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SHORT CUTS

Cuts would imperil Social Security ops

WASHINGTON, D.C. (PAI)—The labor-backed Alliance for Retired Americans is warning everyone, but especially Social Security recipients, about “reckless” Trump regime cuts in Social Security staffing.

The cuts come on the heels of a comment by President Donald Trump’s Department of Government Efficiency chief Elon Musk, who said that Social Security is “the world’s largest Ponzi scheme.” And he demands the agency staff — already below par — should be reduced. The latest published numbers call for a 7,000-worker reduction of the department’s workforce of 57,000.

Before that, Musk’s crew raided the Social Security Administration’s headquarters near Baltimore. They seized personal and private financial and medical records of millions of people.

A huge staff cut, warns former Social Security Administrator Martin O’Malley, a prior Maryland governor, would devastate SSA so much that it could prevent remaining staff from getting all the monthly checks out, process claims or resolve disputes over disability benefits.

That would leave the system, which 72.5 million people rely on for income, on the verge of collapse, O’Malley told The Hill and CNBC. He predicted a potential “system collapse” and “an interruption of benefits” at SSA.

Wall Street financiers have long wanted to privatize Social Security’s massive income stream.

Another apocalyptic prediction was reported by *Forbes*, and came from an e-mail to NPR: a senior SSA official bluntly warned that “the public is going to suffer terribly as a result” of anticipated cuts.

“All Americans should be appalled by the reckless actions of the Trump administration and its DOGE minions,” Alliance for Retired Americans Executive Director Richard Fiesta e-mailed to Press Associates Union News Service. “The Alliance is calling on Congress to step up now and stop these outrageous actions.”

An SSA employee union rep told NPR that chronic underfunding has already left the department at its lowest staffing level in 50 years.

Construction goods costs rise; now, tariffs

The price of materials and services used in nonresidential construction rose 0.5 percent in February, following an increase of 0.7 percent in January, according to an analysis by the Associated General Contractors of America of government data released March 13. The AGC said that materials prices began increasing even before most of the threatened new tariffs were put in place.

“It’s a bad sign that construction costs have been rising significantly even before most of the Trump administration’s tariffs have taken effect,” said Ken Simonson, the AGC’s chief economist. “Now that many tariffs that hit construction materials are in effect, with more measures pending, construction costs are likely to rise much more.”

The Trump administration has imposed new tariffs of 25 percent on steel and aluminum imports, 25 percent on many goods from Mexico and Canada, and 10 percent on imports from China.

Quotable

“What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others.”
—Pericles (d. 429 B.C.)



IBEW LOCAL 665’S new union hall is being transformed from its former, most recent use as a church and jewelry store office. Burgeoning work and increased membership necessitated the union’s move from its cramped quarters several miles away, and a union workforce is readying the new space even as local union staff have already moved in.

New digs readied for IBEW 665: ‘Much more room for activities’

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

LANSING — Michigan’s union halls come in all manner of locations and layouts, from tiny small-town storefronts, to buildings in suburban industrial parks, to a high-visibility spot along a freeway.

Looking for newer, bigger space to conduct its business two years ago, IBEW Local 665 found its ideal location in an existing commercial building south of the Lansing Mall, one that offers adequate space for staff, some limited training, and a space to conduct union meetings. Its new location is on Ivan Drive, about 10 miles away from the union’s cramped, former building in South Lansing.

“Here, there’s so much more room for activities,” said Local 665 Business Manager Aaron Pangborn, in a joking nod to a line from the movie *Step Brothers*. “We have nearly twice the amount of space that we had in the other building. Now we have the room to conduct business and operations without running into each other.”

The Local 665 membership voted to purchase and renovate the 7,640-square-foot building in response to a happy trend: The union’s membership has



SETTING UP A PIECE OF CONDUIT for installation at the IBEW 665 union hall’s renovation/transformation is Local 665 journeyman Anthony Gonzales. He’s employed by H & R Electrical Contractors.

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THREADING A GAS PIPE in what will be the meeting room at IBEW Local 665’s union hall is Aaron Beers of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 333. He’s employed by Gunthorpe Plumbing and Heating.



Glass workers have Hudson’s tower covered

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

DETROIT — The last section of structural steel of the 685-foot-tall Hudson’s-Detroit Building

A TEAM OF GLAZIERS and Glassworkers Local 357 members prepare the final piece of exterior glass for its raising at the Hudson’s Building.
Photo credit: Don Stepp

U.S. construction hiring moderates, as tariff, workforce questions loom

was topped out by Iron Workers Local 25 and Operating Engineers Local 324 members a year ago, and on March 4, Glaziers and Glass Workers Local 357 members performed their own topping out of the 685-foot tower, with the placement of the final glass panel.

The unique recognition of the event by owner Bedrock-Detroit with a brief media release high-

lighted the work of the glassworkers employed by Permasteelisa Group. As construction has slowly progressed on the project over the past seven years, Bedrock has rarely provided construction images or video related to work on the state’s second-tallest building.

But the 4,677 reflective blue glass panels on the tower’s

Trump rips up union contract with TSA workers

By Harold Meyerson
The American Prospect

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy issued an executive order giving collective-bargaining rights to federal employees, though they were not permitted to strike, nor, as a result of the 2018 Supreme Court *Janus* decision, are they compelled to pay dues to their union.

In the more than half a century since Kennedy signed that order, the vast majority of federal employees have voted to form unions and have won enforceable contracts with the government. Nor has the government ever negated a contract it had signed — until March 4.

That day, Donald Trump’s homeland security secretary, Kristi Noem, told the roughly 45,000 airport security screeners (of both passengers and their luggage) who work for the Transportation Security Administration

“The move by Trump’s Homeland Security Department is the single most anti-worker and anti-union presidential action since Ronald Reagan fired striking air traffic controllers in 1981.”

(TSA) that it would no longer honor its contract with their union, which the government signed last year and was to be in effect until 2031. That contract gave the nation’s airport screeners the right to parental, sick, and bereavement leave, and also raised their wages to levels comparable to the wages of other federal employees with similar jobs.

One of the ostensible reasons Homeland Security gave for its

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‘A blatant violation of the law’ Rebuking Trump, judge reinstates NLRB member

By Mark Gruenberg
PAI Staff Writer

WASHINGTON (PAI) — In scathing language against President Donald Trump, U.S. District Judge Beryl Howell in D.C., gave Trump-fired National Labor Relations Board member Gwynne Wilcox her job back.

Howell’s ruling, just a day after a two-hour oral argument on the case, restores Wilcox, the board’s first-ever Black woman member and Black woman chair, to her board seat for a term that doesn’t expire until August 2028. It also restores Wilcox as the vital third member of the five-person board needed for a quorum to decide worker-boss disputes.

With Wilcox, the NLRB has two Democratic-named members, plus Republican Chairman Marvin Kaplan — whom one staff attorney told *Press Associates* is an institutionalist, not an ideologue — and two vacancies.

“The crucial question here is, what does the U.S. Constitution allow? To start, the framers made clear no one in our system of government was meant to be king — the president included — and not just in name only,” declared Howell, an Obama appointee, citing the Constitution’s check on presidential power. Trump’s ac-

tion firing Wilcox “was a blatant violation of the law” as well as the Constitution’s limits on a president “and cannot be sustained,” Judge Howell wrote.

The NLRB is an independent federal agency enforcing the National Labor Relations Act. Congress enacted the NLRA in 1935 to protect the

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Revived PRO Act makes political statement, but has zero chance for passage

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The PRO Act is back. But the re-introduction of organized labor’s dream legislation during a press conference on March 5 only served as a reminder of how depressing its prospects are for passage in the current congressional environment.

The Protect the Right to Organize “PRO” Act has been around for about six years, but it has failed to pass both chambers of Congress even during periods of all-Democrat control of Congress (Republicans would have canceled the legislation via filibuster).

The PRO Act would modernize U.S. labor law by providing real deterrents against companies that break labor laws, block misclassification of workers as independent contractors, ban employers from forcing workers into captive-audience meetings and allow them to make their own

(Continued on Page 2)

and may keep construction employment from rising further.”

