker Matt Hall (R-Richland Twp.) on Jan. 16 unveiled his own \$3.1 billion road and bridge repair plan,

'Since day one," Whitmer said, "I've been focused on fixing the damn roads, and while I'm proud of the progress we've made, there's still a lot more to do. Today, I'm excited to introduce my brand-new plan that provides a long-term, sustainable solution

residence hall built on campus in 40 years."

The presence of a working NLRB – even if it is controlled by a Republican majority - is vital for organized labor, as fledgling unions who are trying to gain a foothold at companies like Starbucks and Amazon need to have their cases heard as a key step in the organizing process.

The traditional course of action during a presidential term changeover would be for the new president to appoint a majority on the board with members from his own party who share his vision. It is widely speculated that Trump may simply choose to ignore the openings at the NLRB, leaving the agency, and any progress for workers, dead in the water.

## **U.P. Construction** Council seeks students

MARQUETTE-The Upper Peninsula Construction Council is seeking current high school juniors to participate in its Construction Connect UP program for the 2025-26 school year.

'Students who successfully complete the program can be drafted directly into skilled trades apprenticeships, bypassing the application process altogether," said UPCC Executive Director Mike Smith.

The UPCC collaborated with its signatory contractors & U.P. building trades unions, U.P. Michigan Works, Delta-Schoolcraft ISD, Dickinson-Iron ISD and Marquette-Alger Regional Education Services Agency to develop a program that is skill-based, labor- and industryapproved and directly linked to real workplace situations.

Students' schedules need to allow for two hours in the mornings or afternoon for working, learning, and earning \$14 per hour.

To see qualification information and to apply, go to www. upmichiganworks.org.

## Quotable

"The earth is littered with the ruins of empires that believed they were eternal. -Camille Paglia (1947-)

# Upon further review... NABTU says union numbers rose in '24

### By Marty Mulcahy Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C. -"Actual headcounts" of union members under the umbrella of North America's Building Trades Unions showed a net membership growth of 49,554 in 2024, NABTU President Sean McGarvey said in a Jan. 29 statement.

'This increase, combined with 2023's record growth, marks the most significant consecutive expansion of the building trades since the 1950s," McGarvey said.

The net membership increase among NABTU's 15 affiliated international unions announced by McGarvey contradicted official government numbers issued last month by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics. The BLS numbers showed 916,000 U.S. construction workers who were "members of unions" in 2024, a loss of 38,000 from 2023.

A year ago, McGarvey pointed to the release of a report by the Institute for Construction Employment Research (ICERES) which showed that the BLS drew its data from the entire U.S. construction industry, which means it contains data that includes engineers, accountants and office

require the wearing of hard hats.

ICERCES didn't update its findings based on 2024's numbers, but last year estimated that union density in construction was much higher in 2023 (+17.9 percent) vs. BLS numbers.

From 2023 to 2024, the BLS estimated that construction union density dropped from 11.4 percent to 11.2 percent.

The ICERCES report went a step further last year, and ex-

cluded residential construction it's important to note that BLS and accounted for the rampant estimates, based on small sample worker misclassification in that sector of the industry. For the nonresidential sectors, report estimated that union density in construction was 29.9 percent for skilled tradespeople.

on-campus housing capac-

ity for undergraduate students

has not kept pace. In 2004,

the university's undergradu-

ate student-to-bed ratio was

40 percent, but today it has

dropped to just 28 percent. The

North Quad residence, built in

2010 to provide 450 beds, was

the first new undergraduate

"The latest BLS data conoutpace the overall labor market," McGarvey said. "However,

surveys, fail to capture the full picture of union construction. NABTU's verified net gain of nearly 50,000 members in 2024, based on actual headcounts, represents real, documented growth, officially reported to the U.S. firms that the union membership Department of Labor by each rate in construction continues to NABTU-affiliated union. This sustained increase reflects the

(Continued on Page 3)

## **Good start for construction in 2025,** but sector shows sign of weakness

good start to 2025 for the U.S. construction industry.

The federal Bureau of Labor Statistics reported Feb. 7 that employment in U.S. construction rose by 2.2 percent last month, with job gains (+4,400) in the nonresidential sector outweighing the mild loss of 200 residential jobs.

U.S. construction employment in January totaled 8,291,000 from December. That number rose by 178,000 jobs, or by 2.2 percent, compared to 12 months prior. During those 12 months, nonresidenworkers – occupations that don't tial construction employment rose

All in all, it's been a pretty by 2.9 percent, a slight slowdown to keep pace with demand." from the 3.1 percent increase from January 2023 to January 2024. The steady-as-she-goes level of sustained construction employment continues to vex contractors, as those workers who retire or otherwise exit the industry are outpacing new hires.

'The already tight labor market is getting tighter in the construction sector," said Jeffrey Shoaf, the Associated General Contractors' chief executive officer. "Absent difficulties, a cooling labor marnew investments in construction training and work authorization programs, it will be hard for firms AGC said.

But are there changes on the horizon? A separate BLS report issued in early February showed there were 217,000 job openings in construction at the end of December. But the number of open positions have declined for five consecutive months, and by 50 percent since December 2024.

"The sharp decline in openings suggests a turning point - potentially driven by hiring

to fix our roads so we can help more Michiganders stay safe on the road, save money, and get where they're going faster."

Whitmer's plan calls for \$1.7 billion in new revenue from "massive corporations" such as Amazon, X, Facebook and Tik Tok to "pay their fair share to do business in Michigan and use Michigan roadways." That would seemingly apply to delivery giant Amazon more than others. Not really related to impact on the roads, her plan also seeks to derive more money from "big tech" industries, that "bombard Michiganders with nuisance pop up advertisements that inconvenience consumers."

The governor said her plan would further be funded by directly allocating to road work the \$1.2 billion that state drivers pay in sales taxes at the gas pump. Currently, 25 percent of those funds are diverted elsewhere in the state's budget. Another \$500 million would come from unnamed budget state budget cuts.

And \$470 million would come from eliminating a tax exemption for the state's marijuana industry.

Hall's plan also pledges to raise the money without raising taxes. Like Whitmer's, his plan would permanently dedicate all taxes paid at the pump to ket, or growing uncertainty about road funding, while reallocating impending policy changes," the another \$2.2 billion in existing (Continued on Page 2)

# Students get building trades career lessons

#### By Marty Mulcahy, Editor

COOPERSVILLE - Interested in a career in the pipe trades? Or how about becoming an electrician?

High school students in West Michigan who might have had those questions were given an opportunity to get answers about a future career in those trades, as they met with apprentices, journeymen and training professionals at the apprenticeship schools of IBEW Local 275 and Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 174.

The "Construction Field Trip" organized by West Michigan Works! in conjunction with the local union training centers, welcomed 85-90 junior and senior high school students for half a day on Feb. 5 at each union school. The students were bused in from six educational organizations, including the Kent County Intermediate School District and the Muskegon Career Technical Center.

"The event gave the students an opportunity to learn about the trades and a possible (Continued on Page 12)

FOURTH-YEAR UA Local 174 apprentices (I-r) Andrew Fredrickson, Jake Boer and Jacob O'Brien tell a group of high schoolers what they can expect in a career in the pipe trades during a Feb. 5 "Construction Field Trip" event at the union's apprenticeship school.



February 21, 2025

# **Viewpoints**

## Into the arms of unions

In their aggressive bid to upend the federal government, Elon Musk and his lieutenants have, perhaps unintentionally, driven thousands of federal workers into the arms of one of the biggest enemies of their sweeping project. Organized labor.

Unions that represent federal government workers are reporting significant increases in signups since President Trump took office and empowered Musk's "Department of Government Efficiency" to drastically slash the federal workforce.

The American Federation of Government Employees, the largest union representing federal workers, added 5,575 new members in the first six days of February alone. By comparison, the union gained 14,996 new members during all of 2024.

Currently, AFGE has 319,233 active members – a record, exceeding its previous high-water mark in 2018, during the first Trump Administration. At another large federal workers union, the National Federation of Federal Employees, membership is "going through the roof," said union president Randy Erwin.

'Our phones have been ringing off the hook from our members, from the media, but also from people who are unrepresented who want union representation for the first time," Erwin said. "People are signing up in droves."

It is not hard to understand why. Trump and Musk have quickly and bluntly made clear to the vast majority of the nation's roughly 3 million federal workers that their jobs are at risk, a threat union leaders describe as unprecedented. "If you don't have union representation," said Erwin, "you might as well consider yourself an at-will employee under this administration."

Less than three weeks into the new administration, DOGE has already effectively crippled one federal agency, the U.S. Agency for International Development, where the administration is trying to fire all but 290 of its 10,000 workers. Employees at other federal agencies who work on projects Trump and Musk do not favor have been abruptly put on "administrative leave," including 160 employees at the Environmental Protection Agency's environmental justice division. This could represent merely an opening salvo; before the inauguration. Musk talked about cutting the federal workforce by 75 percent.

With Democrats sidelined in Washington, organized labor will likely be the key player in lawsuits over the administration's plans. They will also be marshaling their membership to galvanize elected officials, and public opinion, against the deep government cuts. And they'll be looking to continue expanding membership, given federal employees are not required to join unions.

This moment puts public sector unions "at the front lines not just of defending their negotiated contracts and rights but defending the rule of law and democracy itself," said Jennifer Sherer, a labor advocate who analyzes labor policy at the left-leaning Economic Policy Institute. "It's not surprising that folks are looking to unions for accurate and timely guidance on the directives that they're being given," she said.

The task for unions comes at a complex political moment for organized labor. Trump won in 2024 with more organized labor support than any Republican candidate in generations. Public sector unions represent a workforce that Trump and his allies have long antagonized as the "swamp" or the "deep state," building on decades of Republican animosity toward union representation of government workplaces.

In the 2024 campaign, the Project 2025 policy blueprint drafted by Trump allies - which is increasingly being carried out now asserted that government employee unions were incompatible with democracy and suggested Congress consider banning them. DOGE's assault on the federal government may revitalize the public sector unions that Trump and conservatives want to marginalize. Sam Brodey, via *Portside* 



## Men on the move

MOVING A GANTRY at the Oakland Community College Culinary School in Royal Oak are electricians (l-r) William Jung and Jason Hagemeister. The IBEW Local 58 members are employed by Centerline Electric.

## New \$3B road repair plan released

#### (Continued from Page 1)

state expenditures toward roads. Within that \$2.2 billion, about \$1 billion would be raised from eliminating legislative earmarks (lawmakers' pet projects) and corporate subsidies.

For decades, Michigan's lawmakers have acknowledged the state's chronic road funding deficit and the resulting substandard state of our roads and

bridges. But they have struggled with how to come up with a funding source. A gas tax hike, vehicle registration fee increase, money shifts from other parts of the state budget, toll roads – all have been floated. Whitmer's first attempt -a45 cent gas tax increase in 2019 – was ignored by GOP lawmakers.

The latest estimate by the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association says

Michigan needs to spend an additional \$3.9 billion a year to improve its roads and bridges to

The initial reactions to each other's plans were cordial, and noncommittal. "I appreciate Gov. Whitmer's joining the conversation on this issue and I look forward to working together to ensure Michigan drivers get the safe, reliable roads they deserve." Hall said.

simply to say: Hey, why are the

so-called "leaders" of both of our

political parties kowtowing to the

painful ignorance, arrogance, and

avarice of the most self-serving

group of egos in the world: Bil-

is a jabbering jerk, Mark Zucker-

berg is a pathetic whiner, and Jeff

Bezos cluelessly floats around

on a garish yacht he financed by

underpaying and mistreating his

about schoolteachers, family

farmers, mechanics, cooks - and

other everyday people who re-

ally make things work? America

needs to start listening to them...

and reinvesting in their genuine

These are our giants? What

Look at them - Elon Musk

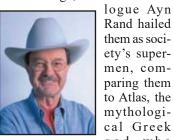
lionaires!

workers.

genius.

## We celebrate corporate boneheads...why?

By Jim Hightower Corporate chieftains are giants, even geniuses - right? Years ago, laissez-faire ideo-



god who "holds the world on his shoulders."

But look, here comes one of her modern-day gods now Timothy Wentworth! He stands astride Walgreens, the multibillion-dollar drugstore conglomerate.

Last month, Wentworth demonstrated his corporate prowess by offering a stunning insight. He noted that, with shoplifting on the rise, chains like his had reacted by moving much of their merchandise into locked display cases. But the ever-alert Big Boss has now deduced that this impacts sales, "because when you lock things up, for example, you don't sell as many of them." Wow... pure genius!

Did I mention that Walgreens pays Timothy \$13 million a year? Or, that his monopolistic chain is closing some 1,200 of its "lessprofitable" stores, which will leave entire communities with no pharmacies to meet their crucial needs? My point is not to dispar-

age one silly corporate boss, but

"good" or "fair" condition.

## Just joking

A priest was being honored at his retirement dinner after 25 years in the parish.

A longtime elder mem-



ber of the congregation was chosen to make a presentation and give a little speech at the dinner. However, he was

delayed, so the priest decided to say his own few words while they waited.

"I got my first impression of the parish from the first confession I heard here," he said. "I thought I had been assigned to a terrible place!" The audience laughed nervously.

"The very first person who entered my confessional told me he had robbed his neighbor's house, and when he was questioned by the police, he said he lied his way out of it. That he had stolen money from his parents, embezzled from his employer, and had an affair with his boss's wife.

"I was appalled, but as the days went on, I learned that the rest of this congregation was not like him at all! Indeed, I came to a fine parish full of good and loving people."

Just as the priest finished his words, the elder arrived full of apologies at being late. He immediately began his presentation. "I'll never forget the first day our new parish priest arrived," said the man said, gesturing to the priest. "In fact, as I recall I had the honor of being the first person to go to him for confession ..... "

"What's another word for Thesaurus?

-Steven Wright (1955 - )

'The policy of being too cautious is the greatest risk of all." -Jawaharlal Nehru (1889 -1964)

"Tact is the knack of making a point without making an enemy.'

-Isaac Newton (1642 - 1727)



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## **BUILDING MICHIGAN:** Camp Grayling **HISTORY IN THE MAKING** By Marty Mulcahy



THE MOST SIGNIFICANT historic building at Camp Grayling is the Officers Club, which is a gathering place for military officers to relax and socialize. It was added to the list of Michigan State Historic Sites in 1978. "Built in 1917," says the Grayling Chamber of Commerce, "it has since served as the focal point for the social and formal functions of the Michigan National Guard Officer Corps. Reminiscent of the architecture that is typical of southern military structures, the colonnaded veranda and symmetrically spaced dormers set into the low hipped roof are common to militia camps and army posts erected at the turn of the century. The Officers Club has been in continuous operation since its inception." The Officers Club can be reserved (by officers) for weddings, celebrations, and more, with a large ballroom downstairs available for their use. The ten rooms upstairs allow for overnight stays for officers. This photo is undated.

Tall, grand, historic, interesting, unique – Michigan has its share of buildings that fit one or more of those descriptions, but they really don't apply to the no-frills, utilitarian collection of housing, mess halls and offices at Camp Grayling. Although some pro-1940s buildings, like the Officers Club, have some historic interest.

Instead, Camp Grayling packs its historical punch in other ways. Starting with its local economic impact and topographical footprint, which is simply massive – the camp is spread across 147,000 acres in three counties in the northern Lower Peninsula.

"Camp Grayling is the largest National Guard training facility in the U.S., due to its many ranges and ample maneuver areas," says the Grayling Convention and Visitors Bureau. "Each year, Camp Grayling typically schedules training for over 20,000 military personnel from National Guard units in Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Ohio, as well as regular Army and Reserve units. The installation provides over 200 full-time jobs to local residents, making Camp Grayling one of the largest employers in Crawford County. Camp activities generate over \$20 million annually in local economic impact." Camp Grayling was founded in 1913, with a land grant from lumber baron Rasmus Hanson to the State of Michigan for the use of the military. The camp initially had 13,760 acres, and includes picturesque Lake Margrethe, named after Hanson's wife. The land grant was made a few years before the U.S. involvement in World War I and in time to host Army training for the Great War. The camp would subsequently be used for infantry training during World War II and for training by Marines in the Vietnam War. Warfare preparedness training changed over the decades, and Camp Grayling's infrastructure changed along with it. The Grayling Army Airfield was built from 1927-1929, and then its runways were black-topped in 1936. The camp eventually added artillery training, and could host multiple, different groups of infantry training at the same time. Pilots could fly while

practice infantry and cavalry maneuvers and artillery live fire drills went on around the landscape.

Camp Grayling grew over the years to its present size, and is spread over Crawford, Kalkaska and Otsego counties. The National Guard has maintained the airfield except during World War II when the federal government assumed responsibility. Today's camp includes modern support facilities, 9,938 acres of live fire area, 2,781 acres of duded impact area (where ordnance duds are detonated or impacted), and 17,246 acres of maneuver space.

The Grayling Army Airfield, one mile northwest of the host city's downtown, is owned by the Army, and contains two 5,000-foot intersecting runways, which are long enough to accommodate turbo props, light jets, and mid-size jets, and military C-130 and C-17 aircraft. The site can accommodate parking for 100 helicopters. There is an 800-squarefoot operations building which includes an operations center, flight planning room, safety office, commander's office, and a weather room. Additionally, the airfield contains a 6,400-square-foot maintenance hangar, crash rescue barn and navigational aid area. Noting that Camp Grayling is the nation's largest military installation east of the Mississippi, John Clevenger, writing for The Military History of the Upper Great Lakes, said today's camp "can house up to 13,649 personnel and can feed up to 11,900 with its 70 dining facilities. There are 15 battalion headquarter buildings for administration and supply needs. The camp also has an ammunition supply point on base to handle any ordnance requirements of the training sessions. Seven vehicle buildings house up to 527 tracked vehicles, including 77 M-1 tanks that can be used during

training. It also has bulk fuel sites providing fuel for all the on-base vehicles."

During the camp's yearround training session, Clevenger writes that "artillery, mortar, tank and infantry maneuvers are practiced as well as unit-wide operation simulations. The camp also has several specialized training grounds, including urban assault ranges, an IED (improvised explosive device) range, used for learning how to protect from IEDs, a 10.2-mile live fire convoy commander's reaction range, rappeling tower, water operations, helicopter door gunnery range, anti-armor range, POW compound, demolition range, nuclear/biological/chemical chamber, parachute/drop zone and a small arms range that the local law enforcement also uses for training. The air field is also used for training air-to-ground munition delivery missions."

The National Guard calls its facility "a premier, worldclass Joint Maneuver Training Center. Camp Grayling is a leader in providing efficient, unparalleled customer-focused service and the highest level of modern training. Support resources are scheduled yearround to provide a wide range of high-quality training service members, emergency responders and private-sector customers worldwide." The site has a partnership with the Northern **Michigan Law Enforcement** group for training purposes. Camp Grayling has more than 600 soldiers in traditional Army National Guard units regularly assigned to it. Located in a sparsely populated area along I-75 at M-72, most state residents are only aware of its goings-on when they see service men and women assigned to the camp driving militry vehicles up and down the freeway. On behalf of the State of Michigan, we appreciate the work they do and having them around.

# **Billionaires Musk, Bezos** push Trump to shutter NLRB

(Continued from Page 1) (Though no major organizing campaign was under way at SpaceX, the Board did charge the company with two labor law violations over illegal firings, which was all it took to prompt CEO Elon Musk to file suit against the NLRB as well.)

As is the norm for American employers, both Amazon and Starbucks have yet to sign contracts with any of their workers who voted to go union.

Amazon argues that its now three-year refusal to bargain with Staten Island warehouse workers who voted to unionize in early 2022 doesn't violate the nation's labor law. It also argues that its California, New York, Illinois, and Georgia delivery drivers who've voted to join the Teamsters - who deliver packages from Amazon warehouses, driving Amazon trucks, wearing Amazon uniforms, obeying Amazon's productivity standards, and who are surveilled by Amazon cameras in their Amazon cabs aren't really Amazon employees, since Amazon franchises out its driving operations to third-party contracting companies.