Meanwhile, the Dodge Data and Analytics’ “Momentum Index” for U.S. construction inched up 0.7 percent in February. “Planning momentum moderated in February, after a few months of stronger growth,” said Sarah

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Blue Water Building Trades step up to help people in need

By Marty Mulcahy, Editor

PORT HURON — A “Pop Up Pantry” sponsored by the Blue Water Building Trades on Feb. 26 yielded the distribution of 199 boxes of food to people who need the assistance.

In partnership with the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan and Feeding America, the event utilized the work of about 20 union volunteers, mostly retirees, from various trades who helped organize the food, fill boxes, and put them in the vehicles lined up in the parking lot of the Blue Water Labor Temple in Port Huron.

Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 Business Rep. Jason Gruenwald, of the Blue Water Building Trades, said the group raised funds to purchase about half a semi-trailer of

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VOLUNTEERS from the Blue Water Building Trades gathered on Feb. 26 at the Blue Water Labor Temple in Port Huron to organize and distribute 199 boxes of food to pre-screened, food-insecure people.

Viewpoints



Watch what they're gonna do to Social Security

At his State of the Union address, Donald Trump stood before the nation and, with the full backing of billionaires like Elon Musk, laid the groundwork for the biggest heist in American history – the rapid, systematic destruction of Social Security, disguised as “reform.”

We saw the formal announcement of it during Trump’s March 4 address, and the DOGE announcement earlier in the week that 7,000 employees at Social Security are to be immediately laid off – with as many as half of all Social Security employees (an additional 30,000 people) – soon to be on the chopping block.

Republicans and their morbidly rich donors have hated Social Security ever since it was first created in 1935. They’ve called it everything from communism to socialism to a Ponzi scheme. In fact, it has been the most successful anti-poverty program in the history of America, one now emulated by virtually every democracy in the world.

But the right-wing billionaires hate it for several reasons. The first and most important reason is that it demonstrates that government can actually work for people and society: That then provides credibility for other government programs that billionaires hate even more, like regulating their pollution, breaking up their monopolies, making their social media platforms less toxic, and preventing them from ripping off average American consumers.

Thus, to get political support for gutting regulatory agencies that keep billionaires and their companies from robbing, deceiving, and poisoning us, they must first convince Americans that government is stupid, clumsy, and essentially evil.

Ronald Reagan began that process when he claimed that government was not the solution to our problems but was, in fact, the cause of our problems. It was a lie then and is a lie now, but the billionaire-owned media loved it and it’s been repeated hundreds of millions of times.

Billionaires also know that for Social Security to survive and prosper, morbidly rich people

will eventually have to pay the same percentage of their income into it as bus drivers, carpenters, and people who work at McDonald’s.

Right now, people earning over \$176,100 pay absolutely nothing into Social Security once that amount has been covered. To make Social Security solvent for the next 75 years, and even give a small raise to everybody on it, the simple fix is for the rich to just start paying Social Security income on all of their income, rather than only the first \$176,100.

The entire solvency and health of Social Security could be cured permanently, in other words, if we simply did away with the “billionaire loophole” in the Social Security tax. But the idea of having to pay a tax on all their income so that middle class and low income people can retire comfortably fills America’s billionaires with dread and disgust. So much so that not one single Republican publicly supports the idea.

How dare Americans have the temerity, they argue, to demand morbidly rich people help support the existence of an American middle class or help keep orphans and severely disabled people from being thrown out on the streets! Which is why Elon Musk and his teenage hackers are attacking the Social Security Administration and its employees with such gusto.

By firing thousands of employees, their evil plan is to make interacting with Social Security such a difficult and painful process – involving months to make an appointment and hours or even days just to get someone on the telephone – that retired Americans will get angry with the government and begin to listen to Republicans and Wall Street bankers who tell us they should run the system.

(This won’t be limited to Social Security; as you’re reading these words Trump and Musk are planning to slash 80,000 employees from the Veterans Administration, with a scheme to dump those who served in our military into our private, for-profit hospital and health insurance systems.)

Once Republicans have damaged the staffing of the Social Security Administration so badly that people are screaming about the difficult time they’re having

signing up, solving problems or errors, or even getting their checks, right-wing media will begin to promote – with help from GOP politicians and the billionaire Murdoch family’s Fox “News” – people opting out of Social Security and going with a private option that resembles private 401(k)s.

Rumor has it they’ll call it “Social Security Advantage” and, like Medicare Advantage, which is administered for massive profits by the insurance giants, it will be run by giant, trillion-dollar banks out of New York.

While big insurance companies have probably made something close to a trillion dollars in profits out of our tax dollars from Medicare Advantage since George W. Bush rolled out the program, Social Security Advantage could make that profit level look like chump change for the big banks.

And, as an added bonus, billionaires and right-wing media will get to point out how hard it is to deal with the now-crippled Social Security Administration and argue that it’s time to relieve them, too, of the regulatory burdens of “big government”: Gut or even kill off the regulatory agencies and make their yachts and private jets even more tax deductible than they already are.

This is why Donald Trump repeated Elon Musk’s lies about 200-year-old people getting Social Security checks and the system being riddled with fraud and waste. In fact, Social Security is one of the most secure and fraud-free programs in American history.

But State of the Union night was just the opening salvo. It took Bush almost three years to convince Congress to start the process of privatizing Medicare. Having learned from that process, odds are Trump will try to privatize Social Security within the year.

And he may well get away with it, unless we can wake up enough people to this coming scam and put enough political pressure – particularly on Republicans – to prevent it from happening.

Tag, you’re it.
Thom Hartmann
 host, **The Thom Hartmann**
Program



PLACING CONDUIT in a training room at the new IBEW Local 665 union hall in Lansing is journeyman Nick Blaskie of IBEW Local 665. He’s employed by H & R Electrical Contractors.

New digs readied for IBEW 665: ‘Much more room for activities’

(Continued from Page 1) has increased from 435 in 2014 to more than 800 today. Including IBEW travelers, there are 1,000 electricians in town to handle the region’s current workload.

Built in 2000, the renovations at the transformed union hall have continued even as Local 665 staff have already moved into their new digs. The work is proceeding under the management of local union President/Business Agent Aaron Nowland.

The building’s most recent use before its sale, he said, was split between a church and as jewelry store office. Union craftworkers are currently transforming space in the building to hold a dedicated reception area with space to display artifacts from the union’s history, as well as a pair of conference rooms, meeting space, office space, a kitchenette, four bathrooms, and a union hall.

A small but important “training room” will provide convenient space for Local 665 staff to assess the skills of organized nonunion electricians prior to placement in the union’s training school, which uses facilities at Lansing Community College.

Nowland said when the project is completed in June, he hopes members and visitors to the hall will be particularly drawn to the decorative lighting package they have planned that will display the talents and capabilities of their trade. “We bought the building two

years ago, but we have been so busy with work in the area that we haven’t been able to address work at the new hall,” Nowland said. “Now we’re moving along with the

renovations, and the new space is really going to benefit how we operate here at the hall, and it’s going to be space that will be a source of pride for our membership.”

Revived PRO Act makes political statement

(Continued from Page 1)

decisions about union representation. Perhaps most importantly, the PRO Act would ban states from enacting right-to-work laws, which allow workers to enjoy union representation without having to pay dues.

“The right to freely join a union is the cornerstone of a prosperous working class in America,” said Laborers President Brent Booker. “Today, working men and women without a collective voice struggle with multiple jobs, wages that do not cover necessities, and a lack of healthcare and retirement security. Workers want – and America needs – more unions.”

The legislation was introduced in both the House and Senate. One member of Congress, Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) signed on as a sponsor to make it “bipartisan” legislation, but the steadfast lack of GOP support for labor unions – and Republican control of both chambers – will make it impossible for the PRO Act to win passage in subcommittees.

The anti-union Associated Builders and Contractors pounced on the resurrection of the PRO Act, focusing on its anticipated effect on employers over workers. “The reintroduction of the PRO Act displays continued disregard for the livelihoods of small business owners, employees and independent contractors,” said Kristen Swearingen, ABC vice president of legislative and political affairs. “While Congress has long rejected the PRO Act and its provisions, these legislators continue to pursue failed policies and attack business models and fundamental freedoms that have fueled entrepreneurship, job creation and opportunity for the American worker.”

Realistically bringing up the PRO Act only serves to illustrate which party typically supports organized labor. “Congress has a choice,” said North America’s Building Trades Unions President Sean McGarvey. “Stand with working families or continue enabling a rigged system that puts corporate profits over people. Working people built this country – it’s time Congress ensures they get the respect, dignity, and protections they deserve.”

ALL BUILDING TRADESMEN

Notice of Asbestos Health Hazards in Michigan

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PLUMBERS SHEET METAL WORKERS

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

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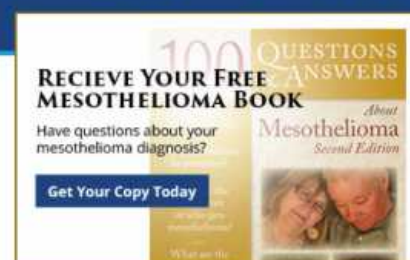
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BUILDING MICHIGAN!

Detroit, World War II's helmet maker
HISTORY IN THE MAKING

By Marty Mulcahy



U.S. TROOPS IN A HIGGINS BOAT approach the coast of Normandy, France, on D-Day, June 6, 1944. A little-remembered historical nugget that burnishes Detroit's legacy as the "Arsenal of Democracy": 90 percent of the M-1 steel helmets worn by GIs in both the European and Pacific theaters of war were manufactured in Detroit by the McCord Radiator and Manufacturing Co.

Credit: Army Signal Corps Collection/U.S. National Archives

"We must be the great arsenal of democracy," said President Franklin Roosevelt during his Dec. 29, 1940, fireside chat, as World War II raged in Europe. "For us this is an emergency as serious as war itself. We must apply ourselves to our task with the same resolution, the same sense of urgency, the same spirit of patriotism and sacrifice as we would show were we at war."

The U.S. entered the war less than a year later, and when it came to the production of war materiel through 1945, the manufacturing hubs of Detroit and other cities in Michigan punched significantly above their weight level. "Detroit was the beating heart," wrote Scott Burgess for *Motor Trend*. "Car-makers built everything: tanks, airplanes, radar units, field kitchens, amphibious vehicles, jeeps, bombsights, and bullets. Billions and billions of bullets. Detroit, with 2 percent of the population, made 10 percent of the tools for war."

Curiously, not mentioned as one of those tools of war – and rarely mentioned anywhere – is the ubiquitous, made-in-Detroit "M-1" helmet. While tons of ink has been used to document Ford's manufacture of B-24 Liberator bombers, or Chrysler's Sherman tank production, little has been written about Detroit's own McCord Radiator and Manufacturing Co. turning over much of its wartime operations to the production of helmets for the use of GIs.

"While the production of most war goods was contracted to firms around the country, one very important item was produced almost exclusively in Detroit," says the Detroit Historical Society. "More than 20 million steel helmets were stamped and fabricated by the McCord Radiator and Manufacturing Co. on East Grand Boulevard."

McCord manufactured 90 percent of all the steel helmets that protected the heads of American soldiers during World War II. McCord at the same time also made M3 flak helmets, Mk2 Navy helmets, armored vests, bomb suspension bands, link loading machines and automotive parts.

According to *Vintage Machinery*, McCord and Co. started in Chicago, manufacturing railway equipment and supplies. Their locomotive lubricator proved to be applicable to the auto industry, and at one time 80 percent of all motor vehicles used the McCord lubricator.

In 1906 McCord & Co. acquired a radiator business, and they opened shop in Detroit to take advantage of the city's burgeoning automotive manufacturing. They purchased a three-story, 40,000-square-foot structure in the Milwaukee Junction area of Detroit and commenced manufacturing their lubricators, radiators and gaskets on Jan. 1, 1909. The company started in Detroit with about 150 employees, a number which grew to about 700 in 1915, along with quadrupling of the plant's footprint.

According to *Top Pots*, a website devoted to World War II helmets, the Army Ordnance Department selected McCord to produce the steel M-1 helmet bodies. The M-1 was the replacement for the flat-brimmed



PART OF THE MCCORD Radiator and Manufacturing Co. factory at 2587 East Grand Blvd. in Detroit, in 1935. During World War II, plant workers there produced 20 million M-1 steel helmets.

Credit: Journal of the Company of Military Historians

M-1917 helmet used during World War I.

The M-1 helmet was under production well before the Pearl Harbor attack on Dec. 7, 1941. The first production batch started on June 26 and resulted in the manufacture of 323,510 M-1 helmets before the war had even begun for the U.S. The bodies of the helmet were stamped from a single piece of Hadfield Manganese steel produced by either the Carnegie-Illinois Corp. or the Sharon Steel Corp. Each completed raw M-1 helmet shell weighed 2.25 lbs. each.

"Two main companies produced the majority of WWII M-1 helmets – McCord... and Schlueter Manufacturing Co., located in St. Louis, Missouri," says *Circa 1941*. "McCord began production in June 1941 and by the end of the war it had produced 20 million M-1 helmets. Starting in January 1943, Schlueter began producing its 2 million helmets."

There were subtle differences between the two helmets, which were numbered in the quality control process. Today, those difference only matter to collectors. Both manufacturers' helmets left the factory with olive drab paint, a cork-textured coating, and web chinstraps.

Top Pots said the early M-1 helmet shells had a set of fixed chinstrap loops and a stainless steel rim. These rims were both rust resistant and had "non-magnetic qualities" that reduced the chance of error readings when placed around certain sensitive equipment (like a compass). The problem was that this stainless steel rim did not retain the olive drab paint and caused parts of the M-1 helmet to shine brightly when exposed to light or the sun. Coupled with the fact that early M-1 helmet shell bodies initially used poor quality steel

led to many of the early M-1 helmet shells to have both bright rims and multiple cracks in them. The Army quartermaster continued to issue them anyway.

McCord made its own helmet liners, but a variety of other liners for the helmet were made by nine other American companies during the war, including St. Clair liners in Marysville and Capac Manufacturing Co. in Capac.

"The total production of M-1 helmet shells reached over 22 million by August 1945," said *Top Pots*. "M-1 helmet production ceased just days after the war ended," with Victory in Japan Day on Aug. 15, 1945.

Records are scarce, but McCord continued its other manufacturing until mid-1985, when it became a subsidiary of the Ex-Cell-O Corp. The plant has been largely razed.

"Instead of a brim that flared out, the M-1 was shaped to fit over and around the wearer's head," says the National World War II Museum of the M-1. "This provided additional protection to the head and neck area from falls and flying shrapnel. Although not designed to defeat a direct bullet strike, the M-1 proved to be a very effective battlefield helmet, remaining in U.S. service into the 1980s. If it could speak, any M-1 helmet would have quite a story to tell. They were like pants or shoes, worn at all times. They protected their owners, served as a chair, were used to shave or cook, only the imagination could limit the uses of the M-1."

"M-1 helmets," said the Detroit Historical Society, "were so well-designed that they continued to be standard issue for several decades. They were finally replaced in 1985. Other countries copied the style for their own use."



A FLAT DISK OF STEEL that would be stamped into a finished helmet is shown during a military plant tour in March 1943.

Credit: Journal of the Company of Military Historians

Trump rips up federal union contract with TSA workers

(Continued from Page 1)

going back on its word is that 193 security screeners are on leave to the union to represent the screeners when they have issues on the job. The vast majority of those union reps work in the field, covering the 430 U.S. airports where federal screeners are employed. Somehow, having 193 worker representatives covering work issues at 430 vitally important worksites doesn't strike me as excessive, much less grounds for unilaterally abrogating a contract that the government is legally obligated to honor.

There are two regulatory bodies charged with adjudicating disputes between federal employees and the government: the Federal Labor Relations Authority and the Merit Systems Protection Board. Not coincidentally, however, Trump has fired Democratic members of both those boards, effectively leaving them incapable of ruling on any cases brought before them.

These boards, like the National Labor Relations Board, were established by Congress to have members serving for fixed terms who can't be terminated mid-term by a president save for misconduct, which hasn't been alleged in any such Trump firings. For that reason, one federal district judge temporarily reinstated one such member earlier last week, just as another reinstated Gwynne Wilcox, an NLRB member whom Trump had fired, to her seat on that board.

If the screeners' union (the American Federation of Government Employees) proves unable to access either of those federal employee boards, it will doubtless go to the courts. As the union that represents the lion's share of federal employees, AFGE has been at the forefront of efforts to win court orders stopping the wholesale firing of federal workers by Elon Musk and his henchmen (more accurately, henchboys). That might be one reason why Trump decided to go after its members.