This means that the new Board will surely reverse several Biden NLRB rulings in short order. Like the one that had held the mega-companies that franchise out their work to contractors jointly responsible for labor law violations at those contractors, and for refusing to enter into bargaining with those franchised workers.

Like the Cemex ruling, which compelled employers to begin bargaining with their workers when those employers had been found to have violated labor law and when a majority of those workers had affiliated with a union.

Like the Biden NLRB ruling that instructed Amazon to bargain with drivers at its Palmdale facility in northern L.A. County, who'd voted to join the Teamsters, to which Amazon had responded by dropping its contract with the contractor (who was the drivers' nominal employer) and claiming it had no obligation to bargain with those workers.

But despite the impending 180-degree shift in the composition and posture of the NLRB, Amazon's attorneys weren't content to let the new Trump NLRB reverse its ruling on joint employers, or undo the increase in penalties employers face for their all-but-routine violations of

Los Angeles (where the Palm-

and their conditions of work.

filed in Texas because federal

labor law.

district courts there, and in particular the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals there, are famously Neanderthal-style right-wing. The NLRB has filed to move the case to Washington, D.C.

Even though the combined wealth of Bezos and Musk now exceeds an almost incomprehensible half a trillion dollars, they have glimpsed spotty clouds on their earnings horizon.

In 2024, Gallup put unions' approval rating at 71 percent, while the share of Americans who had a "great deal" of confidence in big business stood at a bare 6 percent. Worse yet, the Biden NLRB was imposing actual penalties – like being compelled to enter bargaining - on employers who illegally threatened or fired workers seeking unionization.

For years, the only penalty imposed on employers had been to reinstate the workers they'd illegally fired, fork over their back pay, and post a notice in the workplace saying they'd violated the NLRA, which is small potatoes when compared to having workers with whom they are actually compelled to bargain.

And when Republicans controlled the NLRB, employers could often avoid even those mini-sanctions.

In federal court in San Antonio, Amazon's attorneys have not contented themselves with simply contesting the constitutionality of the NLRB. They've also sought an injunction immediately forbidding the NLRB from issuing a final ruling on the cases brought against it, arguing that to do so suddenly constitutes "irreparable harm" against the company, despite the fact that NLRB rulings are not self-enforcing and that Amazon can appeal that ruling or any such ruling in federal courts, a process that can take months or even years.

Julie Gutman Dickinson, the attorney who represents the Teamsters in these proceedings, notes that Amazon had "brought 43 charges against the Teamsters and Amazon Labor Union (the union of the Staten Island warehouse workers, who later voted to affiliate with the Teamsters) before the Board.

They consistently availed themselves of process" - until, apparently, they decided the one way they could ensure they'd prevail was to shut down the NLRB altogether.

After almost 90 years during

and against employers and for and against workers, it suddenly became a matter of immediate urgency to shut the Board down through a court injunction.

Attorneys for both Bezos and Musk have likely calculated that the ferociously anti-union Supreme Court Justice Sam Alito may be able to assemble enough of his Supreme Court colleagues to curtail at least some of the NLRB's fundamental powers.

They are doubtless also encouraged by the Court's 6-3 decision last year to curtail the regulatory powers of federal agencies and leave it to the courts to determine which rules and regulations pass muster.

Whether or not Amazon gets its injunction, it can still press its case against the NLRB, just as SpaceX and Starbucks can press theirs. It's not clear that Trump's NLRB will continue to oppose those companies in court: if it chooses not to, the Teamsters (for the Amazon workers) and Workers United (for the Starbucks baristas) will continue to try to keep the NLRB up and running.

As there's no union involvement at SpaceX, however, Musk's lawyers could continue unopposed if President Trump (or de facto President Musk) tells the NLRB to drop the case, and effectively, to drop out of sight.

## **NABTU** says membership numbers rose in '24

(Continued from Page 1) steady market share expansion we have experienced since 2012."

McGarvey said there's more membership where that came from, with a "record-breaking" 314,958 union apprentices now enrolled in its registered apprenticeship programs nationwide.

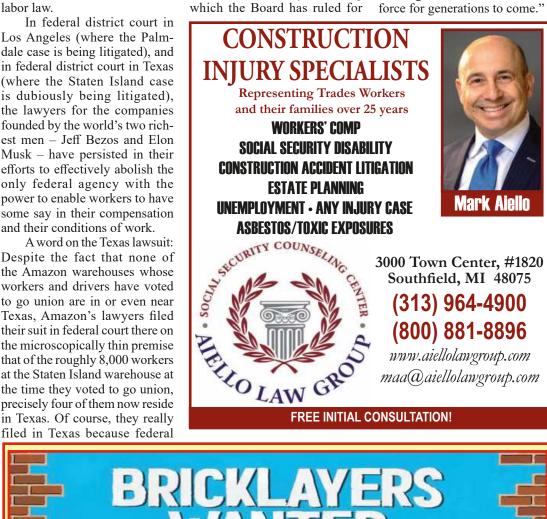
"This unmatched workforce development investment rooted in collective bargaining with our contractor partners ensures a robust pipeline of the most highly skilled workers to meet industry demands," he said. "With a strong construction economy ahead, we remain confident in continuing this momentum - expanding opportunities for even more workers to join our ranks and building a stronger, more resilient work-

**CAMP GRAYLING takes up** some serious real estate in the northern Lower Peninsula.





THIS UNDATED World War I-era photo shows a Michigan National Guard encampment on "Headquarters Hill" at Camp Grayling.





# Local 2 members:

Journeymen Bricklayers in the Metro Detroit Area get \$38.45 an hour, plus fully paid Health **Insurance, and 2 Pensions. Our Contractors have immediate opening** for Skilled Bricklayers, and Masonry **Restoration Workers.** 

For more information go to: bricklayers.org



## Service Technicians, **Gas** Distribution

UA Local 190

ANN ARBOR – UNION **MEETING:** A monthly union meeting will be held Monday, March 10 and will start at 6 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, MI. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

ATTENTION MI GAS **DISTRIBUTION MEMBERS:** A "Special Called Meeting" for the Michigan Gas Distribution Wage Allocation has been scheduled for Saturday, April 5 from 9 a.m. until Noon at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, 6800 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mt Pleasant, MI 48858.

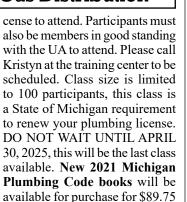
GAS DISTRIBUTION **APPRENTICES DOWN HILL** WELDING TRAINING & HELPER TRAINING: Will begin Monday, Jan. 6 and run for  $2\frac{1}{2}$  months. This class will be held at the training center Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. *In order to take* the journeyman gas distribution weld test, you must attend this training as a prerequisite. Please note that 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> year gas apprentices have preference to sign up for this welding training. Limited space is available, contact Pat Duffy 734-368-4423, Roy Musgrove 734-646-8838 or Ralph Booth at 734-369-1432.

**IMPORTANT REMIND-**ER 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 contactor and the date you *reported back to work*. PLEASE NOTE: All Members can now go to the website under "members only" and fill out a "back to work" form or "laid off" form.

MICHIGAN GAS DISTRI-**BUTION JOURNEYMAN: If** you are currently laid off and you would like to work building trades, please contact Kristyn at out Training Center to get information on a UA 21 Weld Certification. 734-426-3700 Ext. 1.

FUSING CLASS: Anyone interested in registering for the fusing class, please contact Business Agent Pat Duffy at (734) 368-4423, Business Agent Roy Musgrove 734-646-8838 or Ralph Booth at (734) 369-1432.

MICHIGAN GAS DIS-



Plumbers,

Pipe Fitters,

The Training Center is open to members wishing to update any certifications, licenses, or qualifications. Office hours of operation are Monday through Thursday 8am. to 5 pm. Friday 8am. to 4 pm. We will be closed for lunch from Noon to 1pm. Please give Kristyn a call with questions regarding certifications and training schedules or visit us on UA190.org members only section under training to register for classes online.

Please submit all continuities, certifications and licenses to the Training Center, so we can keep your profiles up to date. Email: kristyn@190jtc. com or mail to 8040 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, MI. 48103

Available Journeyman classes:

UASTAR EXAM (4 hrs): Any member needing a Pipefitting, Plumbing, HVACR UA Mastery STAR Exam for recertification or new certification, please preregister through the website: ua190.org. Schedule – Monday, May 5. The initial STAR Certification fee is \$150, STAR Recertification fee is **\$100** Contact Kristyn to schedule with payment.

Lead/Asbestos/Bloodborne Pathogens Training (4 hrs): Please register through the website: ua190.org 2025 Schedule - Mondays – April 21, July 21, & Sept. **29**. Each class will start at 5 pm.

First Aid/CPR Training (4 *hrs*): Please register through the website: ua190.org 2025 Schedule - Mondays - Feb. 24, April 28, July 28, and Oct. 6. Each class will start at 5 pm.

Welding Fundamentals (40 hrs): This class is designed for apprentices & journeymen who have little to no welding experience and want to learn the fundamentals of SMAW (Stick), and GTAW (TIG) welding. This course will cover welding procedures (WPS), UA certifications (UA-21, UA-22, UA-41), basic metallurgy, weld process selection, machine setup, welding symbols, welding positions, welding electrodes and consumables, weld preparation, shielding gasses, and welder safety. Participants will receive training on the Lincoln Virtual Welding Machine (VR), before heading into the welding lab. Call the Training Center to secure your spot, dates to be announced later.



## UA Local 357

KALAMAZOO - UNION MEETING: The next regular Union Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 11 at 6:30 pm. Other meetings that day will be the Finance Committee at 4:30 and the Executive Board at 5:30.

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

**RETIREE MEETINGS:** lunch meetings will now be BREAKFAST on the 1st Monday of every month. Breakfast will commence at 9 am at The Crew, 5200 Portage Rd, Portage, MI. The phone number for the location is (269) 337-9800.

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

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

**CONGRATULATIONS:** Congratulations to Tyler Miller, and family, on the birth of a daughter, Sawyer.

Congratulations to Bradley Leep, and family, on the birth of twins. A daughter, Josephine and a son, Jett.

**CONDOLENCES:** Condolences to John Vanderberg and his family on the recent passing of





The Ulliance Member Assistance Program will be available to all members and retirees starting March 1. This benefit includes free and confidential mental health counseling, coaching, and 24/7 crisis support. In addition, there are free 30-minute consultations for legal and financial matters. There is a great discount program for goods and services as well as free identity theft protection. To find out more, go to lifeadvisor.

Scholarship Applications for the 2025-2026 school year are now available on our website at ualocal370.org. The applicant must be a son or daughter of a member in good standing of UA Local 370. Complete lists of qualifications and applications are also available at Local 370 hall. Applications are due by the end of May.

Retiree Breakfast will be on Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. **Upcoming Night Class** 

Schedule: A2L Safe Handling of Mildly Flammable Refrigerant March 4<sup>th</sup>,5<sup>th</sup>,6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> 5:00 – 7:00pm

The test will be on March 7th, Night Welding March 3<sup>rd</sup> thru the 27th Mondays and Thursdays 4:30 - 7:30 Medical Gas Installer The

refresher test will be on March 4th. Book fee \$140

Backflow Mar. 3<sup>rd</sup> thru Apr. 2 – Mondays & Wednesdays 4:30 - 7:30. The testing will be on April 7th and 9th

First Aid & CPR March 19, 2025, and Sept. 17, 2025

All classes and test days can be signed up with the Training Center at 810-720-5243 Ext 15 or at training@ualocal370.org

2021 Plumbing Code Books now available. Cost is \$85. Check or money order only.

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,



UA Local 333

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LANSING - March's union meeting will be held Wednesday, March 19, 2025, at 6:30pm at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 48911

April's union meeting will be held Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at 6:30pm at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 48911

We will start the nighttime rigging class on March 18 and run it two nights a week, Tuesdays and Thursdays, for eight weeks, for 45 hours of training. Weekly

Dates	Hours of Training
3/18/25 & 3/20/25	6
3/25/25 & 3/27/25	6
4/01/25 & 4/03/25	6
4/08/25 & 4/10/25	6
4/15/25 & 4/17/25	6
4/22/25 & 4/24/25	6
4/29/25 & 5/01/25	6
5/06/25	3
5/08/25 Exam	

Practical Exam 5/09/24

Winter Weld Classes:

Lansing: Starting January 6, 2025

Advanced Weld Class: Monday's & Wednesday's 4:30 - 8:30 (10 weeks)

Beginners Weld Class: Tuesday's & Thursday's 4:30 - 8:30 pm (10 weeks)

Jackson: Starting January 13, 2025

Advanced Weld Class: Monday's & Wednesday's 4:30 - 8:30 pm (10 weeks)

Beginners Weld Class: Tuesday's & Thursday's 4:30 - 8:30 pm (10 weeks)

Advanced Pipefitting class Tuesday's & Thursday's 4:30-8:30 pm (10 weeks)

**Battle Creek:** 

Jan. 13, 2025 Monday's & Thursday's 4:30 - 8:30 pm (10 weeks) Lansing Orbital Welding MIG CLASS: Must have UA21-Class will begin when 6 members have signed-up.

CPR and First Aid: Class will begin when 10 members sign up. Lansing Orbital Welding: 40 hours. You must have your UA21 and UA41 - Class will begin when 6 members have signed-up.

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

Medical Gas Certification will begin Jan. 13, 2025 5-8 pm Backflow Recertification will begin Feb. 24, 2025 5-8 pm

Medical Gas Recertification will begin Feb. 26, 2025 5-8 pm

Fundamental of Gas Heating & Combustion Class begins Jan. 9, 2025, through March 6, 2025 from 5-8 pm. Classes will be held at the Jackson Training Center, 3101 Allied Industrial Dr. Jackson, MI. 49201. Please sign up on the website or call the Lansing Training Center at 517.323.0333.

Battle Creek Retirees' Breakfasts are held on the fourth Thursday of every month at Lux Café. 2587 Capital Ave, Battle Creek, MI. at 9 am. Please spread the word.

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

If you have any life changes, address, phone number, divorce or birth. Please contact the Lansing office to receive the essential paperwork and to make the necessary changes.

DUES: Please check your dues receipts to make sure your dues are paid. Dues can be paid with debit, or credit card, a check or money order. Deepest sympathy to Constance Thornburg on the loss of her

husband who passed away Feb. 7, 2025 at the age of 79. Richard

UA Local 370 FLINT - The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 11, 2025, at 7 pm.

com or call 800-448-8326.

**FRIBUTION - 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 **RENEWALS:** are done online ONLY! For detailed instructions and requirements, please visit: www.michigan.gov/bcc. 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"

**INFORMATION** FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: Annual physicals need to be completed by Oct. 31, 2025. Please remember to bring in the 2025 Annual Physical Verification Form and email the completed form to Bernadette Maus bmaus@ua190.org. This form is on our Local 190 website UA190.org and also the Benefits website UA190benefits.org

NEW BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD APP FOR YOUR SMART DEVICE: This will allow you to see a copy of your BCBS card, review your claims, explanation benefits and much more. Download: BCBSM

Bernadette Maus will be available by phone Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or in person Mondays and Wednesdays at Local 190's office from 7:30 a.m. until Noon and 1-4:30 p.m., please contact her directly at (888) 390-7473 to schedule an appointment.

Bernadette's office entrance door is in the back of our building and is marked "Bernadette Maus – Benefits Manager") Please use this entrance door for Bernadette

**MEDICARE:** When you become eligible for Medicare, please contact Bernadette Maus.

The last 2021 State of Michigan Plumbing Code Update is scheduled for April 7, at the UA 190 Union Hall, 7920 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, MI. 48103. From 5-8:30pm. Please show up at least half an hour early to check in. Late arrivals will not be registered and must be rescheduled. Participants must bring their State Photo ID, Union Card, and current Plumbing Li-

Welding Lab: Currently open welding lab is Monday through Thursday 4pm to 8:30pm and Saturdays 7am to 3:30pm. There is limited space and first come first served. Saturdays will only remain open with member participation. Welding tests will be scheduled after participants are approved by welding instructors and the training coordinator.

ASSE Backflow Certification (40hrs): This is a 40hour class, to become an ASSE Certified Backflow Tester (5110). 2025 Schedule: The second course starts Sept 9. Courses run on Wednesday and Thursday for 5 weeks and are limited to 8 participants. Call the Training Center to secure your spot or register through the website: ua190.org

ASSE Backflow Re-Certification (8hrs): ASSE PRICE **INCREASE** ASSE has increased the retesting fee to **\$85** for this recertification. Re-certification for the ASSE Backflow Tester (5110). 2025 Schedule: The second course starts May 6. The third course starts Oct 14. Courses are on Tue and Wed and start at 5 pm. Each course is limited to 8. Call the Training Center to sign up or register through the website: ua190.org

Med Gas Installer and **Brazer Certification (40hrs):** This is a mandatory 40-hour class to be Med Gas certified. You must have a minimum of 4 years, documented experience in the plumbing and/or piping industry. 2025 Schedule: First course starts March 11. The second course starts Sept. 2. Courses will run for 5 weeks, Tue and Thur. These courses are

(Continued next column)

his wife, Laurie.

Condolences to Chip Conine and his family on the recent passing of his wife, Laurie.

## Local 190, con't

limited to 16 participants. Call the Training Center to sign up for one of these courses or register through the website: ua190.org

Med Gas Installer Up-Date (8hrs): This is a two-day course. 2025 Schedule: First course starts April 22, Second course starts Oct. 7. Courses will be on Tue and Thu and are limited to 24 participants, per course. Call the Training Center to be put on the list for the next class or register through the website: ua190.org

ASSE 12010 ICRA Certification for Infection Control and **Risk Assessment for Construc**tion Workers (16hrs): This is a four-day course. 2025 schedule: course to be announced later.

EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be Winter/Spring 2025. The class size is limited to 8. Please register through the website: ua190.org

EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs): This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Classes are scheduled for the following dates: the course is to be announced later. Please register through the website: ua190.org

**CONDOLENCES:** Our lifetime member Bernard Walters passed away on Jan. 30. Bernard initiated Aug.11, 1969, retired Dec. 1, 1993 and became a lifetime member Aug. 1, 2019. To all family members and friends, may our condolences bring you comfort and may our prayers ease the pain of this loss.

**RETIREE MEETINGS** PLEASE JOIN US: Our next Spades meeting will start at 9 a.m. on Thursday, March 6 at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and coffee. March 11<sup>th</sup> ,2025 at 4:00pm FMR Committee – Tuesday,

March 11, 2025 at 4:00pm PAC committee – Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>,2025 at 5:00pm

Executive Board -Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>,2025, at 5:00pm

Building Committee - Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>,2025 at 6:00pm Finance Committee -Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>,2025 at 6:15pm

JATC Committee – TBD

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

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

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

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

Attention All Active Members in Good Standing. The Joint Apprentice and Training Committee voted to reimburse any active member of Local 370 that takes and passes any training, testing or certification that may be required to perform their work. This includes 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 (Continued next column)

retired on June 01, 2004 and became a Life Member December 2015. We are so very sorry for your loss.

Sincere condolences to the family and friends of Ronald Underhill, who passed away Feb. 9, 2025 at the age of 92. Ron became a Life Member on Oct. 17, 2006. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this sorrowful time.

Our thoughts and prayer are with Jordan Grove on the loss of his mother.

UA Local 333 Awards Banquet will be held for our members who are receiving their 30-year to 65-year pins and certificates on

Local 370, con't 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 \$1.00 per month charge added to the monthly window dues fee and a 3% fee for all other transactions.

Remember to keep your dues current. Any member failing to pay for 3 months shall stand suspended, unable to vote for a period of 1 year or run for office for a period of 2 years and subject to a \$50.00 reinstatement fee. Dues must be paid in 3-month increments according to our 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, Zach Desrochers for application and testing dates.

Local 370 ball caps and winter fleece caps are available at the union offices. Ball caps \$10.00 and fleece caps \$5.00. Pocket Tee shirts are available for \$10 dollars each. Hooded sweat shirts and long sleeve pocket tee shirts are 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 no. is 1-888-797-5862.

May 10, 2025, at the Crowne Plaza Lansing West. Invitations will be mailed to our members who will be receiving an award. Please, please, please RSVP for this event once you receive your invitation and plan on attending.

"The Ulliance Member Assistance Program is available to all members and their families. This benefit includes free and confidential mental health counseling, coaching, and 24/7 crisis support.

In addition, there are free 30-minute consultations for legal and financial matters. There is a great discount program for goods and services as well as free identity theft protection. To find out more, go to lifeadvisor.com or call 800-448-8326 or call your respective agent or Dustin at the Union Hall..

"Never underestimate the determination of a kid who is time rich and cash poor.' –Cory Doctorow

"Accept the pain, cherish the joys, resolve the regrets; then can come the best of benedictions -'If I had my life to live over, I'd do it all the same.

-Joan McIntosh

"We should be eternally vigilant against attempts to check the expression of opinions that we loathe."

- Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. (1841 - 1935)

"People seldom become famous for what they say until after they are famous for what they've done.

-Cullen Hightower

"A loud voice cannot compete with a clear voice, even if it's a whisper.

–Barry Neil Kaufman



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

UA Local 636

DETROIT - Our next regular Union meeting is March 18, 2025 at St. George Romanian Cultural Center 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. (Southfield Service Dr.) Southfield, MI 48075

2 Special Called Meetings will be held: April 15, 2025 for allocation

of new monies. Any suggestions on allocations should be emailed to the Business Manager at Ikrisniski@pipefitters636.org.

May 20, 2025 for the reading of our yearly financial report.

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

For any member that couldn't make the Annual Awards & Christmas Banquet, the Years of Service Awards and pins are available to pick up at the Union Hall until March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. The remaining will then be mailed.

Special Announcement as of 1/1/2025 all active, retired, and opt-out members are being enrolled in vision coverage through Delta/VSP Vision for details please contact the Union Hall 248-538-6636 or BeneSys at 888-646-8920.

### CALLING ALL RETIR-EES! The next meeting will be held March 20, 2025.

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

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

**Deceased Members** – Lifetime Member Raymond Johnsick January 10, 2025; Lifetime Member Douglas Huff January 10, 2025; Lifetime Member William W. Kurtzhals father of William Kurtzhals Jr. and nephew Rusty Kurtzhals, January 9, 2025

Get Well Wishes to; Lawrence A. Krisniski, Don Bagozzi, Terry Gilligan, Chris Fye, David Hochstein, Thomas L. Williams Jr, Justin Morgan, Ron Sarata, Ramy Abubaker, Joshua Allen, Alex Block, Eric Cochrane, Michael Downey, Brian Dyer, Ryan Girard, Kristofer Gojcaj, Jamey Guthrie, Tanya Holland, Jason Howe, Earl Marshall Jr., Jason McNamara, John Nemecek, Branden Rodzik, Ryan Seitz, Patrick Stephens, Buddy Woods, Aaron Wright, Bryan Durand. Following is a list of recent Retirees who have passed their tools and knowledge to the next generation. We thank them for their time in the field advancing our trade and the Brother/Sisterhood they continue to show in our local. Congratulations on your retirement! January 2025; Greg Curlee, Jeffrey Gillies, Mark Hammons, Leonard Koskodan, Richard Mortz, James Tayor. Congratulations to John & Kaitlyn Nemecek on the birth of their daughter Natalie Mae on January 29, 2025. Congratulations to Jon Zoner & Tami Beley on the birth of their daughter Charlotte on January 25, 2025. DUES-1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Dues are due now. Your dues receipt will now be emailed to you; this will help us save on the cost of mailing receipts. Please call the Local to update your email and phone numbers. Local 636 has set up an auto-pay system for your dues so you will never miss a payment. Please contact Kim Kavanaugh at the union hall, she will be more than happy to help you with payment made by credit or debit card.

ness on the way we approach mental health and suicide prevention. With the implementation of the Department of Health and Human Services 988 Lifeline, new resources are now available. When people call or text 988. they will be connected to trained counselors who will listen, understand how their problems are affecting them, provide support, and connect them to resources.

S.U.B. -NEW- Direct Deposit is NOW AVAILABLE for SUBPAY.

Participants should continue to send all applications and weekly proof to the SUB Fund office for review and processing by emailing subpay@pipefitters636.org.

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

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

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

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

**Direct Deposit Authoriza**tion Agreement forms for SUB-PAY were mailed by BeneSys and can be found on our website or you can call the Local for one.

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

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

**Defined Contribution Pen**sion Plan. For those members who use the Voice Response Unit, VRU to obtain balance information and transfers funds in your Defined Contribution Pension, the number has changed. The NEW NUMBER for the VRU is 877-410-9984. Plan provider number is 7526. You can now login to your Defined Contribution account on the Local's Website. Just click on the "Defined Contribution login here tab" and it will take you to the BeneSys login page. The Defined Contribution *corrected* website is www. accountplanaccess.net/benesys. Your initial login information is as follows: Username - Social Security No., without the dashes. Password - Full birth date, without the slashes, (mmddyyyy). You will be prompted to update your username and password after initial login. Upon login, the site will take you to the "My Dashboard" page. Here you will be able to review a snapshot of your account balance, investments, and recent transactional activity.



our customary strike vote.

day March 12 from 12-2 pm.

The Executive Board meetings

Save the Dates: We are ex-

are generally held the first Thursday

of the month at 5:30pm and before

all Union Meetings. The next board

cited to announce the Golf Outing

will be held at Mystic Creek Golf

Course in Milford on Aug. 23. The

Plumbers picnic will be held on

June 28 at Lake St. Clair Metropark

(formerly known as Metro Beach

Metropark) in Harrison Twp. Ad-

ers: Any member interested in

playing on the 98 Hockey Team,

please contact FST Dan Nixon.

ers: Any Local 98 member in-

terested in playing on the Local

98 Softball Team, please contact

Cook-Off: Thanks to all the

members that participated in our

Chili cook-off. Congratulations to

our winners: 3rd place Ron Lind-

say, 2<sup>nd</sup> place Jimmy Cools and

our new Champion Aaron Mos-

kovitz. Special thanks to Connor

Socrates and John Linardakis for

all of their hard work organizing

currently have three expelled

members this month; Ken J.

Johnson, Kevin F. Martin and

Aram T. Ormanian. Please con-

tact Business Manager, Gary

Glaser or Financial Secretary-

Treasurer, Dan Nixon for further

information to stay active and

List. SUB You have 48 hours

to report being out of work and

to fill out a SUB App whether

you qualify for SUB or not. It

is your responsibility to check

your location on the Out of Work

List. We have a dedicated email

to send your unemployment cer-

tifications and/or backup docu-

ments to receive SUB pay. Please

email correspondence to: sub@

ualocal98.org by Thursdays at

3:00pm to ensure ample time to

process the payments. Make sure

**SUB Apps/Out of Work** 

catch up on your dues.

Expelled Members: We

this event.

Jeremy Pitts (586) 405-9425.

Attention 98 Hockey Play-

Attention 98 Softball play-

**Apprentice Council Chili** 

ditional details to follow.

meeting is March 6.

DETROIT – Membership of ton98@ualocal98.org Plumbers Local 98, Jim Cools, Business Agent

Our regular monthly union (248)762-9221 jcools@ualomeeting will be held on Thursday, cal98.org March 13, 2025 at 7:00pm. This is Paul Smith, Business Agent our State of The Union Meeting. In (313)938-2477 psmith@ualoaddition, with our current contract cal98.org

expiring May 31, 2025 we will take Jeff Kavalar, Business Agent (313)938-1554 jkavalar@ualo-Retiree luncheon meeting cal98.org will be held at the hall on Wednes-

Rob Moses, Organizer (248)763-2187 rmoses98@ualocal98.org

Plumbers Local 98

In solidarity, Gary Glaser, **Business Manager Plumbers** Local 98! Protecting the health of Metro Detroit since 1893.

TRAINING CENTER NEWS. Phone # 248-585-1435 Check out The Training Cen-

ter's website www.Plumbers98tc. org

The Apprenticeship Application process is currently open. The application deadline for the next class is Friday, July 18, 2025. Applications are submitted online. Go to our website and read all requirements for the application process.

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

PLUMBING CODE UP-DATE (required to renew the State of Michigan Journey or Master License) Must have update completed by March 31, 2025. Please check CE Broker's website for any classes.

THE TRAINING CENTER IS CURRENTLY SCHEDUL-ING MEDICAL GAS INSTALL-ER UPDATES. Please call the Training Center to get in the next available class. This is an update to the new NFPA 99 2024 standard.

Monthly Code Class – Next class is PENDING at 4:30 pm. This is **not** a code update class. Open to any member looking to have discussions about the interpretation of the Michigan Plumbing Code. Great refresher for anyone wanting to take a state plumbing exam. Please call Paul Baker at the Training Center at 248-585-1435 ext. 123 to register. If you are a member that has the practical portion of the state test scheduled for May 6, 2025, we have 2 available evenings to come in and practice for it. The 2 dates are Wednesday, April 23, and Wednesday, April 30. Call the Training Center if you are interested in attending either of these sessions, or both. You will be required to bring all your supplies as you would for going to the actual test. **OPEN WELDING** – is available on Wednesday evenings and the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of the month. Please call Chris Opalka 248-585-1435 ext.146 for any welding related inquiries and to check on booth availability. For those that can't find time to get in during the weekdays, open welding will be available on the first Saturday of the month, call to get a booth. 2024 brazing and welding sessions will be scheduled on the 1st Saturday of the month. If your brazing or welding certs are ready to expire, call to schedule an appointment. The next Welding and Brazing sessions will be March 1, 2025. You must call to schedule your brazing OR welding tests at least 3 days prior to the test. Please note: All members must be dressed appropriately to be in the shop area. CALL THE TRAINING **CENTER TO REGISTER FOR** ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CLASSES OFFERED IN 2025. All classes are register and prepay by check or money order only. Deadlines for registration and prices are listed with each class. **ASSE Backflow Tester Re-Certification:** *Please be sure to* check your expiration date, it is now required that you complete your update class prior to your expiration. This class is offered quarterly. \$100

MRERS 08 4 hour recert class April 15 & 16 Deadline is March 14 4 hour recert class July 29

& 30 Deadline is June 27 4 hour recert class October

21 & 22 Deadline is Sept. 26

**ASSE Backflow Tester** (Full 40 hour):

Fall: Sept. 8 – Nov. 17 Deadline is Aug. 22 - \$200

ASSE Repairer: Prerequisite: Must hold a current 5110 **Tester Certification** 

Fall: Sept. 10 - Oct. 15, Deadline is Aug. 22 - \$100 CAD/BIM I - 40 hour class

Fall: Sept. 10 - Nov. 17 Deadline to register Aug. 22 - \$100

**ICRA and Water Quality:** Prerequisite: Must Have OSHA 10 or 30 - \$200

Fall: Week of Sept. 8 to week of Nov. 17. Deadline to register Aug. 22. Day of week to be determined

**Medical Gas Installer (Full** 40 hour):

Fall: Sept. 10-Nov. 17 Deadline to register Aug. 22 - \$200

6010 Medical Gas Installer **Recertification- \*All current** Med Gas certification

MUST: CONTACT the Training Center for the next available class.

Hydronic Heating and Cooling -40 hour class - \$100

Fall: Week of September 8 to week of November 17. Deadline to register August 22

Day of week to be determined

#### Steam Fundamentals for the Repair Plumber- 40 hour class-\$100 fee

Fall: Week of September 8 to week of November 17. Deadline to register August 22

Day of week to be determined **OSHA Training - OSHA 10,** available as an online class for \$59 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.



Sprinkler Fitters Local 704

DETROIT - The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday, March 12, at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

**Notice of Special Election:** There will be a special election for the position of Sergeant at Arms on March 19, 2025. Polls will be open from 12:00 P.M. until 4:30 P.M. at the Local Union Hall. In case of a tie, there will be a run-off that same evening with the voting members present.

As a reminder, your dues payment is due the last day of the month.

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.

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

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 auestions.

Jason May (Merrill Lynch): 248-540-2091 for D.C. Fund Investment questions.

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

A speedy recovery for all our sick and injured members.

"Good judgment comes from experience, and experience comes from bad judgment.' -Barry LePatner

"We are always more anxious to be distinguished for a talent which we do not possess. than to be praised for the fifteen which we do possess.'

- Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)

## **SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY** REPRESENTING BUILDING TRADES

The Ulliance Member Assistance Program is available to all members and retirees.

This benefit includes free and confidential mental health counseling, coaching, and 24/7 crisis support. In addition, there are free 30-minute consultations for legal and financial matters. There is a great discount for goods and services as well as free identity theft protection. To find out more, go to lifeadvisor.com or call 800-448-8326.

New 988 crisis helpline. The UA and the MCAA have made a joint investment to spread aware-

**Considering Retirement?** Any member may meet at the office during business hours with Jake Regits, Financial Secretary-Treasurer, to begin the process. Jake can be reached at ext. 5, to schedule an appointment so that he can get all of your paperwork in order, or if you prefer, contact our Members Phone Line 888-646-8920 at BeneSys for your retirement paperwork.

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

Are you "Work Ready"? Have any of your safety modules expired? Is your Drug Test current? Check your report card at mustbsafe.org and if it is time for renewal call the Training Center 248-585-0636 and they will register you. Be "ready" when the calls come in. Safety modules and drug tests are paid for by the Contractors Association. WHEN YOU STAY CURRENT WITH YOUR SAFETY MODULES, DRUG TEST AND FIRST AID, from Jan. 1 – Dec. 31 you will be eligible for your ready to work payment.

your contact information is up to date, as well as MUST and other certifications.

We are currently looking for Industrial, Residential and Service Plumbers. If you know anyone working Non-Union, have them call our Organizer Rob Moses.

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

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

In Memoriam. Our deepest condolences and sympathy to the families and friends of deceased Brother William Benscoter, initiated 04-10-2003, he was a 21-year member; and Brother Frederick Galbraith, initiated 12-13-1962, he was a 62-year member.

Additional information can be found at ualocal98.org

**CONTACT INFORMA-**TION:

Gary Glaser, Business Manager (313) 580-0148 gglaser98@ ualocal98.org

Dan Nixon, FST (248) 752-3702 dnixon98@ualocal98.org Rufus Hamilton, Business Agent (313)542-2758 rhamil-

## **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 repre-

senting only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear themself 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.

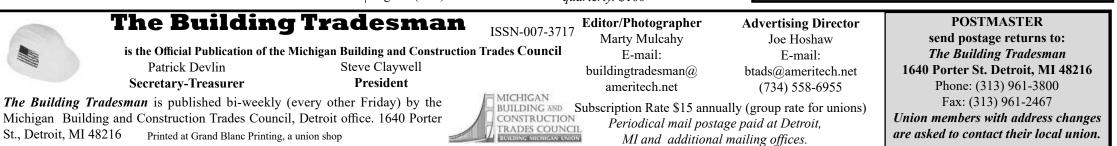
In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

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



UA Local 174

### February 21, 2025



#### UA Local 85

SAGINAW-The next Union Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 26, 2025, at the Union Hall, 3535 Bay Rd. at 7 p.m.

The next Northern Union Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 2, 2025, at 7 p.m. at the Grayling Eagles.

**Contact Information:** 

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

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

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

Andre Alexander, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 8515 aalexander@ualocal85.org

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

fessional (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, 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 No. If you have any difficulties logging in, please call Kristin at (989) 799-5261 ext. 8511.

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

JATC News: Work continues to be very busy, please keep a close eye on the website for upcoming classes. We need to continue to be trained and certified for many of these upcoming projects. If there is a specific class you need, please reach out to Training Coordinator Robert Mead, (989) 799-5261 ext. 8519.

SUB Fund: Print Unemployment Payment History located underneath the Certification Tab when logged into your MiWAM account. Deadline for



COOPERSVILLE - MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The monthly membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at 7:00pm in our Assembly Hall at 1008 O'Malley Dr in Coopersville. The front office will remain open until 6:55pm.

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

Retiree Breakfast: The retiree breakfast will be held Thursday, March 6, 2025 at 9am at New Beginnings Restaurant in Coopersville.

Volunteers Needed: Operation United is held on Friday, April 25th and is an annual United Way event in West MI that mobilizes volunteers to honor veterans and active military families, especially seniors and those with disabilities in West Michigan. We are hoping to have enough volunteers from 174 to sponsor our own home/ project. The projects are outdoors like yard work, landscaping, and minor repairs to make homes safer and more accessible. For more information or to sign up please contact Nate.

St. Patrick's Day Parade: The West MI Area Labor Council will be walking in this year's St. Patty's Day Parade on Saturday, March 15 in Grand Rapids. We are still waiting for the final details and will post them as soon as they are available. If you are interested in walking at this event, please contact Nate.

Plumbing Law Changes: Starting March 20, 2025, anyone performing plumbing work in Michigan must either be registered and in good standing with the State as a plumbing apprentice or hold a current journeyman or master plumbing license. The new legislation also establishes a ratio of one journeyman for every two apprentices, with significant penalties, including steep fines and the suspension or revocation of a plumbing contractor's license for non-compliance.

This is excellent news for our industry and presents a great opportunity to expand our market share in West Michigan. Make sure that your license or apprentice registration is up to date with the State. If your license has expired or you need to register as an apprentice, you must contact the State Licensing Division at 517-241-9316.

Wage Allocation: The 2024 wage allocation was voted on at the June 4, 2024 membership meeting. Results were \$1.27 increase on the check, \$0.05 increase to the Retiree Bonus Program, \$0.60 increase to the Pension fund, and \$0.30 increase to the Training Fund.

Organizing Update: This week we will be having other organizers in our jurisdiction hitting job sites and running the roads talking to workers. If you are on a job site working next to a non-union worker, shoot me a quick text & I'd love to drop by!

Just a reminder, we have an open house this Thursday from 8am-7pm. Better wages, benefits, insurance you don't have to pay for, and a defined pension- the message is clear, all workers deserve a UNION! Work safe, Johnny Ortiz: (616) 307-8551

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.

Contact Information: If you need to change or verify your contact information, PLEASE CONTACT THE UNION OFFICE as soon as possible so we can keep our system up to date.

FRINGE PLAN THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR: (SOLXSYS). West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters and Service Trades Local No. 174 Fringe Benefit Funds, 5600 New King St, Suite 330, Troy, MI 48098. (855) 407-5862 Toll Free

Health Insurance Contact Info, Active and NON-Medicare Retirees

Aetna: (855) 878-4101 • EAP: (888) 238-6232 • Save-Rx: (800) 228-3108 • Medicare Retirees Retiree First: (616) 345-0788

**Current Health Insurance Premiums:** Active Member/Working Retiree \$1,110.33

Non-working Pre-Medicare Retiree \$791.10

Medicare Single \$123.63

Medicare Couple \$247.26

Medicare with Pre-Medicare Spouse \$497.13

Medicare Surviving Spouse \$126.67

Solxsys, Aetna, Retiree First: If you have issues with any of



UPPER PENINSULA-AT-**TENTION:** This paper is to serve as the official notice to the membership.

The next Union Meeting will be held in Marquette on Feb. 27, 2025, at 7:30 PM. Please make plans to attend.

Local 111 U.P. Plumbers, Pipefitters & HVACR is now accepting applications for its Apprenticeship Program. This is a great opportunity for those interested in a career in the trades. For more details, visit: https:// jobs.mitalent.org/.../job-details/ JobCode/107020719 Apply at Upper Peninsula Michigan Works Service Centers from March 10 - April 4, 2025.

Anyone interested in 1-day shutdowns, please contact Business Agent/Dispatcher, Scott Pendergraft in the Escanaba office.

Call Escanaba or Marquette for 111's Lay Off Line; Extension #7 and Job Line; Extension #8.

MRA FUND - \*IMPOR-TANT\* This is a reminder that you are required by the IRS to provide proper substantiation for your MRA debit card usage. Many members have received Substantiation Request letters from the Local 111 Benefit Fund office, Zenith American Solutions.