The move by Trump's Homeland Security Department is the single most anti-worker and anti-union presidential action since Ronald Reagan fired striking air traffic controllers in 1981. As federal employee strikes have been illegal since 1947, Reagan's action was within the law, but ran counter to the precedent established a decade earlier by his Republican predecessor Richard Nixon, who'd allowed postal workers who'd gone out on a wildcat strike to return to their jobs.

That shift signaled the movement of the Republican Party to a more hard-right stance on labor issues, as well as the declining clout of the union movement. That movement now runs beyond Nixon-to-Reagan; it now proceeds on to Trump, whose unilateral nullification of a contract could well prove to be illegal, as Reagan's firings were not.

Reagan's mass firing of the air traffic controllers marked a turning point in American labor relations. As Georgetown University's Joe McCartin documented in his superb history, *Collision Course: Ronald Reagan, the Air Traffic Controllers, and the Strike That Changed America*, it prompted the CEOs of numerous corporations to fire their own striking workers, even though

such firings usually violated the National Labor Relations Act (though the penalties for such violations were negligible). The long-running descent of the share of American workers in unions accelerated sharply, and the gaps between the rise in workers' incomes and the rise in the productivity gains they'd produced widened precipitously, as did the gap between workers' incomes and shareholders' incomes.

Today, the rate of unionization is so low – just below 10 percent among all workers and just below 6 percent among private-sector workers – that there's not much room for it to descend any lower. Ironically, unions' approval rating, at a little more than 70 percent, hasn't been this high since the 1960s, and towers above the approval ratings of corporations, the government, and Donald Trump. Employers' determination to crush unionization drives, however, is also at a near all-time high, with Amazon and other companies now in court contesting the constitutionality of the 90-year-old National Labor Relations Act.

But even if there are fewer unions left for them to bust, most corporate leaders and major investors, I'd surmise, approve of Trump's nullifying the contract with security screeners. In an article that *The New York Times* ran last week, financier Steven Rattner noted with some alarm that many of his Wall Street peers were privately pleased at Trump's performance, though most were not in a position to say so pub-

licly. They're enamored, Rattner reported, of his deregulation of business, of his war on woke, and of his proposed renewal of massive tax cuts for the rich. I'd be surprised if they're not now chortling over his stripping union rights and benefits away from workers.

After all, it was Wall Street that demanded that American corporations move production to countries where labor costs were way lower than they were here, so profits and share values would rise. For that matter, Wall Street has never come to terms with a unionized workforce, instead pressuring companies – if the companies needed pressure – to hike their profits, dividends, and share buybacks at workers' expense.

Trump's Republicans are now crowing about their success at winning working-class votes. Like cutting Medicaid benefits and eligibility, flagrant union busting, negating an agreement with workers whose work is visible to all, might just play poorly with some of the party's newfound working-class supporters. Trump's nullification of the screeners' contract may not be headline news, and may not be reported at all on Fox "News" or right-wing social media.

But if some of those screeners walked off the job – at no small risk to their livelihoods, but telling the news media how Trump had gone back on the government's agreement with them – America would be compelled to take notice.

Rebuking Trump, judge reinstates NLRB member

(Continued from Page 1)

rights of employees, to encourage collective bargaining, and to curtail certain private sector labor and management practices, which can harm the general welfare of workers, businesses and the U.S. economy.

Billionaires Elon Musk and Jeff Bezos have undertaken lawsuits to simply outlaw the existence of the NLRB in response to union activity at their companies, and Trump's dismissal of Wilcox actually did their bidding by a different means: not allowing the NLRB to do anything without a quorum.

Dozens of supporters who waited in the rain on March 5 for Wilcox's hearing to end gave her a joyous welcome then. "What do we want? Gwynne back! When do we want it? Now!" they often chanted.

"This case is not just about me," Wilcox told the crowd. "It is important to working people in this country, and that workers are respected," added Wilcox, a former counsel for the Service Employees, named to the board by Trump's Democratic predecessor, Joe Biden. One key point, which Trump's Justice Department team conceded at the outset, and which the judge repeated, was Trump fired Wilcox for political reasons, thus violating labor law. The National Labor Relations Act says board members can be removed before the end of their five-year terms only for cause. Wilcox's term ends in August 2028.

"The Constitution's 'silence regarding removal does not confer absolute authority on a president to willy-nilly override a congressional judgment that expertise and insulation from direct presidential control take priority when a federal officer is tasked with carrying out certain adjudicative or administrative functions," Judge Howell wrote. "As Justice Louis Brandeis eloquently opined, 'checks and balances were established in order this should be 'a government of laws and not of men,'" observing further the separation of powers was not adopted "to promote efficiency but to preclude the exercise of arbitrary power."

Doing so was to save the nation "from the power of autocracy," the judge added. "A president who touts an image of himself as a 'king' or a 'dictator,' perhaps as his vision of effective leadership, fundamentally misapprehends the role under Article II of the U.S. Constitution."

The judge said historical practice and a body of case law are factors "severely limiting the president's removal powers at independent agencies such as the NLRB."

The Trump regime's Justice Department is likely to appeal Judge Howell's ruling for Wilcox.

"Remember that happiness is a way of travel – not a destination."
–Roy M. Goodman

"The multitude of books is making us ignorant."
–Voltaire (1694 - 1778)

BRICKLAYERS WANTED

\$38.45 HR PLUS HEALTH & PENSION

BRICKLAYERS.ORG

Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers
Local 2 members:

Journeyman 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



Local 292 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 general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, **April 2, 2025, at 6:00 pm.** The regular meeting schedule will resume in May. Member meetings are held every 2nd Wednesday of the month. The E-Board/Stewards meeting will be held on **March 25, 2025,** at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall.

RETIRES NOTICE: The 1st meeting for 2025 will be held on 4/3/25. It's always nice getting together and staying connected. 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.

CONDOLENCES: Sadly, we lost two Local 292 retirees in March. Jimmy Young and Richard Filban. Jimmy has been a member for 46 years, and Richard has been a member for 64 years. Please keep their family and friends in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

MEMBER ASSISTANCE: Please remember, Local 292 partners with Ulliance, an Employee Assistance Program designed to assist members and their eligible family members who may be struggling with emotional, domestic, or substance abuse issues, as well as legal and financial referrals. If you and/or a family member feel this may benefit you, contact Ulliance at 1-800-448-8326 or www.LifeAdvisorEAP.com 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.

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 RETIREES: Consistent with the actions of the Sheet Metal Workers' National Pension Fund, the Trustees of the Sheet Metal Workers Local No. 292 Pension Fund ("Fund") have decided to provide a limited waiver of the Fund's suspension of benefit rule from March 22, 2023 through 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 Username is your full S.S. number and your Password is the first four numbers of your S.S. number. Members, please note that if you cannot access the MUST site to complete your safety mods you need to contact the Union Hall.

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

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

CONSTITUTION AND RITUAL: The new Constitution and Ritual of the 3rd SMART General Convention is now available online. Go to www.sheetmetal292.com.

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

APPRENTICESHIP APPLICATIONS: The Apprenticeship 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.smw292jtc.org for more information. If you have already taken the test at Macomb and want a chance to better 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 in a Saturday welding class on March 22nd, & March 29th, April 5th, April 12th, April 26th, May 3rd, May 10th, May 24th.

These classes would be for members ready to obtain an AWS (Continued next column)



Local 80 Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers Local 80

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

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Next General Membership Meeting scheduled for March 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 set for April 15, 2025 at 5 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2nd Floor, Southfield.

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

RETIREE NEWS & MEETING SCHEDULE: 2025 Retiree Meetings: April 21, June 16, Aug. 18, Oct. 20 (Holiday Party), Dec.15. 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 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: Jason Higgs, Robert Zalewski, Michael Bono, Roger Clark, Harold Knapp, Eric Alvarado, Lawrence Kaufmann, Paul Parpart, Thomas Haas, Ronald Edwards III, Joseph Potter, Robert Beeckman, Glenn Lamb, Daniel Newton, Michael Giles, Carl Fornell, Lucy Petrykowski, Joseph Laird, Steven Boyd, Michael Stolber, Doug Trelfa, Robert Bauer, Edward Ballach, Anthony Caleca, David Sheprak, David Capps, Joseph McVety, Walter Jankowski, Jerry Roland, Jesse Warr, Hayden Clay, Fredrick Leal, Ray Short, Kenneth Barrette, Scott Zitterkopf, Brandon Ivey, Kevin Peltier, Dylan Wardrop, Francis Renda, Shawn Talaski, Christopher Cosgrove, Trent Derby, Glen Head, Patrick Karl, Steven Valente, Mark Majewski and Martin Duras.