As per IRS regulations, the use of the MRA card must be substantiated or validated as an eligible covered expense under the Plan. These IRS requirements are mandatory, and the Fund cannot make exceptions.

It is YOUR responsibility to ensure that all requested documentation is submitted to the Fund office in a timely manner. To check whether receipts are required for any transactions, please log in to the Zenith American Solutions Portal website or app

Failure to respond to these Substantiation Request letters will result in suspension of your MRA card until all requested documentation has been received. Additionally, claims submitted prior to Jan. 1, 2025, may result in a 1099 form and be subject to income tax per IRS regulations.



**Boilermakers** 169

ALLEN PARK - Our next membership meeting will take place on March 14, 2025. This meeting will be at Boilermak-

ers Local 169, 1755 Fairlane Drive, Allen Park, Mi. 48101 In an effort

to assist our

Brotherhood,

the Executive



Council of the International BOB Brotherhood HUTSELL of Boilermak-

ers has voted to waive the increase in monthly dues for the second year in a row. Current Union dues for 2024 are \$55.85 and will remain \$55.85 for the 2025 calendar year 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.

We are scheduling an MSHA class for the upcoming Tilden Mine work. Any member that requires this training should contact Area 4 Business Agent Jim Calouette or contact the Union Hall to be added to the list. You will be informed of the time and location of the training once the class is filled.

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

Any member interested in taking the Great Lakes Safety for Corteva contact Area 3 Business Agent, Mike Card, 989-662-6491.

Any members interested in EPRI Rigging, which is required for working in the Nuclear Plants. Please contact Tony Herrera at 616-296-9131, or Jamie Ratliff at 313-584-8520. Your name will be added to the list. Once we have a full class, you will be notified when and where to attend. Per your International, any member with EPRI training will not be required to have Rigging 1 through 4 for placement on the BDS.

Retirees: Retiree luncheons Area 1 Retiree luncheon is

on the first Wednesday of every month at 11 am at the White Rhino Sports Bar, at 4328 Oakwood,

like to attend the Executive Board Meeting, please contact the Union Hall prior to the meeting. **ATTENTION:** This paper is to serve as official notice to the membership. Also, please refer to our website https://www.unitedassociationlocal671.com/ and its calendar for the latest updates.

Local Pension Elective Deferral: We are pleased to announce that after meeting with our contractors' association, you can now add up to an additional \$10 per hour to your local pension. This is in addition to the default of \$5.65 per hour. The prior maximum elective deferral was capped at \$6 per hour. We encourage every one to take advantage of this great opportunity if you can; all the additional money added will be in increments of \$1.00.

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

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

**Open Weld Shop Nights:** The open Weld Shop nights are now Thursday nights from 6pm-10pm. A booth will need to be reserved by noon on Friday prior to the practice night. If we have three or more signed up, we will hold the practice night. Booths will be first-come, first-served with whoever is practicing for a UA test getting priority. The next UA Weld Test Session will be held on Thursday, Feb. 27.

**Michigan Plumbing Exam** Prep Class: We continue to hold

have now been moved to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month in accordance with our By-Laws and a subsequent vote at the January Meeting. The next meeting is now scheduled for The Executive Board meetings will now also be held at 5pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month (next meeting March



UA Local 671

MONROE - The Local

**671** Membership Meetings

March 20, 2025 at 7pm.

20, 2025). If any member would

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 Rd., 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 TOALLMEMBERS: 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.

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 to the hall at 989-791-3468 with the local you are working out of indicated. We will fax them down to BeneSys to keep your insurance up to date.

**RETIREE LUNCHEON:** The next luncheon will be held on Tuesday, March 4 at 12 Noon at UA Local 85 Administration Office, 3535 Bay Rd. Saginaw, MI 48603. If you are able, please bring a dish to pass. Fraternally,

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

our fund service providers, contact Ryan Bennett at rbennett@ua174. org. Please try to remember who you spoke with; this will help the company fix the problem.

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

Autopay for Window Dues: As a result of the rising postage expenses and the significant number of members who have opted for autopay, we have made a change in the way receipts are delivered. Going forward, members will receive their proof of payment via email instead of traditional mail. If you are currently enrolled in autopay but do not have an email address on record and would like a receipt, please contact our office to update your information.

Dispatch: We have split up the dispatch responsibilities between the Business Agent and the Assistant Business Manager positions. Each person will be on dispatch for 2 weeks. There is a dispatch email of: dispatch@ua174.org which both offices have access to. The dispatch phone extension will switch between the two offices depending on who is on dispatch.

Jurisdiction: Remember to always call into the local you are traveling to. Do not rely on anyone else to call in for you. They will not get into trouble. It is the member who is working in another local who has not checked-in who will get in trouble. Please contact Ryan Bennett if you see another local's contractor or member working in our jurisdiction.

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

Labor Councils: - Kent Ionia - 3rd Wednesday of the month / 5:00pm / Contact Nathan for location

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

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

Training News: FIRST AID: First Aid/CPR/BBP class will be the second Thursday of the month (every month), from 5:00p-9:00p. The next classes will be held Thursday, March 13th and April 10th

WELD TEST: Test Events will be the second week of every month. Capabilities will be Tuesday nights with weld tests on Thursday nights. In the event of a union meeting being that Tuesday, we will move capabilities to a Wednesday. Next capabilities will be Tuesday March 11th, and the test to follow Thursday, March 13th at 5pm

OPEN WELD: Wednesdays of every week watch Facebook for any updates

WELDER CONTINUITY: If you have weld certifications and have submitted your continuity, your welder certification status cards are now being emailed instead of sent via USPS mail. If you have turned in your continuity but have NOT received an updated status card, please contact the Training Office to verify that we have your current email on file.

Medical Gas Installer: If your Installer license has expired or is within six months of needing recertification, call to sign up for the recertification class on April 7, 8, and 9. You must be signed up by March 13. Don't wait until the last minute—secure your spot now!

Please contact Chris Phillips or Nicole Schumaker if you have questions. Call the Training Office @ (616)837-0222 x16 (Chris) / Nicole @ (616)837-0222 x30. Or via text Chris (906)322-1592 / Nicole (231)206-4213.

If you have any questions, please contact Zenith American Solutions at 1-866-823-4730 ext. 1 or the Union Hall. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

New 988 Crisis Helpline: The UA & the MCAA have made a joint investment to spread awareness on how we approach mental health and suicide prevention. New resources are now available with the implementation of the Department of Health and Human Services 988 Lifeline. Call or text 988 to be connected to trained counselors who will listen & provide support and linked to resources.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Safety Training on Local (Continued next column) classes to prepare Members who will be taking their Michigan Journeyman Plumbing Test. If you have any questions or are curious about your Plumbing hours with the State, contact Justin for details

In Closing: We have had a pretty harsh winter so far. If any member needs help through the winter months, please don't hesitate to reach out to the Union Office. If you are having issues driving in the bad weather or need help clearing a driveway, feel free to reach out and we will be there to assist. Stay warm and God bless Local 671 and all of our Members.

Mike Jewell: email: mike@ ualocal671.com

Vinnie Fenech: email: vinnie@ualocal671.com

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

## You Are the **Missing Piece.**



111 Web Site: When taking the on-line safety training, go to our web site lu111.com and click on Safety Links. Members must take these safety trainings for each site to work at each mill. Please take note they are valid for 1 year.

MSHA Training: To register for an MSHA class please go to Upconstruction.org and go to the MSHA calendar to register. This website applies for cancelling classes also.

Melvindale, Michigan 48122.

Area 2 Retirees hold luncheons on the first Thursday of every month at 11am at Whitlow's Forerunner Restaurant, 4610 Airline Rd, Muskegon MI. All retirees and members from all areas are welcome to attend.

Area 3 Retirees luncheon is the 3rd Wednesday of the month. The next lunch will be Feb. 19 at 11AM at the Silver Palace, 1500 Woodside Avenue, Essexville, MI. 48732. Everyone from all areas is welcome. Please note, to avoid tolls to Bay City, take the Veterans Bridge.

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 arrived in all sizes at the Union Hall. The cost is \$45. Payments can be made with cash or a check. If you live outside of the area and would like to order one, please call the hall. Additional shipping charges will be added. Baseball caps are also available. Varsity jackets are available by special order. Please contact the Union Hall for details.

The upcoming MSHA training schedule is available at www. boilermakerslocal169 or on our Facebook page.

The cost of your T.W.I.C. card is reimbursable from the M.O.R.E. Fund. Contact the Union Hall for reimbursement.

Any current apprentice that is eligible to utilize their G.I. Bill should contact their branch of service regarding this benefit. Your apprenticeship training qualifies for reimbursement under the terms of the G.I. Bill. I advise all apprentices who qualify to take advantage of this well-deserved benefit.

Retired member, Aldred (Babe) Jenerou passed away on Feb. 11, 2025. Visitation will take place at Fausett Family Funeral Home on Friday, Feb. 21, at 11 am followed by a memorial service at 2 pm, with Father Ben Paris presiding. The Mackinac Bands of Chippewa and Ottawa Indians will also be present to offer prayers in Babe's memory.



#### BAC Local 2 MARCH 2025 CHAPTER MEETINGS

METRO DETROIT CHAPTER: Tuesday, March 4, at 5:30 PM, 21031 Ryan Road,



CHAPTER: Tuesday, March 4, at 6 PM, 8225 Dexter-Chelsea Road, Dexter, MI

Warren, MI

ARBOR

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CHAPTER: Wednesday, March 5, at 7:30 PM, 1701 W Genesee St., Lapeer, MI 48446

KALAMAZOO CHAP-TER: Thursday, March 13 at 6 PM, 11847 Shaver Rd. Schoolcraft, MI 49087

LANSING CHAPTER: Monday, March 10 at 6 PM, 3321 Remy Dr., Lansing, MI 48906

MARQUETTE CHAPTER: Monday, March 17 at 7 PM, 119 S Front St., Marquette, MI 49855

SAGINAW CHAPTER: Tuesday, March 25 at 7 PM, 1300 W Thomas St., Bay City, MI 48706

**TRAVERSE CITY CHAP-TER:** Wednesday, March 19, at 6:30 PM, 3912 Blair Town Hall Rd West, Traverse City, MI 49685

**DETROIT TIGERS UNION NIGHT.** Come join your fellow brothers and sisters for Union Night at Comerica Park! When: Saturday, April 26. Start Time: 1:10 PM Where: Comerica Park. Good standing members are eligible to receive a MAXIMUM of 4 free tickets. Send an email to **information@bricklayers.org** with the following information:

Member Name, IU No., Email address, Number of tickets needed

If the requested information is not provided, ticket will NOT be sent! Tickets will be distributed electronically to the provided email on Fridays.

**DEATHS REPORTED.** Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother Mansfield Barge** (Bricklayer & Cement Mason) who passed away on Oct. 27, 2024. Brother Barge had been a member for 55 years.

Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother Edwin Taylor** (Bricklayer) who passed away on Jan. 17, 2025. Brother Taylor had

## Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

their grades from the Fall 2024 Semester. An Official Transcript comes directly from the registrar's office in a *sealed envelope*. Please allow ample time for the registrar's office to prepare and mail the official transcript; to be received at BAC Local 2 by March 21, 2025. If your institution participates with the National Student Clearinghouse Transcript service, transcripts may be sent to: colleen@bricklayers.org.

Applicant must submit a typed information sheet which will include: Applicant's name, applicant's address, applicant's email address and telephone number, college/university attending, course of study – major & minor and anticipated graduation date of applicant. They must also include the name of the member, members I.U. number, relationship to member, address and telephone number of member and members branch of trade.

Incomplete or late applications will **not** be considered for this scholarship. We are not responsible for late, missing or lost documents.

The winners will be selected by the BAC Local 2 Management Committee and announced at the April 2025 Detroit Chapter Meeting.

WEBSITE UPDATES: Be sure to check out our 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.

**C R A F T W O R K E R S 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.

**BAC LOCAL 2'S TRAIN-ING CENTERS:** Both Local 2 Training Centers are open to our members. To make your appointment for your annual RESPIRATOR FIT TEST or for other scheduled appointments at the Warren or Lansing Training Center, please contact Howard Hipes directly at (517) 749-1102. Go to https://www.michigan-bricklayers.org to view the Apprenticeship and Training website and register for future 2024 online training classes.



## Local 514 Cement Masons & Plasterers

**Operative Plasterers and Cement Masons Local 514** 

DETROIT – The next membership meeting is Tuesday March 18, at 7 pm. There will also,be an executive board meeting the same day at 5:30 pm. Please make every effort to come fellowship with your brothers and sisters.

The Patrick Finley Scholarship applications are now available.

Membership gold cards-Congratulations! March 2025

Adrian Brown-25 Years Melvin Morgan-30Years Please contact the local

at 248-548-0800 or you can email your updated information to:abest@opcmiami.org Please send your updated information in a timely manner.

MUST Safety Awareness Training: Please check the MUST website at www.Mustbsafe.com to see how many modules you have. Your username is your full social security number and your password is the first four of your social security number.

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

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

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

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

If you are a Military Veteran, please contact the Local so we

### February 21, 2025 THE BUILDING TRADESMAN 7

## <u>Local 25</u> Iron Workers

Iron Workers Local 25

NOVI – The next Union Meeting will be Monday, Feb. 24, 2025 at 7:00 pm at the Novi Union Hall. All outstate offices will be open for in-person and Zoom will be available. February's Union meeting will be the second Reading of any proposed by law(s). The third Reading will be during March's Union meeting Monday, March 31, 2025, with the Vote date of Wednesday, April 2, 2025 (more details to follow to come as we get closer).

We are accepting resumes for the Apprentice Coordinator position. The full details of the job description & qualifications can be found on the member only section of our website. (www. ironworkers25.org). Please contact the Training Center to set up a time to submit your resume and set a time to test at the school. April 1, 2025 is the deadline to turn in resumes.

We continue to communicate through the **PUSH NOTIFICA-TIONS for alerts & emails.** You can download our APP for android on google play or for iphone at the APP store just search "Iron Workers Local 25" Martinez web shop. **Or** sign up via our website (www.ironworkers25.org).

The Lansing Steward meeting will be Monday Feb. 24 at 6 pm. The Saginaw Steward meeting will be Feb. 27 at 6 pm. All are welcome.

A FRINGE FUND PEN-SION DEPT REPRESENTA-TIVE WILL BE AT THE NOVI UNION HALL on Wednesday March 5 from 8 am to 12 noon. If you wish to book an appointment or just have questions, give us a call 248-344-9494.

The 2025 Dennis O'Dowd SCHOLARSHIP Rules & Application form is available. All requests must be made by Friday March 7 and all completed applications are due by March 14. Call the Novi Union Hall 248-344-9494 to get one mailed to you. These are for sons/daughters of full dues paying active/working members of Ironworkers Local 25 who are in their senior year of High School. The member must have a minimum of five years continuous membership to be eligible. The application is also on the Member only section of our website where you still must print it out.

The 2025-2026 JOHN H. LYONS SR. SCHOLARSHIP electronic application and complete rules; as offered by the International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers is available on their website: https://www. ironworkers.org/s/johnscholarhave been contacted. You need to save your receipts for three years.

**BENEFIT FOR NEW CHILD:** Any member who has a newborn 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 openenrollment period (April 1-30).

Apprentices: located under the Apprenticeship Tab you will find "Make-Up Days" & 'Welding Test Certifications" where you can electronically schedule your make-up days and welding tests. To view classes at the Local 25 Apprenticeship School, please go to our website (ironworkers25.org) to view the 2025 Block Schedule, Roster and Raising Gang Schedule. Please make sure to download the Trade-School Mobile App to submit your monthly work and school hours. These must be submitted monthly. If you have Facebook or Instagram, please give us a follow. Wixom Training Center Phone: 248-960-2130.

We take Apprentice applications year-round! Visit our website (ironworkers25.org) where you can print your application, make your application appointment & pay the application fee online; you must have an appointment to turn in an application. We take appointments Tuesday – Thursdays! No walk-in foot traffic.

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

REMINDER: The IRON-WORKER Magazine is published by the International & is issued every other month (6 times per year). The Directory issue is published in December. To subscribe to the digital edition of the Ironworker, please use the following link: https://www. Tuesday, March 4 at 9 am at Red Rock Grille & Café, 228 N. Ball Creek Rd, NW, Kent City, MI 49330. All are welcome.

The next quarterly meeting for the **Bay City Chapter** will be in April 17 at the Iron Workers Local 25 Saginaw Union Hall, 11 Bridgeview S. Saginaw Mi 48604 at 12 pm. All are welcome.

The **Downriver Chapter** next quarterly Retirees breakfast will be 9 am on April 18 at Mom's Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, MI, 48183. All are welcome.

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

FindTreatment.gov where you can search by zip code/ city. Or call SAMHSA 800-662-4357. MentalHealth.gov provides information & programs about mental health. Dial 988 (National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) For help 24/7 in a Time of Crisis. Call or text 988 if you or someone you know is in danger of suicide or experiencing a mental health crisis. You can also Chat at 988lifeline.org/chat (English & Spanish). Whatever you are struggling with, help is available-its free & confidential.

Suicide Prevention Resources on IMPACT: http://www. impact-net.org/safety/suicide-prevention-resources. US Crisis Text Line: Text HOME to 741741 from anywhere in the U.S., anytime, about any type of crisis. A live, trained Crisis Counselor receives the text and responds, all from our secure online platform. A volunteer Crisis Counselor will help you move from a hot moment to a cool moment.

In Memory: Lifetime Rodman Willard Crystal #717365 passed away Jan. 26, 2025 at the age of 85. He was a member of Local 426/25 for 59 years. Lifetime IW Charles T. Roy #808679 passed away Feb. 3, 2025 at the age of 82. He was a 56-year member of Local 25. He is survived by his son Charles Roy #1105825. JIW David O'Grady #1364528 passed away on Feb. 8, 2025 at the age of 60. He was an 18-year member. Lifetime Rodman Monis R. Trosper #750141 passed away on Feb. 9, 2025 at the age of 93. He was a 58-year member of Local 426/25. Lifetime Rodman Roger Domine #696125 passed away Feb. 13, 2025 at the age of 89. He was a 58-year member of Local 426/25. Lifetime Ironworker Larry Williams #824780 (7468) passed away on Feb. 4, 2025 at the age of 79. He was a 55-year member of Local 25. Theodore Brumbaugh #931550 passed away Feb. 10, 2025 at the age of 72. He was a member of Local 25 from 1974 until his withdraw in 2008. Lifetime Rodman Dennis Simpson #922732 passed away Feb. 13, 2025 at the age of 69. He was a 50-year member of Local 426/25. He is survived his by brother Joseph Simpson #1146642 of Local 847.

been a member for 70 years.

UNION DUES: Pay 9 months, get 3 free. To receive discount, you must be current on dues. Members will only be able to pay 2 years in advance.

2025 - BAC LOCAL 2 SCHOLARSHIP. The Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Union, Local 2 Michigan is proud to announce the 2025 BAC Local 2 Scholarship, open open to ALL dependents of good standing members, statewide, from all of the trades.

In order to be eligible, the following guidelines must be followed and information submitted to the BAC Local 2 WAR-REN office, 21031 Ryan Rd., Warren MI 48091. Deadline for applicant submission is 12 pm on Friday, March 21, 2025:

Applicant must be a legal dependent of a good standing AC-TIVE member who has either:

Retired from actively working, on or after January 2024 or Has worked and received union contributions, on or after September 2024

The member must current, with their union dues paid up to date. The applicant may also be a dependent of a recently deceased, formally working member, who has passed away after Jan. 1, 2023. A dependent will be defined, according to the guidelines of the health insurance funds summary plan description.

Applicant must be attending an institute of higher education: college or university. *High* school students are not eligible for this scholarship.

Applicant must be a **fulltime student**, enrolled in 12 or more credits, during the **Winter 2025 Semester**. A copy of the *Class Schedule* showing full time status must be submitted.

**NOTE:** Classes listed on the Official Transcript will **not** be considered as a class schedule. A class schedule lists the number of credits, classes, dates, times, instructor and location where the class meets. Student's name, semester and the name of the college/university must be on the schedule.

Applicant must submit an *Official Transcript*, showing

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

https://www.michiganbricklay-

ers.org **MEMBERSHIP ASSIS** TANCE: 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 https://bacweb.org/ member-service/member-assistance-program-map and are also available via telephone at 1-833-MAP TALK (1-833-627-8255) Monday - Friday 8 am - 7 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."

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

Cement Pension & Vacation Funds – (248) 645-6550

International Pension/Annuity Fund – (888) 880-8222 or (202) 638-1996 (bacbenefits.org) Metro Detroit Bricklayers Pension – (248) 641-4954

Michigan BAC Pension Fund (Outstate) – (248) 641-4954 Michigan BAC Vacation Fund – (248) 828-6000

"I not only use all the brains that I have, but all that I can borrow."

-Woodrow Wilson (1856 -1924)

"Morality, like art, means drawing a line someplace." – Oscar Wilde (1854 - 1900)

"The summit of happiness is

reached when a person is ready to be what he is."

– Desiderius Erasmus (1466

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, Michigan. We welcome Member and Contractors in the Flint area to handle their business transactions at: 2630 Grand Traverse, Flint, MI 48503. Appointments may be made by contacting Business Agent Mike Stanfield at (517) 719-2316, or the Business Manager Henry Williams at (313) 215-5063.

We must stay vigilant in our effort to promote our trade. If you are working in a crew of 5 or more an Apprentice must be on the crew. Help out! Call the Local at (248) 548-0800.

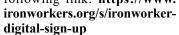
Please make sure that we have all of your current contact information, address and phone number so we can keep the fund offices updated for your health care and pension and also if you are having your vacation checks mailed out. If you have moved, please contact the Local and we will change your addresses with all of the fund offices. ship Deadline is May 30, 2025. FRINGE BENEFIT OF-FICE: 800-572-8553 or 248-347-3100 and follow the prompts. Hours 7:30 am to 4:30 pm. 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.

If any member is having problems with the HRA substantiation letters please call Dennis Aguirre.

Check your HRA/Benny Card Balance: my.wexhealthcard.com (where you can create a log-in)

Check you online benefit information: ourbenefitoffice. com/iw25/benefits/

HRA/Benny Card Audit is continuously under way via US Mail – please respond if you



The Iron Workers' Local 25 Novi Chapter Retirees' Club: The Retirees' Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday, March 4, at 8:30 am in Novi. The Retirees' meeting/luncheon will be Tuesday, March 18 at 10 am. All are welcome. Thoughts & Prayers for James Clement #485069 as you face your health challenges!

Local 25 Retirees' Club 2025 Scholarship is available. Eligibility Requirements: child or grandchild of a retired Local 25 member. Applicant must be in their Senior year of high school with a minimum GPA of 3.0. Retiree must have a minimum of five years continuous Local union membership and be a member of the Iron Workers' Local 25 Retiree' Club as of the prior year and must be current on their annual club dues to be eligible and apply. Contact John Miller: TEXT TO: (734) 812-**8036**. All requests must be made by March 11, 2025. Completed applications due by 5pm April 30, 2025

The West Michigan Chapter Retirees breakfast will meet 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 (Feb. 17, 2025 11:30 am E.S.T.).

"All you need in this life is ignorance and confidence; then success is sure."

– Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)

"Two wrongs don't make a right, but they make a good excuse."

–Thomas Szasz





BeneSys Inc. 700 Tower Drive, Suite 300 Troy, MI 48098



## <u>Local 2</u>92 **Sheet Metal Workers**

#### Sheet Metal Workers Local 292

TROY - MEETING NOTICE: \*\*NEW LOCATION\*\*: Troy Community Center 3179 Livernois, Troy 48083 1 block north of Big Beaver on the west side of Livernois. Use the Banquet Entrance. Due to a scheduling conflict, the next 2 general membership meetings will be held on Wednesday, March 5, 2025, & April 2, 2025, at 6 pm.

The regular meeting schedule will resume in May. Member meetings are held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month.

The E-Board/Stewards meeting will be held on Feb. 25, 2025, at 6 p.m. at the Union Hall. **MEMBER ASSISTANCE:** Please re-

member, Local 292 partners with Ulliance, an Employee Assistance Program designed to assist members and their eligible family members who may be struggling with emotional, domestic, or substance abuse issues, as well as legal and financial referrals. If you and/or a family member

PAUL GUALDONI

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 members and their dependents.

SMOHIT HELPLINE: Call 877-884-6227/ Available 24/7. For SMART 292 Members and their families experiencing an immediate crisis or who need a helpful ear.

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 through all shop stewards. This is the only way your name will be added to the Out of Work List.

SHEET METAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM Applications are being accepted for the Sheet Metal Scholarship program. Eligibility requires that an applicant be an active member, a covered employee, or a dependent spouse or child under the age of 25 of a member or covered employee. The applicant must also be a full-time student or be accepted to be a full-time student at an accredited college or university. Obtain an "Application Request Form" by visiting https://smart-union.org/why-join-smart/scholarships/sheet-metalscholarship-programs/ click on the "Sheet Metal Scholarships" tab to download the form or call 202-662-0858 to request the application form by mail.

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

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

TEXT BLAST NOTIFICATION: If you haven't been receiving texts and would like to be added or wish to opt out of text blast, please get in touch with the Union Hall and we will make the change.

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

TRUHEARING:. This benefit of premium hearing aids is available to active eligible participants, dependents, and Pre-Medicare retirees. To get started, contact TruHearing at 1-833-898-1255 for an appointment.

SAFETY MODS AND DRUG TESTS: To access your MUST account, please go to www.mustonline.org or access it through the "links" tab at www.sheetmetal292.com. Remember that your User-



## Local 80 **Sheet Metal Workers**

#### **Sheet Metal Workers Local 80**

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

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Next General Membership Meeting scheduled for February 25, 2025 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, 48076.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: Next executive board meeting is scheduled for March 18, 2025 at 5:00 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2nd Floor, Southfield, MI.

UNION HALL REGULAR HOURS Monday through Friday 7:30 - 4:00, unless otherwise indicated.

**RETIREE NEWS & MEETING SCHED-**



ULE: 2025 Retiree Meetings: April 21, June 16, August 18, October 20 (Holiday Party), December 15<sup>th</sup>. All membership meetings start at 12:30 pm, held at the Local 80 hall. Please enter the hall through the ramp entrance. Any questions regarding joining the Retirees Association please contact Steve Murzen at 248-652-0593. 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 TIM members at our general membership meetings.

Please see the general membership meeting schedule above.

**BENESYS AT THE UNION HALL:** 

Lashone will be in Monday to Thursday from 9-4pm. To schedule an appointment, please 248-813-9800 ext. 3250

THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE: Ronald Handley, Donald Roberts, Marshael Nations, Benjamin Mitchell, Jacob Stoneburner, Richard Saharchuk, Joseph Czarnecki, Jason Bular, Kustin Kazyaka, Wyatt Osborne, Kevin Stuss & Colin Barnes.

CONDOLENCES: Our condolences go out to the family of James McVettie. James Passed away on February 7, 2025 at the age of 90 years old. Jim was a proud union member until the end of his life. He served as a member of the e-board, Insurance board, and Business ("bidness") agent, President of the Retirees as well as a layout man. He retired in 1992 but remained and active-proud member. Jim will be greatly missed.

Richard J. Styles passed away on February 7, 2025 at the age of 67. Richard was a proud member of Local 80 Sheet Metal Workers Union, to where he completed his apprenticeship and served as Journeyman for 30 years. Our condolences go out to Richards family and he will be greatly missed.

**RETIREMENT CLASS:** Saturday May 3, 2025 at 9am we will be hosting a FREE retirement education class with Graystone Consulting. This will give you the opportunity to ask questions about your retirement plans. Please call the hall to rsvp 248-557-7575. Spouses are welcome

MARCH RE-REGISTRATION IS COMING! If you are laid off prior to March 1st you will need to re-register to keep your spot on the out of work list. You may re-register at the hall, by email registerlocal80@gmail.com or fax 248-557-0297. You CANNOT re-register over the phone. Please call the hall with any questions. Re-registration does not start until March 1st.

DUES PAYMENTS: are due prior to the 1st of the month. Books close at the end of business day on the last day of the month. Payments made on the 1st will be considered late. No exceptions - once the books are closed, they cannot be reopened. To help you stay on track, you will receive a text reminder before the end of the month. If you're not receiving these reminders, please contact the hall.

**BENEFICIARY REMINDER:** Please ensure that you have designated or updated your beneficiary choices for all Local 80 and International Association benefits.

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 also need to call Benesys at 800-400-7710 to update for insurance and pension



## 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 April 17, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 1 March 13th at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 2 March 18th at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 3 March 12th at 6:00 p.m. (Saginaw)

\*Zone 3 March 20th at 6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)

\*Zone 4 March 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 5 April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Please register on our website at www.sheetmetal7.org for the

most up to date information on meeting schedules for 2025. 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 SAM of your area. For more information visit the official FULLER website at www.labelitscanitreport.com and down-

load the official app by texting "SMART" to 90975. ZONE 1 Info. Work in the Zone 1 area continues

to be busy and will remain this way through the end of the year. If you become unemployed, please update your status with Eric or Vance (Apprentices please notify Ryan as well). If you are experiencing any difficulties with unemployment or insurance, please contact Eric or Vance for any additional assistance. Any Journeypersons interested in upgrade classes, please contact Ryan at the Training Center for additional information (269) 781-7183 (class availability depends on the number of individuals interested).

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

ZONE 1 Monthly Retiree Meetings: 1st Wednesday of each month @ 8:00 am located at Bob Evans 1725 N W Ave, Jackson; 2nd Tuesday of each month @ 1:00 pm located at Rocky Top 1900 Lansing Ave, Jackson; 2nd Wednesday of each month @ 12:00 noon located at The Beamery 879 E Michigan Ave, Battle Creek, (Retirees, please notify Vance or Eric of any changes or additions you would like) - In Solidarity, Eric Farrington and Vance Saunders

**ZONE 2 Info:** Work in Zone 2 is steady, if your employment status changes please let me know. The next Zone 2 meeting is March 18th at 6:00pm. We will be doing a wage disbursement at that time. As always please keep me informed of any phone number or address changes and dues are always due prior to the first of the month. Once again the Local 7 Picnic is at Timber Ridge Campground in Traverse City, July 19th. The Local 7 Golf outing is September 6th at the Lynx Golf Course, both these events are great to be a part of.

#### As always work safe and thank you, Mike Adams

ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw) Work in area is slow except for the Phoenix project in Hemlock which is keeping us at full employment. Remember to schedule your physicals for this calendar year. Remember to call the Lansing office if you have a change of address or you change your phone number. Next union meeting is 3-12-2025 At the Freeland Hall, hope to see everyone there. Next retiree meeting is 3-25-2025 at the Ponderosa in Bay City on Wilder Road. In Solidarity, Joe Dotson

ZONE 3 Info: (Traverse City) Our next meeting is March 20 at the Mill Pond Event Center at 6:00 pm. This year's picnic will be on July 19th at Timber Ridge. Call (231) 947-2770 for camping reservations and make sure to tell them you are from Local #7. Work is steady in our area and will be a busy summer.

Please go to ourbenefitoffice.com/smw7-3/benefits to view your sion and H & W status and check the FAO. The SASMI benefit for June/Dec is under 750 hrs. Please contact me if you would like to receive the benefit and with any other questions you may have. In Solidarity, John Amalfitano ZONE 4 Info: Work in Zone 4 continues to stay strong, we currently have no one on the bench, and that is fantastic for this time of year. I am really proud of all our members in Local 7. Don't forget to get with Cody Clark and Susan Light at the training center for any upgrade classes that you are interested in. We are hearing some good talk about some big projects that potentially could be coming to Genesee County. Keep your fingers crossed!!! In Solidarity, Scott Brotherton, ZONE 5 Info Work in the U.P. remains steady. There is a lot of work around the state and Midwest also. There is a lot of mine work coming up in the next several years so if you don't have your mine safety training make sure you get signed up for that at upconstruction.org. Please remember to fill out your contract surveys and get it sent back to the hall in Lansing ASAP. In Solidarity, Brandon Langenfeld. Dues Department: \*Online dues payment is now available\* Dues of all members of local unions shall be paid monthly or quarterly, but always in advance. To better serve our membership, we accept Credit Card Payments in lieu of your monthly dues. If you would like to take advantage of the Credit Card Service, a finance charge will be applied - Please call the Lansing office during regular business hours at 517-882-4064 to make your payment. Address/Telephone Changes: Article 8, Section 1 of Local 7 Work Rules: Address Changes: All members are required to keep the Financial Secretary informed of their correct address. A noticed mailed to the last address shall be sufficient and legal. If you have moved or changed your telephone number, please contact the union hall to update your records. BENEFITS: For Benefit questions please contact the area office. Zone 1 - BeneSys 866-822-7037, Zone 2 - TIC 866-887-4338, Zone 3 - BeneSys 800-451-5733, Zone 4 - BeneSys 800-842-2690 and Zone 5 - Wisconsin H & B Fund 800-654-2329. DEATH CERTIFICATES: Please submit to the Union Hall a copy of a Death Certificate for deceased members. Additional benefits from the International may be available. CONTACT US: 4931 Contec Drive, Lansing, MI 48910-517-882-4064

MULLIGAN

name is your full S.S. number and your Password is the first four numbers of your S.S. number. Members, please note that if you cannot access the MUST site to complete your safety mods you need to contact the Union Hall.

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

**RETIREES NOTICE:** Thanks to all the retirees who came out to the meetings in 2024. It's always nice getting together and staying connected. The first meeting for 2025 will be held on 4/3/25.

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.

**CONSTITUTION AND RITUAL:** The new Constitution and Ritual of the 3rd 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.

SUBSTANTIATION REQUEST: Many members have received 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. The IRS requires this validation, the Fund cannot make exceptions. It is the members' responsibility to ensure all requested documentation is returned to the Fund office promptly. By not responding to the Substantiation Request letter, your Benny Card may be suspended until all requested documentation has been received. If you have any questions, contact BeneSys at 248.641.4992 or the Union Hall.

**APPRENTICESHIP APPLICATIONS:** The Apprentice Training Program operated by Sheet Metal Workers Local 292 Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee (JATC) admits qualified applicants without discrimination because of race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, age, sex, disability (except to the extent that such disability affects the applicant's ability to work at the trade or craft), marital status, or other classification protected by federal, state or local law or ordinance. (You must be 18 years old at the time of application.) The application must be submitted in person. No faxes or email applications will be accepted!

We will start accepting Applications for the Apprenticeship program on Thursday, February 20, 2025, and they will be accepted every business day until 3:00 P.M., except for the last day. The last day to submit an application will be Wednesday, March 26, 2025, ending at 2:00 P.M. We have scheduled a testing day for Saturday March 29, 2025, beginning at 9:00 A.M. To be considered for the apprenticeship, you must have your application turned in and you must take the exam. No applications will be accepted after Wednesday March 26, 2025, at 2:00 P.M. No Exceptions!

All applications must be filed in person at the Training Center, bring your original High School Diploma, or GED certificate (we will make copies), along with picture ID. These must be submitted with the application, or it will NOT be accepted. At the time of filing, you will be registered for a written test at Macomb Community College, at a cost of \$60 (Non-Members Only) which you must pay when filing the application. Cash only. If you have any questions, call Dave at (313) 623-9390 or visit www.smwl292jatc.org for more information. If you have already taken the test at Macomb and want a chance to better

(Continued next column)

documents.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH and DISMEMBERMENT IN-SURANCE 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 \$7,500.00. This benefit comes as a dues paying member of SMART International.

WEEKEND WORK ASSIGNMENTS: must be reported by the steward by 3pm on Friday and signed forms returned on Monday to staff@smw80.org

LAY-OFFS: All members must report to the Union Hall immediately upon lay-off. You must be on the out-of-work list to collect S.U.B. or SASMI benefits. It is the contractor's responsibility to issue a termination slip in accordance with our contract.

OUT-OF-WORK LIST: Members must re-register bi-annually: March 1 through March 20 and Sept. 1 through Sept. 20. If you fail to re-register, you will be removed from the list. Your name will be removed from the list fourteen (14) days after receiving an assignment.

#### **SUB Application Deadlines and Requirements:**

Submit your SUB application within 7 days of your layoff to avoid forfeiting benefits.

Layoff slips must accompany your application to qualify for SUB benefits.

Proof of UIA benefit payments due within 21 days of the payment date to receive SUB benefits.

Send your unemployment proof to smw80subfund@gmail.com or fax it to 248-557-0297. To ensure payment by Friday, proof due by 2:00 PM on Tuesdays.

Important: Do not submit your UIA proof directly to the fund office.

For questions, call the hall at 248-557-7575.

SHORT WORK WEEK SUB PAY: If you miss work due to weather, and you are not laid off, the company must provide written documentation confirming the loss of hours was weather-related. If you work 16 hours or less in a week, you may be eligible to collect SUB, but only if the hours worked are at the beginning or end of a layoff.

#### To apply:

Complete the SUB application at the hall.

Provide a pay stub for the week.

The hall will submit your information to the fund office.

Make sure to follow these steps to ensure your eligibility.

MEMBERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: If you're facing challenges in your family, relationships, or dealing with stress, emotional difficulties, grief, or substance use, please reach out to our Assistance Program Ulliance at 1-800-448-8326 or visit www.LifeAdvisorEAP. com. Mention Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 when you call.

**NOTARY:** We have a notary public available at the hall at no charge.

SAVE THE DATES: Golf Outing- July 12 • Picnic- August 9

## Local 292 continued

your score, feel free to contact David Pistotti at (313) 623-9390. You cannot just show up. You must register by calling the Training Center.

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

Attention all Welders! We are looking for any member interested

#### Local 7 Officers:

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

Eric Farrington (Agent-Lansing/Jackson) 517-242-3223 Vance Saunders (Agent-Battle Creek/Kalamazoo) 269-569-9200 Mike Adams (Agent-Grand Rapids/Muskegon) 616-299-3752 Joe Dotson (Agent-Saginaw) 989-225-0095 John Amalfitano (Agent-Traverse City) 231-590-1112 Scott Brotherton (Agent-Flint) 810-836-3552 Brandon Langenfeld (Agent-Upper Peninsula) 906-372-9288

in a Saturday welding class Feb. 22, March 8, March 22 & March 29. These classes would be for members ready to obtain an AWS welding certification, learn how to weld, or need to practice welding.

Note: Anyone who signs up for a class, must pay a \$40 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.



Painters DC 1M WARREN – Dear Members.

DC1M WEBSITE: www. iupatdc1michigan.org DC 1M UNION CARDS\*

Any questions regarding a lost, damaged Union card, or if you have dues inquiries or have not received a card please contact the DC1M offices at:

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

6888

UPGRADE



There will be a Confined Space class held **ROBERT** Saturday Feb-

GONZALEZ ruary 8th at the Warren Training

Facility. There will be a Confined Space class held Saturday Feb. 15 at the Owosso Training Center.

Contact Director Shawn Oneill for more information or to sign up. (517)304-4425 or email dot@iupatdc1m.org

PAINTERS DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M SMART PHONE APP

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

For IPHONE go to IOS store, For ANDROID got to

Google Playstore Search for "Painters and Allied Trades" download APP

Username: your member id# Password: painters

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

To sign up or for more information contact FTI Director Shawn Oneill at dot@iupatdc1m. org or 517-304-4425.

GET INVOLVED AND PARTICIPATE IN YOUR **UNION!** 

**OUT OF WORK/ BACK** TO WORK: To keep work placement efficient, please notify the office when you are laid off or going back to work. Warren office# is 586-552-4474 or Freeland office# is 989-695-6888. New

job starts should be reported to the Union office, please do so Get involved. Work smart.

Work safe.





**Michigan Painters** 

**District Council** 

**District Council 1M Michigan** 

### 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 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

#### <u>Local Union 845</u>

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.