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.

WAGE ALLOCATION: We will be voting on this year's wage allocation at the April union meeting. April's meeting will be on April 22, 2025 at 5:30pm.

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 documents.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH and DISMEMBERMENT INSURANCE FROM OUR INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Members who have their dues paid in advance (prior to the month of the accident) are eligible for accidental death and dismemberment benefits up to \$7,500.00. 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 September 1 through September 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 DATE:
Wage Allocation – April 22
Tigers Union Night – April 26
Pre-Retirement Class- May 3
Golf Outing – July 12
Picnic- August 9

Training Center News. Upcoming Class: The Keith Klos Memorial Copper Class - Students enrolled in the Copper class will receive materials and instructions to build one copper project (copper lighthouse, hurricane lantern, birdhouse or rose). The class will meet on Wednesday evenings for eight weeks starting on Wednesday, April 9th from 5:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. Registration for Local 80 Members is open now. The deadline to register is Monday, April 7th. The class is limited to ten people.

Local 292 continued

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

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



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 May 15th at 6:00 p.m.
- *Zone 2 May 20th at 6:00 p.m.
- *Zone 3 May 14th at 6:00 p.m. (Freeland)
- *Zone 3 June 19th at 6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)
- *Zone 4 May 6th at 6:00 p.m.
- *Zone 5 April 12nd at 10:00 a.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 of your area. For more information visit the official website at www.labelitscantireport.com and download the official app by texting "SMART" to 90975.

CONDOLENCES: to the family and friends of **Michael A. Ridge** who recently passed away

March 5, 2025.

ZONE 1 Info. March zone meeting we will be discussing wage disbursement postcards were sent out. 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 remains the same and should be picking up steam as we get further into spring. Thank you to all the members that came out to the Zone 2 meeting this past week. I am thinking about starting a Retiree's meeting for Zone 2 if there are any out there that are interested please contact me. Please keep me informed if your employment status changes and of any address or phone number changes. Save the date for the Local 7 picnic on July 19th in Traverse City, a lot of food, games and prizes always a great time.

– Work Safe and Thank You, Mike Adams
ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw) There will be a wage disbursement meeting on April 15th at 6pm at the Freeland hall. Are next regular scheduled meeting will be on May 14 in Freeland

Next Retiree meeting is on March 25th at the Ponderosa on Wilder Rd in Bay City

This year's Local 7 picnic will be at Timber Ridge in Traverse City, you can call 231-947-2770 if you interested in booking camping sites. Make sure you update your contact information with the Lansing office if you move or get a new phone number. Lansing office (517)882-4064

Are condolences to the Patrick Boruszewski family, Patrick passed away on 3-13-2025. **In Solidarity, Joe Dotson**

ZONE 3 Info: (Traverse City) Our next meeting will be March 20 at the Mill Pond Event Center at 6:00 pm. The disbursement meeting will be on April 15 at the Kaliseum in Kalkaska at 6pm. 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 very busy summer. The SASMI benefit for June/Dec is under 750 hrs. Your beneficiary designation card for SASMI needs to be updated, please go to the SASMI website and update it. **In Solidarity, John Amalfitano**

ZONE 4 Info: Spring is in the air, work continues to look strong for the spring and summer. Local 7 Zone 4 is fully employed at this time; we have several members in the Zone 3 area helping out on the Hemlock project. I want to thank everyone who attended the wage disbursement last week. It was good seeing everyone. Please don't forget if you have had a change in your address or phone number please let me or the Lansing office know. **Thanks your brother, Scott Brotherton,**

ZONE 5 Info Work in the U.P. remains steady. 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. Our next union meeting has been changed to Saturday April 12th at 10:00. Postcards will be sent out soon. Also the next retiree meeting will be on April 9th at 10 am at Jeffery's restaurant. **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 notice mailed to the last address shall be sufficient and legal. If you have moved or changed your telephone number, please contact the union hall to update your records.

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

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

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

Local 7 Officers:
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

"To love what you do and feel that it matters - how could anything be more fun?"

–Katharine Graham (1917-2001)



Local 36 Elevator Constructors

Elevator Constructors Local 36

DETROIT- ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED: Our next regular membership meeting will be **March 24, 2025, 5:30pm** at 1640 Porter Street, Detroit, MI 48216. Any changes to this schedule or venue will be in the Building Trades Article or sent via email.

There was also a motion made at the January meeting to move the May membership meeting to May 19, 2025, due to Memorial Day holiday, it passed. The May 19, 2025, meeting is also an election of officers, April 28, 2025 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.

It was discussed and voted on having a picnic on July 26, 2025, it passed. Anyone interested in volunteering to help with the picnic please contact Jon Bujan (586)787-1114 or email him at bujan@icloud.com.

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.

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 Chairman @ 404-290-1012 or Ryan Donnell, EIWP National Co-Chair @ 410-312-1474.

IUEC Local 36 has started a Veteran Assistance Committee. Scott Erison was appointed 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 Mechanic's Exam on or after July 9, 2022, starting January 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, 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.**

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.

Please keep the Waker family in your thoughts and prayers after the passing of Honorary Brother Daniel F. Waker. We would also like to wish a speedy recovery for the Brothers and Sisters on our sick list. Be safe and stay healthy!

Just joking

•I've discovered you can turn a regular sofa into a sleeper sofa simply by forgetting you wife's birthday.

•My wife hated my impulse purchase of a revolving chair, but then she sat on it. She came around.

•I asked my date to meet me at the gym. She never showed up. That's when I know we weren't going to work out.

•I started reading a horror story in braille. Something bad is about to happen - I can feel it.

•I've started a business building boats in my attic. Sails are going through the roof.

•I accidentally glued myself to a copy of my autobiography. My wife doesn't believe that happened. But that's my story and I'm sticking to it.

•Not to brag, but I'm on hold and my call is important to them.



Local 514 Cement Masons & Plasterers

Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' Local 514

DETROIT—The next membership meeting is Tuesday April 15, at 7:00 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!

April 2025

Jason Felver-25 Years
Please contact the local at 248-548-0800 or you can email your updated information to: abest@opciami.org
Please send your updated information in a timely manner.

MUST Safety Awareness Training: Please check the MUST website at www.Mustsafe.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.

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

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 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. 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 (517) 719-2316, or Business Manager Henry Williams, (313) 215-5063.



BAC Local 2
NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS, AND ELECTION, FOR DELEGATES TO ATTEND THE 2025 INTERNATIONAL UNION CONVENTION THAT WILL CONVENE IN DETROIT, MICHIGAN, ON SEPTEMBER 29, 2025

Local 2 is entitled to send up to 25 delegates to the 2025 IU Convention. Among the purposes of the 2025 IU Convention is the election of all International Union Officers: President, Secretary-Treasury, and three Executive Vice Presidents; and the election by region of the IU Regional Vice Presidents to serve on the IU Executive Council.

The Nominations Meeting – at which the members of Local 2 Michigan will determine the number of delegates, if any, that the Local Union will send to the 2025 IU Convention; decide whether the Local Union will elect alternates to serve in the event that a delegate or delegates cannot attend; and, consistent with those decisions, the IU Constitution and the Local Union Constitution, make nominations for the Local Union's open delegate positions – will be held at: BAC Local 2, 21031 Ryan Rd., Warren, MI 48091 on **April 19, 2025 at 9:30 AM.**

The meeting(s) for the secret ballot election for the IU Convention Delegates, if necessary, will be conducted by mail referendum. A mail ballot and accompanying instructions will be sent to each member of Local 2 during the week of **APRIL 28, 2025** and no later than **Friday MAY 2, 2025.** Members must complete and then mail their ballots in the pre-addressed envelope provided for that purpose so that the ballots arrive no later than 5:00 p.m. **MAY 18, 2025.**

NOTE: Nominations by Local 2 members in good standing may be made (i) in person at the Nominations Meeting; or (ii) by mail; or (iii) by FAX.