Local Union 2353 Business Rep: Tony Parker Meeting date: 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

14587 Barber Ave., Warren, MI.



## Laborers' Local 1191

(2161 West Grand Boulevard, Detroit, MI 48208) **DETROIT - LABORERS** 

**RISING:** Laborers Rising is a powerful initiative focused on building power and making a difference with our fellow sisters and brothers. Through Laborers Rising, Laborers Local 1191 will be asking its Membership to volunteer their time to support various issues that enhance the lives of working families. If you wish to join our Laborers Rising volunteer list, please call the Local Union at (313) 894-2241 M-F 8:00am - 4:00pm to provide necessary contact information.

**Regular Membership Up**dates: Please check out our website at www.laborerslocal1191.org and the "Laborers' Local 1191" Facebook page for important information about vour Local Union.

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

Monthly General Membership Meetings: All General Membership Meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Local Union, 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208 (except for holidays), unless the Membership receives notice of a meeting cancellation, rescheduling and/or a venue change. The next General Membership Meeting will be held on March 7, 2025. April's **General Membership Meeting** will be held on April 4, 2025.

**Monthly Retiree Council** Meetings: are the last Friday of each month. The meetings are held at 11 am at the Local Union, 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208. The next monthly meetings will be held on Feb. 28 and March 28.

Union Dues For 2025: Regular monthly dues are \$35.00 for Active Members. Retiree monthly dues will remain the same \$8.00. Members can now Pay Dues online 24/7 on our website at www.laborerslocal1191. org! To make online dues payments, click the "Pay Dues" tab in upper right-hand corner and follow the instructions.

Save Time & Money: We



### **Roofers Local 149**

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

Next General Membership Meeting: is scheduled for Tues. March 4, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216

**Executive Board Meeting:** The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., March 4, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

Mid-Michigan. The Mid-Michigan informational meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2025 at 6 p.m at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420

**Mid-Michigan negotiating** committee. Are you a strong advocate for yourself and your fellow Mid-Michigan 149 members? Have you ever considered being a part of your Union's collective-bargaining negotiating committee? The search for a collective-bargaining negotiating committee is coming. Nominations are being taken Tuesday, March 11, 2025.

In order to stand for election, you need to be a Journeyworker in good standing and you must be nominated by another member in good standing at the general membership meeting on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, or in writing via a nomination acceptance letter addressed to the Recording Secretary Tom Jaranowski by Monday, March 10, 2025, at 5 pm.

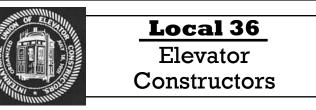
For the collective-bargaining negotiating committee description, please contact Business Manager Brian Gregg at 313.961.6093.

Out-Of-Work. When contractors call the Union Hall for help, we need to know who is available, and have an up-to-date phone number. All Detroit Area members who are out of work need to call the Hall at (313) 961-6093 ext. 0 to be put on the out of work list. 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.

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

Clearance Cards. Are you scheduled to go out of town for





### **Elevator Constructors Local 36**

DETROIT - ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED; Our next regular membership meeting will be Feb. 24, 2025, 5:30pm at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216. Any changes to this schedule or venue will be in the Building Trades Article or sent via email. There was a motion made and accepted at the January membership meeting to have a picnic in 2025. The motion was tabled for discussion and vote until the February meeting according to Article XIV Section 2. 11. of Local 36 Constitution and Bylaws.

There was also a motion to move the May membership meeting to May 19, 2025, due to Memorial Day holiday, it passed. The May meeting is also an election of officers meeting, April's meeting will be nominations of officers. So put both dates on your calendar.

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

You should have received the new 2025 wage rate and zone sheets in the mail, if not, you can stop in the hall or request them via email. Also, the IRS milage rate increased to \$.70 per mile.

We have newly designed window and hard hat stickers available in the hall. We also have a contest to come up with a new design for hardhat and window stickers. There will be two categories, kids 12 and under and an adult category, age 13 and up. The winner will be chosen by the officers who will judge all entries and pick a winner in each category. The prizes will be a \$150 visa gift card for the kids group and \$250 visa gift card for the adult group. Please submit all entries via email (local36@iuec36.org) with your name, age, phone number, email address and relationship to member (if it's a family member entering) by March 1, 2025. Winners will be announced at the March meeting and in the paper.

With the addition of the IUEC's Voluntary Income Protection (VIP) benefits, Local 36 has chosen to discontinue our agreement with American Income Life and their accidental death and disability coverage. Please contact the hall if you have any questions.

If you haven't enrolled in the IUEC's new National Voluntary Income Protection (VIP) benefits, we've entered the fourth enrollment window for guaranteed approved disability and life insurance coverage. To learn more or enroll, go to https://iuecvip.com or call the IUEC Service Center at 224-487-5030. These tax-free benefits can help you continue to get paid when you're unable to work due to illness, injury, surgery, mental health conditions, substance abuse treatment, or death. The benefits are paid in addition to other benefits you may receive, providing a financial safety net when you need it most.

The International has set up The Veteran Assistance Program to help veterans navigate the VA benefits they deserve. The email is vap@iuec. org or contact Jason Gray, IUEC National Organizer @ 404-290-1012 or Ryan Donnell, EIWPF National Coordinator @ 410-312-1474.

IUEC Local 36 has started a Veteran Assistance Committee. Scott Erison has volunteered to chair the committee and will be working directly with Jason Gray, IUEC VAP National Chair. Once we get a schedule figured out, we will have monthly meetings to get information out to our veterans. You don't have to be a veteran to be part of this committee, like me, my father is a Vietnam Vet, and I have witnessed firsthand what the veteran's benefits has done for him and I'm a big supporter of these programs and our veterans. Contact Scott Erison (586)482-0768 or email him at sanosire1973@gmail.com if you would like to get involved or have questions.

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

If you are going to be off with an injury (work related or non-work related), surgery or illness for a prolonged length of time, call the fund office (800)523-4702 and inform the hall. When you are off and go back to work. The weekly Income Benefit through the international has increased to \$715 weekly after the one (1) week waiting period.

The IUEC would like all active members and Probationary Apprentices to sign up for Safety alerts. The only thing you will receive are safety alerts, nothing political, just safety alerts. Text (855) 957-1801 and sign up to receive Safety alerts via text and email. If you start a new job in MOD/construction, you MUST report those jobs to the hall!! If you are going to be working a 4/10 job in construction or MOD, it MUST be submitted in writing to the Local Business Representative per Article VII Par. 2A. and Article VIII(A) Par. 2A. When starting a new job please email the hall @ Local36@ iuec36.org with job name, address, names of mechanics and apprentices on job, mechanic's phone numbers, how many teams, type of equipment installing, how many stops and jobsite hours. This will help us keep track of jobs easier than just calling the hall. Attention All Mechanics, just a reminder to Mechanics that passed the Mechanics Exam on or after July 9, 2022, starting Jan. 1, 2023, and each calendar year thereafter, each mechanic shall be required to successfully complete at least eight hours of online continuing education from the curriculum published annually by NEIEP. NEIEP will monitor compliance for all participants and upon successful completion will pay the participants' Mechanic rate for their home local (excluding benefit contributions). Required Mechanics (including assistant mechanics) that do not comply with the continuing education requirements shall not receive the wage rate increase until completion of the required continuing education curriculum. Attention All Apprentices, NEIEP classes started the week of Jan. 20, your instructor should have reached out to you via email or text with class times and days. Contact the hall if you have any questions. We are planning on having a Mechanic's review class in February, Jeff Patti will contact you with details of when dates are available. If you are scheduled to sit for the Mechanic's exam, you must fill out your OJTs till you get your passing results. Kenny and I would like to thank all of you for keeping up on your OJTs, schooling, and commitment to your future. Check your NEIEP emails frequently. OJT forms need to be filled out COMPLETELY by the 9th day of the following month. There is NO excuse for these to be late! Attention All Temporary Mechanics, your Temporary Mechanic's Agreement MUST be signed by the end of each month at the Union meeting. If you can't make the Union meeting (for good reasons) to sign your agreement, then come down to the hall the NEXT MORNING. If we continue to have problems getting these signed, you will be called down in front of the Executive board. If you are put back to Apprentice status, your personal tools MUST be taken off the job, out of your vehicle and notify the hall.

**Glaziers & Glassworkers 357** WARREN – Our next union meeting will be held on Monday March 3, 2025 at 5pm.

This meeting will be a "Special Called Meeting." At this meeting we will be holding local 357 officer elections, and will also be voting on the District Council 1M By-Laws. Please make every effort to attend.

With this bad weather we have several Local 357 members currently laid off. Please make every effort to make sure your certifications are up to date. This will help get you back to work.

The IUPAT pension has updated the pension website. There is new information that could be helpful.Iupatpension.org

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

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

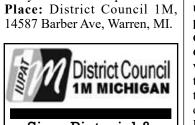
Dues payments may be mailed to the Union Office at 14587 Barber Avenue, Warren, MI 48088. Make checks payable to: **DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M** in care of Glassworkers #357.

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

#### (Continued next column)

"Our patience will achieve more than our force." -Edmund Burke (1729 -

1797)



## Sign, Pictorial & **Display Local 591**

Sign Pictorial & Display 591

WARREN - The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 4, at 5:30p.m. Trustees and union stewards meet at 5:00 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

## Local 357 cont'd

The Fund Office address is Michigan Glass and Glazing Joint Funds, P.O. Box 966, Troy, MI 48098-066; phone number: 248-641-4957; fax 248-813-9898.

If you are in need of safety 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

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

**Roll Call: All members on** the out-of-work list must reregister every quarter within the first five days of the following months: March, June, September and December. Your failure to do so will result in vour name being removed from the referral list. \*Example: If your name is on the list in April and/or May and you don't reregister by June 5th your name will be removed from the list. appointments for modules. You can also contact the Local Union office at (313) 894-2241 to use a Local Union computer to com-

plete required modules. Training: Check out the training classes available to you at no cost. Journeymen and Apprentices may still obtain training through MLTAI's online training

at https://lms.mltai.org. Types **MUST Safety Awareness** Training: Please check the MUST website at www.mustbsafe.com to see how many modules you have.

#### **IMPORTANT UNION BENEFIT CONTACT INFOR-**MATION:

Michigan Laborers' Fringe Benefits Funds (Annuity, Insurance, Pension)

•Telephone: (877) 645-2267 •Fax: (517) 689-6016

•Website: www.michiganlaborers.org

•Delta Dental: (800) 524-0149

•Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Pension)

•Telephone: (248) 641-4942 \*Fax: (248) 813-9898 Metropolitan Detroit Labor-

ers' (Healthcare)

\*Telephone: (800) 228 0048

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. Vacation and Holiday

Check Direct Deposit. Members have the option to have their Vacation and Holiday check direct deposited in their bank account. This includes all contracted areas. To get your Vacation check direct deposited, members will need to complete a direct deposit agreement. The form will be available at the Detroit and Mid-Michigan Union Hall. Member will need to know the following Financial Institution information, Routing No., Account No., and name of Financial Institution.

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

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

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

**Mid-Michigan Training** Center Information. The next term for all Mid-Michigan Apprentices will be as follows:

Every Thursday from 6-8 p.m. until further notice

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 to make arrangements.

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.

The publication above is as 2/17/2025, 11:00am In Solidarity, Brian Gregg Business Manager, Roofers & Waterproofers Local No.149

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

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

We would like to wish a speedy recovery for the Brothers and Sisters on our sick list.

Be safe and stay healthy!





IBEW Local 557

SAGINAW – UNION NEWS- Moving forward, Union meetings will begin at 6:00pm due to many members working overtime at Project Phoenix and other jobs as well.

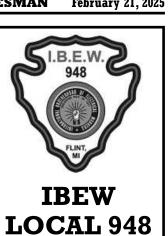
**NEW MEMBER ORI-ENTATION-** Thank you to all who attended February's New Member Orientation. It was the largest class of its kind that Local 557 has ever put on. There were 46 new members in attendance. Local 557 works hard at getting information to new members to make their new membership transition go as easy as possible.

**RETURN OF POKER NIGHT-** Local 557 Poker nights for Winter 2025 are happening. The next planned game is March 20 at 6pm. All are welcome to play some friendly games of poker and have fun with other members of the local.

LOCAL 557 ORGANIZ-ING- Rex and Gus are doing great work for Local 557 on the organizing front. Organizing is a tough task in the IBEW and in the trades in general. Some conversations with unrepresented workers are harder than others. Please give Rex and Gus all the help they need to succeed and get results for the Local. If you see something and wish to point it out to them, please reach out to Rex at 989-890-4578 and Gus can be reached at 989-941-8046.

**PROJECT PHOENIX'S** dynamic has changed recently. To get manpower moving onto the job site a new incentive package had been put in place. This incentive has been a big help towards manning the project and we can expect calls to continue for the Mega Project in Hemlock.

Thank you to all who helped man this project and look for more calls in the future. More calls for all 3 contractors on the Mega Project will continue as the job progresses forward. Most calls have all gone to Book 2 lately and some members have only been on the Book for a week or so. The next step for this project appears to be putting on a 2<sup>nd</sup> shift. All 3 contractors are poised



IBEW Local 948 FLINT – Meetings

**Membership Meeting** - Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will be March 10, 2025 at 6:00 PM.

**Retiree Meetings** - The next meeting will be April 1 at 9 am.

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

**Work Outlook** - Our work outlook is steady with a slow ramp possible leading to the upcoming months. For further details on job information please ensure the hall has your email address for our job calls and re-signs.

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

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

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

**New Membership** - Welcome to our latest member, Dwayne Aston. We look forward to working with you and hope to see you in the field.

**Retirees** - Congratulations to Todd Beamish & Fredrick Paulin on your pension application. The membership would like to wish you a healthy and relaxing retirement.

**Draping of the Charter** -Our condolences to the family of Henry Snyder. We are tremendously sorry for your losses and will continue to keep our Brother in our hearts.

## Local 557, con't

you could catch a health concern early and help keep the cost of



Since 1916

### IBEW Local 131

KALAMAZOO – The next General Membership Meeting will be held on March 3, at 6 p.m. The next Renew meeting will

be held on March 17, at 5 p.m. **The Executive Board** meeting will be held on March 17, at 5 p.m. **Women in the Trades** Meeting will be held March 18, at 6 p.m.

The EWMC meeting will be held Feb. 25, at Union Hall, at 5 p.m. The Veterans Group will be meeting on March 6, at 5 p.m.

Retirees' Group meeting will be held on April 8, at Union Hall, at 2:30 p.m.

**Brotherhood Night** is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month at RJ's from 3:30 to 5:30p.m. 8118 Portage Rd. Portage. Key an eye out for location changes on the local's FB page.

Member Orientation on Saturday, Feb. 22 at 8 a.m. Includes breakfast.

Saturday April 26 @1 p.m. **Detroit Tigers Union Day Game** against the Baltimore Orioles. We have reserved a bus for safe travel. Go to the local website for more details

**Pension Education** class is scheduled for May 8, at the Union Hall, at 6:00p.m.

The **Work Outlook** continues to be steady but slowing down. Holtec and Champion have agreed to pay \$15.00 an hour over scale. There will be requirements for proof of knowledge in control wires termination, fiber optics termination and LAN terminations. Watch the website for job calls (IBEW131.com).

Our new Member Assistance Program (Ulliance) is now accessible to all our active members. Services include mental health, substance use, and relationship counseling, as well as legal consultation, child/elder care referrals, and crisis intervention. These primary resources can be accessed by calling the hotline number (800) 449-8326. Other web based programs such as discounts and health resources can be found on the website or apps.

Apprenticeship Applications: We often get calls on how to apply to Kalamazoo Apprenticeship Program. To apply, go



#### INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS IBEW Local 692 Multiple Prevail

BAY CITY – The March monthly membership meeting will be held at 6 P.M. Monday, March 3, 2025.

The March Executive Board Meeting will be held at 6 P.M. on Monday, March 17, 2025.

Message from the Business Manager. I would like to give Brother Brian Klele a huge thank you! Words cannot convey the appreciation this Local has for all that you have sacrificed over the past 5 years. For those of you that have not heard, Brother Klele has decided there are greener pastures and it is time to spread his wings and fly. Like a true Wireman, he let me know that he was dragging up!

I could not be prouder of the job you did Brother. You always had my back and I never had to worry for 1 second that you wouldn't. You always put our membership first above things even in your personal life. Our market share has continued to grow and membership has risen by over 100 members under your leadership. You signed multiple new contractors. You are the epitome of what a Union Organizer is. I know damn well the sacrifices you and your wife Alitha have made over the past 5 years. Thank you and her for that. You left our Local Union a better place. I will miss you dearly Bro. Love you very much, catch you on the next big one. Thank you!

This Sunday Feb. 23 will be our 4th annual Battle on the Bay Ice Fishing Tournament. This is a tremendous event our Local has and we owe it all to our RENEW Committee. Thanks to all of them for their hard work on this event. Surrounding Locals will be attempting to get their name on the trophy. If you are someone that gets into Ice Fishing please come out and support our RENEW committee and most importantly keep our trophy at home where it belongs. All IBEW 692 members in good standing or any other local are invited to participate in this great day! I will be there and hope to see all of you there as well!

**2025 IBEW International** Annual Golf Tournament. The 2025 IBEW International annual golf tournament is being held in Elmira, NY, Akron Ohio in 2026 and Columbus Ohio in 2027. This year's 3-day tournament will be held July 30 - Aug. 1. Included is 3 rounds of golf and a banquet on the last day with awards and prizes. Additionally, open bar daily with food and snacks, all for \$275. Interested members can contact Terry Brandenburg (586-854-3447). **Registration** deadline is Tuesday, April 15. Work Report. Ongoing projects in our jurisdiction continues to be very, very strong. Many calls have been very difficult to find the amount of help needed. Calls that may require additional manpower include: A sizeable project this spring at Bay City's GM Powertrain site is currently being bid by signatory contractors. Larger projects are also coming at Consumers Energy's Karn site in Essexville.

WORKERS MICHIGAN Multiple Prevailing Wage projects in Bay City will also be bid soon.

J. Ranck Electric is continuing work at SK Siltron semiconductor chip manufacturing facility, thanks in part to \$560M which was allocated by the Biden administration as part of the Chips & Science Act. J. Ranck has also secured both phases 4 and 5 on this project and calls are coming in. Ranck is continuing work on their Mission Street Solar project through the winter. This is a 250-mw site which will require a substantial number of JIWs from our hall to complete.

**Master Electric** has recently secured Phase 2 and began work at Bangor Schools.

**Countyline Power** has ongoing work at the Mt. Pleasant Water Treatment facility and Harrisville Pumpstations.

**Clements Electric** has work at Mersen USA. Work on the Midland Center for the Arts, Delta College Chillers.

**Conti Electric** has projects that are ramping up inside the I-Park (Dow) and also has work at the Karn Generation Facility.

**Superior Electric** has a new line out to Bay City Powertrain along with a cooling tower project. An open job call remains for this project.

Zone 2 contractors have been bidding and securing a fair amount of work, doing a great job of keeping their crews busy.

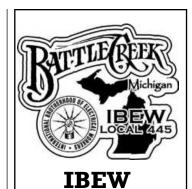
John's Electric has secured nice projects in Luzerne, Rogers, and a considerable amount of work in Alpena schools. Work on the CMU Tower building in Atlanta will begin later this month. Hardie's Electric has ongoing work in Cheboygan and Towers. Northern Valley continues work at the Holcim Cement Plant. Pierce Powerline has secured work in the Oscoda schools.

All locals in Michigan have many calls getting into Book II. No Inside Wireman should be without an opportunity to work as we have also had open calls for some time. If you are looking for work, please do not hesitate to contact the Union Hall. Please note when calling the job line to use extension #1.

## In Solidarity, Ryan Charney Business Manager/Financial Secy

**Organizer's Report.** Visits to non-union job sites and outreach to unrepresented electricians continues.

Involvement in school pretations and apprenticeship recruitment events has ramped up considerably over the past few months. JATC personnel are also helping with this effort. Apprenticeship classes have grown nearly 300% over the past few years to keep up with demands from local contractors. JATC has also indentured at record levels to combat attrition due to so many of our active JIWs reaching retirement age. Apprenticeship application information is available by calling Casey or Jason at the Bay City Electrical JATC. We've organized and are hosting the Skills USA regional electrical construction competition at our Training Facility on Friday, Feb. 21 at 9 AM. Bay Arenac ISD students will compete with Lapeer and Huron Co. ISD students. We are especially excited to host the Huron County students as they are instructed by 692 JIW Mark Aymen. 692 member and Skills USA alumnus Randy Bernard will serve as the judge. If any members or retirees are interested in helping out, please contact me. On the political front, it's too soon to tell if the recent historic investments into green energy infrastructure and American manufacturing will continue. If they do continue, they may move forward without the worker protections and union-friendly provisions that incentivize local labor, which have led to an abundance of work for IBEW members in Michigan and Across the Nation. Uncertainty about tariffs on construction materials may lead to canceled projects if agreements cannot be made. With OSHA and the NLRB temporarily unable to function as intended, it is important to be thankful we are protected under the terms of our Collective Bargaining Agreements. It is our duty as Union members to offer those same protections to unrepresented workers in our industry. to expected open calls at home and in nearby 557 throughout 2025. We must do all we can to provide our local contractors with the skilled manpower they need to continue bidding the projects we worked (Continued next column)



# Local 445

BATTLE CREEK – 2025 due's structure. The Delegates of the 40th IBEW International Convention, which was conducted in Chicago, Illinois, during the week of May 9-13, 2022, approved several amendments to Article IX of the IBEW Constitution.

Accordingly, effective Jan. 1, 2025, there is an increase of \$1.00 for the IBEW Pension Benefit Fund (PBF) contribution, which applies to "A" members only, and \$1.00 for the IBEW Per Capita. Effective July 1, 2025, there will be an increase of \$1.00 for the IBEW Per Capita.

As of Jan. 1, 2025, thru June 30, 2025, the following due's structure:

*JIWs:* Monthly \$60.00 • Quarterly \$180.00

Apprentices: Monthly \$49.00 • Quarterly \$147.00

As of **July 1, 2025**, the following due's structure:

JIWs: Monthly \$61.00 • Quarterly \$183.00

Apprentices: Monthly \$50.00 • Quarterly \$150.00

**Death Benefit Assessments.** Please contact the Hall to verify if you have any Death Benefit Assessments due on your account before paying your dues so you can add it to your quarterly dues payment

**Code Update Classes,** Online Courses are also available. Please contact BCEJATC, (269) 300-8002 to sign up for the online course.

**IBEW Local 445 App/ Website** The new app & website are now live. Local 445 Members can register to access the app. You are now able to pay your dues online via the app or website. Please visit the app & website to access the calendar of events. Please notify the Hall if you have any questions or concerns with the App or Website.

**Organizing** If you know of any Electricians interested in joining the IBEW, please contact Travis at (269) 339-8377. The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 2022 Constitution states **"The object of the IBEW is to organize all workers in the entire electrical industry."** 

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

to get this up and running as soon as possible.

**MEMBERSHIP MEET-INGS-** The next membership meeting is March 4 and will start at **6 pm**.

UNION HALL OPERA-TIONS- New normal Business Hours are Monday-Friday 7am to 12pm, CLOSED for lunch, and re-open again from 1pm to 4:30pm. Please make a note of this as this change has recently gone into effect to better serve the members due to the surge in manpower running through the Local.

**BOOK SIGNING-** If you are a Local 557 member and receive a lay-off while working on a 557 referral, you must come to the hall and sign Book 1 in-person. Many Locals throughout the State of Michigan will continue to accept fax/email initial book signings. If you are interested in this reciprocated benefit and would like to be on some out-oftown Books, please call the hall to arrange this. Book 2 members can have their Union Hall send an email to either jobline@ibew557. org or renee@ibew557.org.

**WORK OUTLOOK-** Members of other Locals can sign Book 2 by contacting their Hall for a simple email to be sent on your behalf, if in good standing.

At the time of this writing most calls have been filled at Project Phoenix but more calls are expected for J. Ranck, Conti and Nooter in the near future. At the time of this writing, 302 IBEW members working on Project Phoenix. Van Ert Electric from Wisconsin continues to work on the Wheeler Dairy Farms. Weinstein Electric from Local 948 continues work on the new Bavarian Inn Waterpark in Frankenmuth. Overtime is available for all three of these big projects. Master Electric continues to work on a project at SVSU. Local contractors continue to work on various projects at schools, hospitals, some auto plants, and other various jobs. More solar projects are slated to begin in early 2025.

HEALTH CARE- Don't forget to schedule your annual physical with your doctor. By completing your annual physical, health care down. Registering on the Blue Cross/Blue Shield website is highly recommended. Please take the time to visit <u>www.</u> <u>bcbsm.com</u>. 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 the following: 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 request

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

JOB CALLS- Please stay vigilant checking the Job Line if you are seeking work. All work calls for the day will be available on the Job Line after 4:30 pm. IF YOU ARE SEEKING WORK don't forget to CALL 989-781-0516, option 3. Local 557 utilizes a bid system for job calls. If you see a call you would like please place a bid on the telephone system and call backs will occur the next business day to fill the calls until they are gone.

**STAY CURRENT ON DUES** –Please check to see if you are current. The Hall can accept credit cards. The credit card service can accept payments for dues, merchandise, apprentice book payments and other purchases. There is a convenience fee for the service. You can pay for these purchases over the phone if you wish.

**CONTACT NUM**-**BERS-** Michigan Electrical Employee Pension fund and Michigan Health Plan (855)633-4584. Website is: <u>www.michi-ganelectrical.org</u> to <u>www.kalamazoojatc.com</u> and navigate to the application page.

If you know of electricians interested in joining the IBEW, please contact Ryan at (269) 366-0322 or <u>rlewis@ibew131.com</u>.

With a heavy heart, I am sad to report Brother Larry D. Smith, a 57-year-old member, passed away on Jan. 24, 2025, at the age of 81. Larry was a smart, hard-working journeyman. Larry traveled the world for work and pleasure. Larry's celebration of life will be held this spring.

Lunches at the following locations:

March 19, Julianna's, 2105 Lake St., Kalamazoo, 49001 @ 11.

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

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

**Retirees:** A new group is forming the "IBEW 131 Retirees Group". We plan to meet on April 8 at 2:30PM.

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

NEBF 301-556-4300

IO Pension 202-833-7000 Life Events: Marriage, Divorce, Birth of children, Adoption and Deaths all require documentation to be submitted to our benefits office. If you need help call the hall for guidance.

Wilson-McShane, our new benefits administrator, has the website: michiganelectrical.org. up and running. Please log in and click on the "Member Portal" (on the left side of the screen) to (Continued next column)

## IBEW 131, con't

begin the steps to register your account. If you would like to call, their phone no. is **855-633-4584.** 

Check out the Local 131 website. There is a new tab called "Retirees." You can find the Retirees calendar of Events. There is a list of those who have retired. If you think of something you believe we should post, please let me know. All Memorials (members and members families) and full obituaries can be viewed on the website under the "Memorials" Tab. If you hear of anyone's passing, please notify the Hall.

Job listings can be tracked. A recorded message of calls for employment will be available after 5 p.m. by calling (269) 382-1762 and posted on the website under "Job Listings". The job call will list the name of the employer, and the number of employees needed. The Union business office will offer all the work calls available at the time of the job offer. Any registrants that are interested in a call may either apply in person at the union business office between 8:00a.m. and 8:30a.m. OR leave a message on the recorder, stating they wish to apply for a job call.

Three Months or more behind in counter dues payments are the following suspended members: Gary Yerden, and Joseph Zirkelbach. *Morris Applebey* 

Business Manager

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

Local Website - Please check the Local 445 website for the latest information, including job postings. The Local 445 web address is **IBEW445.com**. Make sure you check out **the Benefits Tab** for important related websites.

**2025 Personal information** Please keep your address, phone number and email address up to date at the Hall. Also, contact the Hall with marriages, births of children and divorces. You have a limited time frame to add/ remove dependents. Beneficiary cards and forms are also available at the Hall when you need to update them.

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

Local 445 Golf Outing The Local 445 Golf Outing is scheduled for July 12, 2025. Respectfully Submitted, Wanda Secrest Recording Secretary

## IBEW 692, con't

so hard to secure. This is not the time to become complacent or pull the ladder up. We need to continue to organize.

Brendon Baranek bbaranek@ ibew692.org 989.327.4131

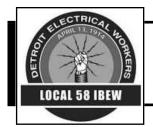
Ice Fishing Tournament. 692 Renew Committee's fourth annual Battle on the Bay ice fishing tournament has been reschedueld for Sunday. Feb. 23.

. All IBEW members and retirees are welcome to participate. Please preregister if you plan to attend by contacting Garrett at 989.600.5555.

#### Important links & numbers Health Plan & Pension

Fund 855.633.4584 – www.michiganelectrical.org NEBF/ NEAP: 301.556.4300





# **IBEW LOCAL 58**

**IBEW Local 58** 

DETROIT - The next General Membership meeting: will be held on Tuesday, March 18, 2025. Dinner with the brotherhood begins at 5:30 pm and the meeting starts at 6:30 pm. Parking will continue to be tight with the construction project well under way. Your patience is appreciated!

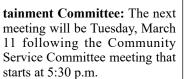
Great News! Every Wednesday from 12-4 pm you can sign for Sub Pay in Port Huron. You will need to go to the Port Huron Labor Temple at 2441 W. Water St. Port Huron, MI 48060. If you have any questions, please contact Business Agent Paul Ledsworth at 313-802-4970.

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

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

IBEW Local 58 Brick Pavers- are available for purchase, if you would like to purchase a brick, please contact the Union Hall for an Order Form. 7x9 brick pavers can have up to 6 lines of lettering and 17 spaces per line, \$100.00 Donation per Brick. NOTE: No symbols or clipart can be added to brick pavers. To purchase or for questions about the brick pavers please contact Stacy at the Union Hall 313-963-2130, extension 3015.

**Local 58 Dues Department** - Look at your Dues Receipt, if you are paid through date shows 6-30-2024 you have lapsed and will need to make an Executive Board appointment to be reinstated. If your paid date shows 9-30-2024 you will have the \$30.00 reinstatement fee. It is your responsibility to pay your



**EWMC of Southeastern MI:** The next chapter meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 17 at 6pm. This will be an inperson meeting with a ZOOM option. Please make sure your cell phone no. and your email address are up to date. The meeting information will be sent out as soon as available. If you are not receiving the notices, please make sure that your information is updated here at the hall.

If you were a delegate for the 2025 EWMC Leadership Conference in St. Louis please be sure to fill out the conference survey on the website (www. ibew-ewmc.com). Thank you to all who participated in the fundraising efforts for the conference. March is Reading Month and we will once again be participating in 313 Reads with DPSCD on Friday, March 14. All volunteers have to fill out the volunteer form on the DPSCD website. Stay tuned for more volunteer opportunities in the near future.

The Safety Committee meeting will be on Monday, March 10, 2025, at 5:30 PM.

The Veterans Committee will be meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm.

Local 58's Women's Committee - The next meeting will be Thursday, Feb. 27 at 5:30p.m.at the Hall and on Zoom. If you have questions, please contact Committee Chair Angela Panicucci (586-291-8014) or Co-chair Liz Gorski (586-921-3087), Email at 58womenscommittee@ ibewlocal58.org

The Political Action Committee: If you have any questions or concerns or would like to attend our next PAC meeting, you can reach out to our registrars at registrar1@ibew58.org. Political Action Committee meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month via Zoom and in person at the Hall at 5:30 pm.

**IBEW Local 58 Retirees** Association: The next Retirees luncheon will be Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2025, at The Gazebo Banquet Center, 31104 Mound Road, Warren. Doors open at 11, lunch is served at 12:30 pm. Lunch is \$25 per person, send your reservations and checks (payable to the Retirees Association) to IBEW #58,



**IBEW Local 252** 

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

**TRAINING CLASSES** 2025: ALL CLASSES START AT 5:00 PM

Masters Prep- (Mondays) March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 & April 7 Conduit Bending- (Wednesdays) January 15, 22, 29 February

5, 19 & 26 EPRI Part B- (Tuesday's) January 21, 28 February 4, 11,

18, 25 March 4, 11, 18 & 25 OHSA 30- (Tuesdays and Thursdays) May 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27 & 29

CPR- (Tuesdays) March 4 & 11, June 3 & 10, September 2 & 9, December 2 & 9

All classes require a \$50 deposit. Call the school 734-475-1180 to add your name to the desired class ahead of time. All evening classes are held from 5-9 PM.

If there's interest in a class not listed, please call the school and request it. Once there's enough interest in the class, it will be scheduled.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD** VACANCY: If you are interested in serving on the Local 252 Executive Board, please contact the Union Hall at (734) 424-0978.

2025 UNION 4 LIFE GUN CALENDAR: Purchase your 2025 USA Union Sportsmen Calendar and enter the USA's 2025 2-Guns-A-Week Sweepstakes for 104 chances to win a firearm in 2025! Beginning Monday, January 6, 2025, prize winners will be drawn each week for 52 weeks. Sweepstakes entrants are eligible to win multiple prizes! These calendars make great Christmas gifts for the hunters/ gun enthusiasts in your life or just treat yourself for a chance to win! Online calendar registration is available until April 15, 2025. Only mail-in registrations will be accepted after that date. Entries registered after Jan. 1 will only be included in drawings that occur after the registration date. Calendars are \$35.00 and can be purchased from an apprentice, the

AT&T DISCOUNT: Union



receive prizes. X Golf has a fullservice bar and kitchen that will be open and ready to serve. The cost is \$80 per participant and includes a Union 4 Life t-shirt and goodie bag. A deposit of \$20 per player, or \$80 per team is due by Monday, February 24th to reserve your spot. Checks payable to Union 4 Life or Joe Jarecki, or cash can be dropped off at the JATC or Union Hall, or you can pay by Venmo. Contact Joe Jarecki for more information, (734) 770-5114 or joejarecki4@gmail. com.

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 join the fun.

**RETIREES' BREAK-**FAST: The Retirees' Breakfast will take place the second Wednesday of each month at 9:00 a.m. (new time) 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.

M.U.S.T DRUG TEST-**ING**: 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 for the Electronic Reciprocity Transfer System. You must be signed up for ERTS before working outside of Local 252's jurisdiction or your benefits will not be transferred back

**EMPLOYEE ASSIS-**TANCE PROGRAM: Local 252 partners with Health Management Systems of America to provide Employee Assistance for several issues. For confidential 24/7 assistance, call tollfree 1-800-847-7240, or visit www.my-life-resource.com and use username: hmsa, password: myresource for more information.

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



# Local 275

#### **IBEW Local 275**

COOPERSVILLE - Work in the jurisdiction remains steady with calls on the job recorder regularly. Please continue to call the job line if you are seeking work in Local 275.

The St Patrick's Day parade is here again! Please join us and other labor unions as we walk the parade through Grand Rapids. This will count as community service for all apprentices, and a great time for all who join us! The parade will be held on Saturday March 15. Please reach out to Geoff for details on location and time.

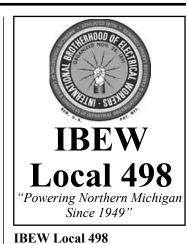
The annual Wild Game Dinner is approaching fast. If you would like to attend, please make sure to save the date and reach out to the Hall to reserve tickets! This year's dinner will be held at the Sherman Banquet Center in Muskegon on Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. The LPC committee is still looking for and accepting donations of wild game. Please reach out to Walter with any questions. Local 275's Veteran's Committee will be meeting for the first time on February  $25^{th}$  @ 6:00pm here at the Union Hall.

Code update will only be available online going forward. Please go to the JATC website at www.wmejatc.org and click the Code Update Course link to sign up. The cost for members is \$40 for the online course.

If you want to get added to our blast email list, please reach out to Nicole at the Hall to get on the list.

We have a list of over 50 members who have vacation fund money that has yet to be deposited because of lack of account info. If you have not set up your account info for vacation fund deposits, please call Nicole to get that taken care of.

For any members still using the 1-800 number to call the Union Hall Offices, please note that we removed that line several months ago. If you are having



TRAVERSE CITY - Meetings. Regular E Board- The next

regularly scheduled E-Board meeting is set for Monday, March 10, 2025, @ 5:30pm.

Regular Meeting – The next regularly scheduled membership meeting is Scheduled for 7pm Monday, March 10, 2025.

**PICNIC** – At the Feb 10, 2025 meeting a motion was made and passed to have the annual summer picnic this year. It will be held at Timber Ridge Resort & Campground on Aug 16, 2025. Please watch your mailbox for a postcard notice in the near future. For those not familiar with Timber Ridge it is a campground that also has cabins for rent. There are a lot of kid's activities and they will have access to use all of them. You can access more information at their website at www. timberridgeresort.net.

Resale Items - The new order of Tee shirts is in, as well as Beanie Hats for resale. Proud Union Home signs are in and available at the hall. Free to members in good standing

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

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!

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!

dues on time – this could affect your retirement and death benefit.

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

**Detroit Electrical Workers Benevolent Fund (DEWBF):** Next Benevolent Fund meeting will be Tuesday March 4.

The 22nd Annual Ken Fitzhenry Party on Super Bowl Sunday was a great event and a good day of Brotherhood. The Grand Prize winner of the 75inch TV and stereo recliner was Nathan Hinton. All other winners have been notified. The pizza truck was a great success and the pizza was delicious. Attendance was light this year and we look forward to a bigger turnout for next year.

The next event is the Walleye Tournament which will be on Saturday, May 3. The Battle of the Trades winner last year was the Brickies BAC Local 2. Looking for more trades to get involved this year and get your name on the plaque for bragging rights.

More information will be coming out soon.

Also apprentice applications for the John Mayernick scholarship are due by March 2, 2025.

Members of the Community Service Committee: The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 11 at 5:30p.m. The Wobbly Kitchen (Sundays in the Park) will be the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, starting at the union hall and then traveling to Cass Park. We are asking volunteers to show up at the hall at 8 a.m. to help with food prep, organization, and loading. Questions can be directed to Ray Kujawski at (248) 496-1916 (call, text, leave a voicemail). Local 58 is very active with community service in the Metro Detroit area and has a variety of upcoming projects that require the help of volunteers and helping hands. Contact the Union Hall (313) 963-2130 or Ray Kujawski (number above) for further information about volunteering or participating.

Members of the Enter-

Attn. Retirees, P.O. Box 32756, Detroit 48232-0756. Questions and/or reservations call Elaine Crawford at 313 408-5885. Our next board meeting happens on Wednesday, March 12 at 10 a.m. in the main conference room at the local union hall.

The September Bus Trip is heading to Washington DC.The trip takes place Sept.12-16. Total cost for the trip per person, \$710, based on double occupancy. Send in your \$75 deposit per person, to hold your spot. This promises to be a great trip. Call Dave Riley with questions or for the address to send your deposit, 586 206-8075.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** Meetings take place every Wednesday at the IBEW Local 58 Union Hall, (1358 Abbott St, Detroit, MI 48226), starting at 6:00 pm. All trades welcome.

**Electrical Workers Credit** Union: Our website is http:// WWW.EWCU.NET (313) 963-6060. In the market for a loan? Check out our low rates! New auto as low as 5.25%. Give us a call today to find out how to apply or go online at http://www.ewcu. net. State of Michigan Escheat Law: The law states that any deposit account with no activity for 3 years must be turned over to the State. What can you do? Contact us today to find out your account status. Conduct a transaction by either deposit or withdraw (any amount). Close account.

IBEW Pension: Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: William Coon and Kevin Thibodeau.

Members who have Passed Away: Our heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of our fallen Brothers and Sisters. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss.