A mail or FAX nomination must be received by the Local Union no later than 4:00 PM on April 18, 2025.

The mailing address of the Local is: BAC Local 2, 21031 Ryan Rd., Warren, MI 48091. The FAX number is (586) 754-5889. A mail or FAX nomination must be signed by the member making the nomination and must bear his/her name in printed form and his/her IU Member Number. In addition, the nominee must also provide the Local Union with his/her consent to run.

The nominee may mail or fax his/her written consent with the mail/FAX nomination or may mail/FAX his/her consent separately. Whichever choice is made, the written consent to a mail/ FAX nomination must be received by the Local Union no later than 4:00 PM on April 18, 2025. Alternatively, the nominee

may signify his/her consent in person at the Nominations Meeting.

APRIL 2025 CHAPTER MEETINGS
METRO DETROIT CHAPTER: Tuesday, April 01, 2025 at 5:30 PM, 21031 Ryan Road, Warren, MI 48091

ANN ARBOR CHAPTER: Tuesday, April 01, 2025 at 6:00 PM, 8225 Dexter-Chelsea Road, Dexter, MI 48130

The Ann Arbor Chapter will be having the wage allocation at the **APRIL** chapter meeting. Please make sure you are current on your dues to participate.

FLINT CHAPTER: Wednesday, April 02, 2025 at 7:30 PM, 1701 W Genesee Street, Lapeer, MI 48446

The Flint Chapter will be having the wage allocation at the **APRIL** chapter meeting. Please make sure you are current on your dues to participate.

HOUGHTON: Thursday, April 17, 2025 at 7:00 PM, 37737 Highway 26, Toivola, MI 49965

KALAMAZOO CHAPTER: Thursday, April 10, 2025 at 6:00 PM, 11847 Shaver Road, Schoolcraft, MI 49087

LANSING CHAPTER: Wednesday, April 02, 2025 at 6:00 PM, 3321 Remy Drive, Lansing, MI 48906

The Lansing Chapter will be having the wage allocation at the **APRIL** chapter meeting. Please make sure you are current on your dues to participate.

MARQUETTE CHAPTER: Monday, April 21, 2025 at 7:00 PM, 119 S Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

SAGINAW CHAPTER: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 7:00 PM, 1300 W Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706

SAULT STE MARIE: Wednesday, April 02, 2025, at 7:00 PM, 3295 I-75 Business Spur, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49685

TRAVERSE CITY CHAPTER: Wednesday, April 16, 2025 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 26th, 2025
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 Number
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 France Incarnati** (Cement Mason) who passed away on March 08, 2025. Brother Incarnati had been a member for 50 years.

Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother Gary Palombit** (Tile Layer) who passed away on

March 14, 2025. Brother Palombit had been a member for 56 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.**

TEXTING PROGRAM: Local #2 wants to use every means possible to communicate with you. Sometimes we have time sensitive information (such as job openings, picket lines, funeral arrangements and other such communications) that would be most efficiently done via text message. You must be signed up to receive these messages. You can sign up via the following: **Text 2MI to 50607**

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

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

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.

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

BAC LOCAL 2'S TRAINING 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.michiganbricklayers.org> to view the Apprenticeship and Training website and register for future 2024 online training classes.

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

MEMBERSHIP ASSISTANCE: The IUBAC Member Assistance Program has a number of services available for free or at a discounted rate to BAC members and their families. These confidential services can be seen at <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."



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Local 174 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & Service Trades

UA Local 174

COOPERSVILLE – MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The monthly membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 1, 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, April 3, 2025** at 9am at New Beginnings Restaurant in Coopersville.

Wild Game Dinner: *Is anyone hungry?* On April 17th at the Sherman Bowling Center, we are having our annual wild game dinner. Doors open at 6pm sharp. We will have different raffles for the outdoor enthusiasts including 50/50 raffle, special raffles for those that donate game, as well as volunteer. If you're interested in going call Jason Finch at the union hall to reserve your tickets.

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.

New Contractor Seminar: Current UA members who have an interest in becoming a signatory contractor can attend the new contractor seminar April 23-24 at Local 174 hall. Journeymen get first priority for signing up. Limited spots available. Interested members need to sign up using the QR code on the New Contractor Seminar flyer located on the Local Union #174 Members Facebook page or call the hall for more information.

Member Survey: Local #174 sent out a survey via email to gather member feedback on our contract, health care and training. The email went out on March 11 to working members. If you did not receive it, please check your spam/junk folder or call Therese at the Union office and she can resend it.

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.

Earned Sick Time Act (ESTA): Beginning on March 1, 2025 contractors will contribute 1/30 of your base wage for every hour worked into a Sick Fund on your behalf. Solxsys will set up and administer a fund for each individual member. Starting June 1, 2025 members will be able to fill out a form and request reimbursement for time missed. If you have any questions, please contact the Union office.

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: The past couple of weeks have been spent following up with all of the information I've gathered from the blitz and open house. I appreciate all the members who are engaging in and reaching out to workers at their previous company. If you know someone that is working non-union in our trade, please reach out to them or give me their number and I can reach out to them. They deserve the same wages and benefits that we get! When we do this, we are getting a greater market share, which in turn is strength for getting the best contract the industry offers!

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

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 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

(Continued next column)



Sprinkler Fitters Local 704

DETROIT – The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday, April 16, at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

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 questions.

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.

Mark your calendars, The Sprinklerfitters Local 704 Golf Outing will be held August 2. More information to follow.

A speedy recovery for all our sick and injured members.

Local 174, con't

Ionia Labor Council has recently moved from the building on Benjamin and will be rotating meeting locations monthly.

Training News:

Plumbing Code Prep: Get prepared for your Michigan State Journeyman test. Wednesdays 5-8pm Starting March 26th runs through April 23rd

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, April 10th and May 8th

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, April 8, and the test to follow Thursday, April 10 at 5pm. The dates in May are Wednesday the 7th (Due to the Union Mtg on Tues the 6th) and Thursday the 8th

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 7th, 8th, and 9th. You must be signed up by March 13th.** Don't wait until the last minute—secure your spot now!

2025 Michigan Pipe Trades Apprentice Contest: We will be closed April 23, 24 and 25th. We will always be able to be reached via email or cell phone during this time.

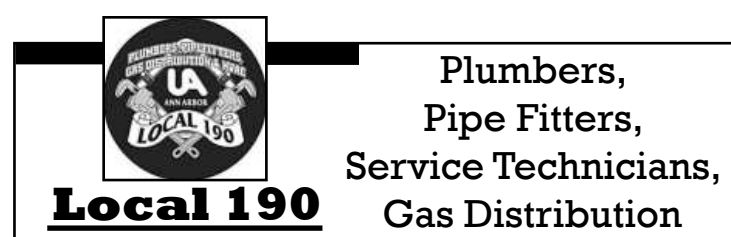
Please contact Chris Phillips or Nicole Schumaker if you have questions. Call the Training Office @ (616)837-0222 x16 (Chris) / Nicole @ (616)837-0222 x30. Or via text Chris (906)322-1592 / Nicole (231)206-4213.

"The shoe that fits one person pinches another; there is no recipe for living that suits all cases."

– Carl Jung (1875 - 1961)

Don't bother just to be better than your contemporaries or predecessors. Try to be better than yourself.

– William Faulkner (1897 - 1962)



UA Local 190

ANN ARBOR – MONTHLY UNION MEETING: will be held on Monday, April 14 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. This meeting will be held at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, 6800 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mt Pleasant, MI 48858.

UNION HALL CLOSING AT NOON FOR AN UP-COMING HOLIDAY: For the Easter holiday the office will be closing at 12 p.m. on Friday, April 18. Wishing you and your family a happy and safe holiday.

Our office will be closed at Noon on Friday, May 23 and all-day Monday, May 26 for Memorial Day. Our thanks to those who serve. As we celebrate our liberty and freedoms we remember and support those who protect them.

IMPORTANT REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS - LAID OFF OR BACK TO WORK: 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 DISTRIBUTION 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 for Kristyn

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

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

MICHIGAN LICENSE RENEWAL: Plumbing license renewals are done online **ONLY!** For detailed instructions and requirements, please visit: www.michigan.gov/bcc. Feel free to stop into the Union Hall and pick up a copy of the instructions. The link is now on the website in the "Members Only" section under "Helpful Member Forms"

INFORMATION - FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE:

ANNUAL PHYSICALS 2025: 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: Attention all members you can download the free Blue Cross Blue Shield APP on your smart device. This will allow you to see a copy of your BCBS card, review your claims, explanation 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 1:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m., please contact her directly at (888) 390-7473 to schedule an appointment.

(Please Note: 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 at our Fringe Benefit office 1-888-390-7473.

The last 2021 State of Michigan Plumbing Code Update is scheduled for April 7, 2025, at the UA 190 Union Hall, 7920 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, MI. 48103. From 5pm to 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 License to attend. Participants must also be members in good standing with the UA to attend. Please call Kristyn at the training center to be scheduled. Class size is limited to 100 participants, this class is a State of Michigan requirement to renew your plumbing license. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL APRIL 30, 2025, this will be the last class available.** New 2021 Michigan Plumbing Code books will be available for purchase for \$89.75

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 any questions regarding certifications and training schedules or visit us on UA190.org members only section under training to register for classes online. The Training Center will no longer accept cash payments, we will accept checks or credit card payments only. We are following CDC, OSHA, MiOSHA, MDHHS, and Washtenaw County Health Department guidelines. **Check your Certifications to make sure that you are current!**

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:

UA STAR 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, 2025.** The initial STAR Certification fee is **\$150.00**, STAR Recertification fee is **\$100.00** please contact Kristyn to schedule with payment.

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

First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs): Please register through the website: ua190.org **2025 Schedule – Mondays – February 24th, April 28, July 28, and October 6th, 2025.** Each class will start at 5:00 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.**

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 40-hour class, to become an ASSE Certified Backflow Tester (5110). **2025 Schedule:** The second course starts **Sept 9th, 2025.** 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, 2025.** The third course starts **Oct 14, 2025.** Courses are on Tue and Wed and start at 5 pm. Each course is limited to 8. Call the Training Center to sign up for

(Continued next column)



UA Local 357

KALAMAZOO – UNION MEETING: The next regular Union Meeting will be on **Tuesday, April 8** 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 REMINDERS: 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 MEETING: Retiree lunch meetings will now be **BREAKFAST** on the 1st Monday of every month. Breakfast will commence at 9 am at **The Crew** at 5200 Portage Rd, Portage, MI. Phone no. for the location: (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 Ross Weber, and family, on the birth of a son, William.

Local 190, con't

one of these courses 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:** The second course starts **Sept. 2, 2025.** Courses will run for 5 weeks, Tue and Thur. These courses are 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 Update (8hrs): This is a two-day course. **2025 Schedule:** First course starts **April 22, 2025,** Second course starts **Oct. 7, 2025,** 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 Construction 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

RETIREE MEETINGS – PLEASE JOIN US: Our next Spades meeting will start at 9 a.m. and be held Thursday, April 3 at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and a warm cup of coffee.

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



Local 85 Plumbers & Steam Fitters

UA Local 85

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

The next Northern Union Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 2, 2025, at 7:00 PM 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 csteale@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 Professional (989) 799-5261 x 8511 ktuthill@ualocal85.org

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

The new website is up and running. Please check out www.ualocal85.org. Click on Local 85 Members to access members only information. Login information is username: first initial with full last name. Password is 00 with your UA Card No. If you should have 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 submittals is Noon on Thursday in order to receive a check that Friday. Checks will be mailed out on Friday. No in person pickups allowed. If a holiday falls on a Friday, checks will be issued on Thursday and deadline will be moved up to Wednesday by noon.

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

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

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

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

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, (989) 799-5261. **Website Address:** Please visit www.ualocal85.org.

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

The next retirees' luncheon will be held on Tuesday, April 8, at 12 Noon at UA Local 85 Administration Office, 3535 Bay Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603. We ask if you are able, please bring a dish to pass.

Condolences: Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Albert Stevens who passed away on February 20, 2025.

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



Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service Local 111

Ocal UA Local 111

UPPER PENINSULA – This paper is to serve as the official notice to the membership. The next Union Meeting will be held in Escanaba on March 27th, 2025, at 7:30 PM.

ATTENTION: SPECIAL CALLED UNION MEETING – APRIL 24th, 2025 for a vote on the acceptance of the new contract. **This meeting will be held at the Escanaba hall.**

If the new contract is accepted, a Wage Allocation vote will follow for the June 1 contract. Additionally, the annual Pension Actuary presentation will be given, outlining pension options for members.

Your attendance is important – please plan to be there!

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; Ex. #7 and Job Line; Ext. #8.

MRA FUND - 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.

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, 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. 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: 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.

The UA Welder Qualification Continuity Report forms are available on our website under Training or at the hall. Certifications expire every 6 months and it is **YOUR** responsibility to get your welding forms turned in on time. Please update all Non-UA certifications (Plumbing License, MUST, OSHA-30, MSHA etc.) by sending a copy of your certification to the Union Hall

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

Safety Training on Local 111 Web Site: When taking the on-line safety training, go to our web site 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 canceling classes also.



Plumbers & Pipe Fitters Local 333

UA Local 333

LANSING – 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

May's union meeting will be held Wednesday, May 21, 2025, at 6:30pm at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 48911

UA New Contractors Seminar will be held April 23-24, 2025, at 9am, at UA Local 174, 1008 O'Malley Dr. Coopersville, MI. 49404. Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

Weld classes:

Lansing:
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)

Jackson:
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:
Mondays & Thursdays 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 January 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.

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 10:00 am at the Alpha Coney Island at 1188 Jackson Crossing, Jackson, MI. **PLEASE NOTE:** The restaurant is located at the west end of the Jackson Crossing Shopping Center.

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

Diversity Committee meeting will be held, Wednesday, April 23, 2025 at 6pm at Tony M's 3420 S Creyts Rd, Lansing, MI 48917. The topic of discussion will be unionism.

"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."

Heartfelt sympathy to Tom Andreas for the loss of his lovely wife Margaret, the couple who had been married for 54 years. Margaret passed away March 8, 2023. Our thoughts and prayers to you and your family.



AT WORK in what will be the meeting room for IBEW Local 665 in Lansing in their new union hall is C.W. Reis of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 333. He's employed by Gunthorpe Plumbing and Heating.



Plumbers Local 98



UA Local 98

DETROIT – Membership of Plumbers Local 98

Our regular monthly union meeting will be held on Thursday, April 10, 2025 at 7:00pm.

Retiree Luncheon meeting will be held at the hall on Wednesday, April 9, 12-2 pm.

The Executive Board meetings are generally held the first Thursday of the month at 5:30pm and before all Union Meetings. The next board meeting is April 3.

Dues: It's that time of year again for your dues gift. This year's gift is a tee-shirt with our updated logo on the front and back. If you haven't done so already, please call the hall and get your dues paid.

Adopt-A-Highway: It's that time of year again, spring is here. Our semi-annual Plumbers 98/Mike Kalso Memorial Clean Up of I-94 in Macomb County is Saturday, April 5. We will meet at Bob Evans in Roseville at 8am. Please RSVP with Jeff Kavalor or Gary Glaser so we can be sure to have enough supplies.

Save the Dates: We are excited to announce the Golf Outing will be held at Mystic Creek Golf Course in Milford on Aug. 23. Tickets will be on sale soon. The Plumbers picnic will be held on June 28 at Lake St. Clair Metropark (formerly known as Metro Beach Metropark) in Harrison Twp. Additional details to follow.

Attention 98 Hockey Players: Any 98 member interested in playing on the 98 Hockey Team, please contact FST Dan Nixon.

Attention 98 Softball players: Any 98 member interested in playing on the Local 98 Softball Team, please contact Jeremy Pitts (586) 405-9425.

Applications are now being accepted for our apprenticeship program. Learn more at www.plumbers98TC.org/apprenticeship. **2025 Log books are available at the hall.**

Expelled Members: We currently have four expelled members this month; John S. Newton, Timothy M. Seidel, and Jereme D. Turner. Please contact Business Manager, Gary Glaser or Financial Secretary-Treasurer, Dan Nixon for further information to stay active and catch up on your dues.

SUB Apps/Out of Work 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 certifications and/or backup documents 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 your contact information is up to date, as well as MUST and other certifications. If you have any problems with state agencies involving unemployment, or questions on MUST models and staying current, please contact Rufus Hamilton.