Robert "Bob" Cora Jr., Pension member, 43-year IBEW membership; Bernard Crittenden, Pension member, 30-year IBEW membership; Lawrence DeVergilio, Pension member, 70-year IBEW membership; Joseph Gressman, Pension member, 60-year IBEW membership; and Michael Lukasavage, Pension member, 53-year IBEW membership.

training center, or online at www. union4lifecharity.com.

**IBEW 252 APP FOR AN-DROID:** If you use an android phone, you must redownload the IBEW 252 app, which is now available in the app store.

**RENEW BENEVOLENT EUCHRE & CRIBBAGE** TOURNAMENT: Stop by the Union Hall 4-9 p.m. on February 22<sup>nd</sup> to play card games to raise donations for the Benevolent Fund. Prizes will be given to tournament winners. If you'd like to volunteer or make donations, please contact Dan Beck (810) 858-0033, Johnathan Gilbert (517) 920-1422, or Dennis Locks (734) 646-0425. This event takes place at the same time as the Chili Cook Off.

EWMC CHILI COOK OFF: Please bring your best cooked chili to EWMC's Chili Cook Off on February 22<sup>nd</sup> from 4-9 p.m. at the Union Hall. There will be multiple judges and the winner will receive a gift. Please provide an ingredient list for allergy purposes. If you would like to volunteer or have questions, please contact Yohance Jennings (313) 283-3294, or Dan Beck (810) 858-0033

**RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE:** American Red Cross will be at the Union Hall on February 25<sup>th</sup> from 12 p.m.- 6 p.m. For an appointment, visit redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code "Jeremy", or call 1-800-RED CROSS. Walk-in donations are also accepted. Please take time to honor Jeremy Loy's memory with your donation.

WINTER GATHERING: This year's Winter Gathering will be on Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. We meet at Golden Coral, 4705 US Highway 98 North in Lakeland, FL. Hope to see you there. We really do have a good time and lots of laughs.

**UNION 4 LIFE INDOOR GOLF OUTING:** Join us 10 a.m. on March 29th at X Golf Ann Arbor, 333 N. Maple Rd., Ann Arbor for the first event of this kind. This will be a 4-person scramble playing the best ball, 9 holes. We have the simulators for 3 hours. The top 3 teams will

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.

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

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

**CONDOLENCES:** The Local sends our sincere condolences to the family of Jane Mellinger, who passed away on January 6, 2025. Jane was the mother of Scott Mellinger and the grandmother of Fletcher Mellinger. The Local sends our sincere condolences to the family of Local 252 Brother Ron Smith, who passed away on February 5, 2025. Ron was the father of Robb Smith. The Local sends our sincere condolences to the family of David Gawlik, who passed away on February 12, 2025. David was the father of Brandon Linnabury.

DUES PAYMENTS Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 12/2024, your dues are not current. The Union Hall accepts payment by cash, check or credit card. There is a 3% discount for paying by cash or check. Dues for "A" members are \$140.25 by cash or check, or \$144.46 by credit card for first quarter 2025. Dues for "BA" members are \$70.80 by cash or check, or \$72.92 by credit card for first quarter for 2025. Please mail your check to 7920 Jackson Rd.,

(Continued next column)

trouble reaching the office, please double check that you aren't using that number.

As a reminder, the Local Union Hall offices have changed their hours. The offices will be open from 8am-12:30pm, 1pm-4:30pm.

Anyone interested in signing up for Foreman training, please reach out to Jonas at the Hall to get on the list.

Monthly dues will be increasing by \$2 in January of 2025. Please adjust any automatic payments to reflect the new monthly dues amount of \$49.90. At the time of this writing the following members are three months or more behind on dues: Michael Bayne, Scott Erb, Kenneth Krawczak, Michael Nielsen, and Jeffrey Vandewater. Please make every effort to become current with your dues as soon as you can.

## Local 252 cont'd

Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Your first quarter dues (January through March) are due now. Payments for first quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Monday, March 31, 2025. **Future Dues Increases:** 

Effective July 1, 2025: A Members will pay \$143.25/cash or check, \$147.55/credit card. BA members will pay \$73.80/cash or check, \$76.01/credit card.

"Goodness is the only investment that never fails." Henry David Thoreau

(1817 - 1862)

Important numbers for you to write in your address book:

MEEHP (Health) 1-855-633-4584 Website: www.michiganelectrical.org

**MEEPP** (MI Pension) 1-855-633-4584

(New address Michigan Pension and Health Plan)

**3001 Metro Drive Suite** 500, Bloomington, MN 55425 NEBF 1-301-556-4300 NEAP 1-301-556-4300 IO Pension 1-202-833-7000 DUES RATES

Jan 1, 2025 – Dues increase to \$161.10/Quarter.

July 1, 2025 – Dues increase to \$164.10/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. 2#

"Mix a little foolishness with your prudence: It's good to be silly at the right moment.' -Horace (65 BC - 8 BC)



# **Students get career lessons in trades**

(Continued from Page 1) career path," said Jason Khoury, the construction industry council lead for West Michigan Works!, which provides support and connections for current and potential job seekers. "We received a lot of positive feedback, which we plan on incorporating into future events as we grow the program."

A nationwide survey last summer released by the Associated General Contractors found that 90 percent of construction contractors report they are having a hard time filling open positions.

While there have been past career outreach programs in West Michigan by the construction industry, Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council Business Representative James Callahan said union participation had been lacking. The opportunity of being able to partner with West Michigan Works! and have the students transported to both of the union apprenticeship schools - which are only minutes apart - made for a convenient teaching and learning opportunity. The students split their day-long field trip into morning and afternoon visits to Local 275's and Local 174's training centers.

"We wanted to get our unions in the region more involved into outreach with young people looking at careers, and this was a first time for us," Callahan said. "The event went really well. I know a lot of other unions would like to get involved, like the sheet metal workers and the carpenters, but unfortunately we're limited by the locations of our schools. These are tough to do if the driving distance for the kids is too great.'

Khoury said West Michigan Works! is planning on using the lessons learned from these apprenticeship school visits to help launch expanded regional outreach efforts in October. It will be an "opportunity to showcase construction careers," not only by building trades unions, but by community colleges, construction jobsite visits, and employers, he said.

"Learn to see in another's calamity the ills which you should avoid.

–Publilius Syrus (~100 BC)

Asbestosis



IBEW LOCAL 275 apprenticeship instructor Bryce Butler and first-year apprentice Logan Gorman talk to high school students at the union's school during the construction field trip on Feb. 5.





FOURTH-YEAR APPRENTICE Kerado Harris of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 174 makes a demonstration to West Michigan high schoolers at the local's apprenticeship school during the **Construction Field Trip event on Feb. 5.** 



FIFTH-YEAR apprentices Nathan Voss and Edward Ryan show some tools of the pipe trades to West Michigan high school juniors and seniors during their "Construction Field Trip." The event was held Feb. 5, and included a stop at the Plumbers, Pipe Fitters and Service Trades Local 174 apprenticeship school in Coopersville, located between Grand Rapids and Muskegon.

FIRST-YEAR apprentices Jonathan Rosenberg and Zach Meeks of IBEW Local 275 connect with high school students potentially interested in a career as an electrician. They're visiting the Local 275 apprenticeship school in Coopersville.

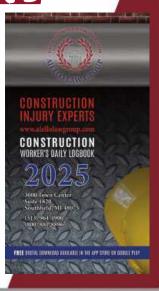
# **2025 LOGBOOKS ARE HERE**

### HARD COPY & MOBILE APP VERSIONS

Aiello Law Group has just released our 2025 Construction Worker's Daily Logbook in both a print and digital version! We have provided logbooks to Michigan's building trades for over 30 years.

The traditional paper version can be picked up in our office, your union hall, the Building Trades office at 1640 Porter in Detroit, or can be mailed directly to you by giving us a call at (313) 964-4900. The digital version can be found in the App Store for Apple or Google Play for Android. Simply search for "Aiello Daily Logbook."





# **ALL BUILDING TRADESMEN**

**Notice of Asbestos Health Hazards in Michigan** 

#### BOILERMAKERS **ELECTRICIANS** BRICKLAYERS INSULATORS PIPE FITTERS SHEET METAL WORKERS PLUMBERS

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

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

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

## \$1.8 MILLION VERDICT

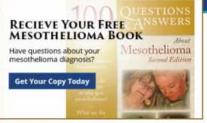
GPW obtained a \$1.8 million verdict in a Lung Cancer claim, the largest Asbestos Verdict in the history of Michigan Asbestos Litigation.

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



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

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



Please don't delay, protect yourself and your family before it's too late. You may be entitled to claim money damages from the responsible members of the asbestos industry. Call for a FREE consultation.



## Local 47 Heat and Frost Insulators

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

LANSING - \*The next Regular Meeting will be held on Friday, March 14, 2025 at 7:30 p.m. It will be held at the J.A.T.C. Training Center, located at 16475 Ingersoll Rd., Lansing, MI 48906.

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

These calls are only used for Important Notifications from the Local Union Business Manager and Funeral Notifications.

If you are not receiving these calls, please contact the Local Union Office and we will double check to make sure we have the correct number in the system or if you may have blocked the number.

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

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

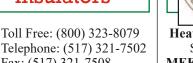
#### Per the Rules and Procedures:

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

\*Members must notify the office before ANY overtime is worked

Pension and Health Welfare: Joshua Kroell (989) 385-2671 Allied Workers' Local 47 Fringe Benefit Funds, 6525 Centurion Drive, Lansing, MI 48917-9275

"Every mile is two in winter." -George Herbert (1593 -1633)



Telephone: (517) 321-7502 Fax: (517) 321-7508 Joshua Kroell will be avail-

able 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:

Congratulations to Ollie and Brandy Hull on the birth of their daughter Millie!

Local 47 would like to send our Condolences to the Family and Friends of Doug Shoffner. Doug passed away on Friday, Dec. 13, 2024.



### Heat & Frost Insulators 25

SOUTHFIELD - UNION MEETING: The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, March 13, 2025 at 6 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge St., Southfield, MI 48033. WEEKLY HUMOR:

What's the difference between a hippo and a zippo? One is heavy, the other is a little lighter!

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:** In light of several employers handing out jobsite specific attendance policies, refer to Article XII, Section A of the Collective Bargaining Agreement listed below. Please be reminded, good attendance is crucial in manning the work that we have in our territory.

Article XII, Section A: The Company has the right to discipline an employee for excessive absenteeism. The first two unexcused absences without good cause shall bring written warnings from the Company, with a copy to be furnished, in each case, to the Union. The Union shall be notified in writing no later than four business days after the infraction has occurred. Any infraction not reported in four business days, shall be deemed not to have occurred.

Any subsequent unexcused absence without good cause may be cause for discharge. Absences for good cause such as illness, family emergency and the like and excused absences shall not be cause for discipline, provided the employee notifies the Company not later than 9 a.m. (on the day of the absence.) No absence more than three months prior shall be considered in any manner or under any circumstances in the imposition of discipline and shall be deemed not to have occurred. Any dispute relative to discipline or discharge of an employee shall be processed through the grievance procedure established in this Agreement.

An employee must call the main employer's office if they leave the jobsite during working hours, excluding lunch time. An employee's unexcused absence may be cause for discharge as outlined above.

**SUB FUND BENEFIT:** Each time a participant receives a State Unemployment check, he/she must mail or deliver the receipt, check stub, or a copy of the check to the Administrator's office within 30 days of receipt. An example of the State Unemployment certificate receipt is available at the Union Hall or can be sent upon request.

PER CAPITA: Please be reminded, any member working 32 hours or less during a month must pay their own Per Capita of \$14 a month. Per Capita payments should be made on a monthly basis. If a member works as a traveler in another Local's jurisdiction, the member must remit double Per Capita of \$28. Please forward your payments monthly to Local 25, 21353 Bridge Street, Southfield, MI 48033.

**EMPLOYMENT CHANG-**ES: All employment changes; hire, lay off, fire, shop change, disability, etc. must be called into the Union Hall within 48 hours. This is the only way to guarantee you are on the out of work list and your employment records remain current and correct. Failure to report will result in an automatic \$50 fine.

**BENESYS**: When calling the Fund Office, Benesys, please be sure to get the name of the person providing you information.



## **Culinary school painting**

ASKED TO BREAK from setting up a paint sprayer to have their photos taken, Aaron Binkley and John Matzke helpfully complied. They're members of Painters District Council 1M, employed by Detroit Spectrum Painting, working at the Oakland Community College Culinary School project in Royal Oak.

"Never miss a chance to keep your mouth shut." -Robert Newton Peck





# **Construction Engineering** & Management Certificate

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https://bit.ly/umich-CEM-tradesman



## <u>Outdoors</u> U.P. moose study launched

#### By Rachel Lincoln Michigan Department of Natural Resources

The 1,000-pound Michigan bull moose, standing 6 feet, 5 inches tall with 40-pound, paddlelike antlers, is the iconic symbol of the Upper Peninsula's wildness.

Despite their majestic status, Michigan's moose have faced significant challenges over the past century. To understand the factors shaping their survival today, researchers are examining population trends and the hurdles moose encounter.

"Michigan's moose are a vital part of the Upper Peninsula's ecosystem and identity," said Tyler Petroelje, northern Michigan wildlife research specialist for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. "Through this new study of factors limiting moose population growth, we're working to uncover a clearer path for the future of moose in Michigan."

Aerial survey. DNR wildlife biologists have conducted aerial surveys to estimate the moose population in the western U.P since 1997. Every other year in January, survey planes fly low in a grid pattern over Marquette, Baraga and Iron counties as researchers record the number of moose spotted.

Doing the survey in winter makes it easier for trained spotters to see moose against the leafless, snowy landscape, but it's still impossible to count every moose. Instead, the numbers are adjusted using a statistical model to estimate the population.

The 2023 U.P. DNR moose survey showed a population of 426 moose in the western part of the region. The 95 percent confidence interval estimates a range between 334 and 518 individuals.

In addition to the regular aerial survey, researchers will begin a new project later this month to explore the reasons behind the slowed moose growth rate.

The full name of the study is "Factors limiting moose population growth in the western Upper



A MOOSE IS SHOWN captured on a trail camera in the Michigamme Highlands, west of Marquette, as part of the ongoing Michigan Department of Natural Resources Wolf Abundance Survey. (Photo credit: Michigan DNR and Michigan State University)

#### Peninsula."

New moose study. Through this new effort, the DNR, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community and Northern Michigan University will work together to try to better understand the trends and challenges the Michigan moose herd faces.

"As co-stewards of our shared land and natural resources, the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community welcomes the opportunity to work with the DNR and NMU to help answer important questions about the Michigan moose population," said Erin Johnston, wildlife and habitat manager for the KBIC Natural Resources Department in Baraga.

Researchers anticipate fitting 60 moose with new tracking equipment over the next two years. During this first year of the study, 20 moose will be captured and equipped with radio collars, which will provide precise location data.

Tracking these movements will help researchers understand moose survival and causes of mortality, pregnancy rates and birthing events.

"There is a need to examine why moose population growth in the Upper Peninsula has been

stagnant over the past decade," said Diana Lafferty, associate professor in biology at NMU. "As such, measuring vital rates like reproduction, survival, immigration, emigration, as well as identifying factors that may be limiting moose population growth, such as parasites, disease, predation, vehicle collisions and habitat alteration are essential for understanding and modeling population dynamics."

During the capture operation, spotter planes will report moose locations to nearby helicopters and ground crews. Moose will be sedated, and crews will move in quickly to collect biological information and fit the moose with a tracking collar.

The captures will take place in mid-to-late February, depending on weather and other conditions, across the western moose range, in an approximately 500-square-mile block across the Michigamme Highlands.

"For the safety of moose, researchers and others, we are asking the public to please avoid the area where the helicopter and snowmobile ground crews are operating," said John Pepin, DNR deputy public information officer. "Before those activities start, we 1,000 animals by the year 2000. Over the last few decades,

researchers have observed two very different periods of population growth. During 1997-2007, the population grew steadily by 10 percent each year. But data from the biennial aerial population surveys shows that annual growth has slowed to less than 1 percent since 2009.

In addition to the study area in the western U.P., a smaller moose population remains in the eastern U.P., found primarily in Alger, Schoolcraft, Luce and Chippewa counties.

No formal surveys of the eastern U.P. moose population have been conducted, but biologists have documented resident moose and reproduction in parts of the east U.P., based on field observations and reports from the public.

Moose are also found in Keweenaw County at Isle Royale National Park, a population managed by the National Park Service.

Why moose matter. Understanding the factors that limit the moose population is crucial for land and wildlife managers, as it provides insight into the broader ecological health of the Upper Peninsula. Furthermore, moose are culturally significant, as they are a symbol of Michigan's wilderness and an important species for the traditions and practices of Indigenous communities in the region.

want people to know what will

be happening, and just as we

recommend for moose sightings

and photography – keep a safe

gan. Moose once occurred

throughout much of the state.

But European settlement led to

unregulated hunting and habitat

loss, with moose disappearing

from the Lower Peninsula and

their numbers declining to just a

few scattered individuals in the

Upper Peninsula by the early 19th

tion attempt in the 1930s, a new

project began in the 1980s, fondly

known as the "Moose Lift." Fifty-

nine moose were transported by

helicopter and truck from Algon-

quin Provincial Park in Ontario,

Canada, to northwest Marquette

introduction was to produce a

self-sustaining population of

free-ranging moose in the Upper

moose population in the western

part of the region where the trans-

location occurred has grown to

The goal of the moose re-

Nearly 40 years later, the

After a failed reintroduc-

History of moose in Michi-

distance away.<sup>2</sup>

Century.

County.

Peninsula.

Moose are the largest native deer species in Michigan and have a complex role in the ecosystem. As large herbivores, they shape the structure of forests through their feeding habits, which includes browsing on trees like aspen, birch and balsam fir.

"Both the presence and absence of moose can affect forest growth, creating cascading effects throughout the habitat, impacting deer, birds, insects and plant life," Petroelje said. "As a keystone species, moose have a disproportionate impact on their environment compared to most other species."

Researchers are looking at several hypotheses for what is limiting the Michigan moose population. Historically, the pregnancy rate has been lower than the North American average by about 13 percent.

more than 400 – but is still well The western U.P. populabelow an initial projected goal of tion also has low rates of twin

calves being born, which can be a signal that the moose population is nearing the number that can be supported by the region's environment.

Parasites and disease are among the hypotheses for what is limiting the population as well. Brainworm is a lethal nematode carried by white-tailed deer. Although brainworm has little effect on white-tailed deer, it can cause a fatal neurological disease in moose.

Additionally, Michigan moose are at the southern edge of the moose range. Parasites and warmer temperatures may lead to increased stress and lower levels of reproduction.

"Moose are adapted to cold climates due to their large size and thick fur," said Brian Roell, a DNR wildlife biologist in Marquette. "The mixed forested areas with wetland complexes found in the Michigamme Highlands are ideal habitat."

Over the past decade, moosevehicle collisions are more common. During the last three years alone, the DNR received reports of 47 moose being struck and killed by vehicles.

And though wolves are large enough to take down an adult moose, previous studies of moose survival in mainland Michigan show predation by wolves was not an important factor in adult moose mortality.

"However, predation has been found to be important to calf survival regionally, like in Minnesota, which is experiencing similar limited population growth," Petroelje said.

Though moose are considered a game species in Michigan, there has not been a moose hunting season since the 1800s. To support the continued growth of the population, the Moose Hunting Advisory Council recommended only allowing a moose hunt if the population maintains 3 percent annual growth.

By studying moose population trends and the challenges they face, wildlife managers can better understand the interconnectedness of species and ecosystems. This knowledge helps create better management strategies, ensuring that moose and the ecosystem at large thrive.

For more information on moose in Michigan, visit Michigan.gov/Moose.

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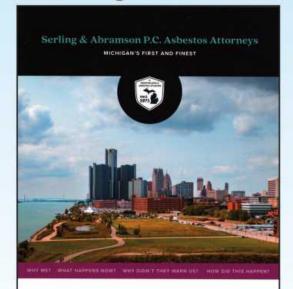
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