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. Call to talk to a counselor for issues relating to grief, alcohol, drug addiction, bankruptcy depression, marital issues and family counseling. All this is confidential and lead by our health professional C.J. Harrison, you can reach her on her cell @ 313-580-6887.

In Memoriam. Our deepest condolences and sympathy to the families and friends of deceased Brother Douglas Thomson, he was initiated on 11-09-1967, he was a 55-year member.

Additional information can be found at ualocal98.org

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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 rhamilton98@ualocal98.org

Jim Cools, Business Agent (248)762-9221 jcools@ualocal98.org

Paul Smith, Business Agent (313)938-2477 psmith@ualocal98.org

Jeff Kavalor, Business Agent (313)938-1554 jkavalor@ualocal98.org

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

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 Center'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 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 UPDATE (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. Here is another site to check for update class <https://cetsource.com/courses/2021-michigan-plumbing-code-update/>

THE TRAINING CENTER IS CURRENTLY SCHEDULING MEDICAL GAS INSTALLER 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 Wednesdays, April 23, and 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 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month. 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 April 5, 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. The deadline to register for fall upgrade classes is August 22.

ASSE Backflow Tester (Full 40 hour):

ASSE Repairer: * Prerequisite: Must hold a current 5110 Tester Certification - 20 hour class**

CAD/BIM I - 40 hour class

ICRA and Water Quality: * Prerequisite: Must Have**

OSHA 10 or 30 – 40 hour class

Medical Gas Installer (Full 40 hour)

Hydronic Heating and Cooling – 40 hour class

Steam Fundamentals for the Repair Plumber - 40 hour class

ASSE Backflow Tester Recertification: Please be sure to check your expiration date, it is now required that you complete your update class prior to your expiration. This class is offered quarterly. \$100

4 hour recert class July 29 & 30 Deadline is June 27

4 hour recert class Oct. 21 & 22 Deadline is Sept. 26

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.**

CASH FOR \$CRAP METAL

**Aluminum - Copper - Brass
Nickel - Alloys - Carbide
Radiators - Lead - Batteries**

<p style="margin: 0;">McNichols Scrap Iron & Metal Co. 6500 E. McNichols (near Mt. Elliott) mcnicholsscrap.com (313) 365-6100</p>	<p style="margin: 0;">Detroit Iron & Metal Co. 8300 Dix (corner Lonyo) detroitironandmetal.com (313) 841-5100</p>
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Local 671 Plumbers & Pipe Fitters

UA Local 671

MONROE – The Local 671 Membership Meetings have now been moved to the 3rd 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 April 17, 2025 at 7pm.

The Executive Board meetings will now also be held on **April 21, 2025**. If any member would 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.unitedassocationlocal671.com/> and its calendar for the latest updates.

2025 Service Awards and Apprenticeship Graduation Banquet: We are excited to announce that we will be holding our banquet this year at The River Raisin Banquet Center at 8 N. Monroe St, Monroe, MI 48162 (Previously the Masonic Temple of Monroe). Cocktail hour will begin at 5:30, Dinner will start at 6:30, and the awards ceremony will immediately follow. Those receiving an award and the graduating apprentices will be free. If you are not receiving an award but want to attend, discounted tickets will be available for \$25 each. All members will receive a mailing with details. PLEASE RSVP SO WE CAN PLAN ACCORDINGLY WITH THE CATERER.

Congratulations: We congratulate Brother Montana Heiss and his Wife Paige on the birth of a daughter, Eve Caroline Heiss on Feb. 23.

We also congratulate this Brother Jed Bunge and his Wife Aimee on the birth of their newest addition to their family, Dean David Bunge, who was born on March 3.

Enjoy this wonderful time together!

Local Pension Elective Deferral: We are pleased to announce that after meeting with our contractor's 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 everyone to take advantage of this great opportunity if you can; all the additional money added will be in increments of \$1.00.

Condolences: We received word recently that Retired member Larry Massamore passed away at the age of 77 back on Jan. 7, 2025. May he rest in peace.

We extend condolences to the family of Rosemary Hill who passed away peacefully on Saturday, March 1, 2025 after a long illness. Rosemary was the Wife of 60-year member Bill Hill, and Mother of member Greg Hill. She will be missed dearly by family and friends.

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.

The open Weld Shop nights are now **Thursday nights** from 6-10pm. A booth will need to be reserved by noon on Friday prior to the practice night. If we have (3) 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, April 24.**

Michigan Plumbing Exam Prep Class: We continue to hold classes to prepare Members who will be taking their Michigan Journeyman Plumbing Test. If you have questions or are curious about your Plumbing hours with the State, contact Justin for details

In Closing: Our Local celebrated its birthday on Thursday, March 20 marking nearly 9 decades of dedication to workers' rights, fair wages and better working conditions. Over the last 88 years, we have seen lots of changes, built and maintained paper mills, powerhouses, auto

(Continued next column)



Local 636

Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters,
Refrigeration &
Air Conditioning Service

UA Local 636

DETROIT – Our next regular Union meeting is April 15, 2025 at St. George Romanian Cultural Center 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. (Southfield Service Dr.) Southfield, MI 48075

Two 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 lkrisniski@pipefitters636.org.

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

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

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.

Our 1st annual Scholarship Contest, rules and applications are now available! The Benevolent and Scholarship Fund will be awarding three scholarships to sons, daughters, grandsons and granddaughters of members in good standing of Local 636. The deadline to apply is April 15 at 7 pm. For more information or the application email pipefitters636.scholarship@gmail.com or call Chairman Jeff Lewis, 248-939-8636.

CALLING ALL RETIREES! The next meeting will be held April 17.

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 meet on the 3rd 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 David Foraker March 12, 2025; **Lifetime Member Stephen Kalt** March 3, 2025; **46 Year Member Louis Lemak** March 5, 2025; **Lifetime Member Larry L. Grow** Feb. 14, 2025; **Lifetime Member Lee Roy Martin** father of member David Martin, Feb. 20, 2025.

Our Sincere Condolences to Zen Adams on the passing of his wife Jessica Lynn Adams March 7, 2025.

Get Well Wishes to: Larry Cirillo, Ed & Noreen Nys, Rashad Dooley, Don Bagozzi, Chris Fye, David Hochstein, Thomas L. Williams Jr, Justin Morgan, Ron Sarata, Remy Abubaker, Joshua Allen, Michael Downey, Brian Dyer, Michael Ferrante, Ryan Girard, Kristofer Gojcaj, Jamey Guthrie, Tanya Holland, Jason Howe, Ernest Justice, Earl Marshall Jr., Brian Robinson, Branden Rodzik, Ryan Seitz, Mark Solomon, Patrick Stephens, Aaron Wright, Bryan Durand, Larry Cirillo.

Congratulations to Dominic & Lisa Deluca on the birth of their son Brodie March 12, 2025.

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, John Taylor, Thomas Bitler.

February 2025: Robert W Miller, John Pesci. **March 2025:** Michael Scriver.

Local 671, con't

plants, schools, water and wastewater treatment plants, factories and homes. Since that founding back in 1937, we have been committed to our mission statement: "To create and provide the most safety-minded, highest-skilled craftsmen to the contractors of the Plumbing, Pipefitting, and HVAC industries."

We are proud of our history and the direction we are taking our Local; our members continue to lead not only on the job site but also in our community. Happy Birthday Local 671!

Mike Jewell: email: mike@ualocal671.com
Vinnie Fenech: email: vinnie@ualocal671.com

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

DUES – 1st 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.

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 awareness 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 Authorization Agreement forms for SUBPAY 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, 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 Pension Plan. For those members who use the Voice Response Unit, VRU to obtain balance information and transfers funds in your Defined Contribution Pension, the number has changed. The NEW NUMBER for the VRU is **877-410-9984**. Plan provider number is 7526. You can now login to your Defined Contribution account on the Local's Website. Just click on the "Defined Contribution login here tab" and it will take you to the BeneSys login page. The Defined Contribution **corrected** website is www.accountplanaccess.net/benesys.

Your initial login information is as follows: Username – Social Security number, without the dashes. Password – Full birth date, without the slashes, (mm-dd-yyyy). 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.

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 (Continued next column)**



Local 370 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters and HVAC Service

UA Local 370

FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 15, 2025, at 7 pm and is designated Special Called Meeting for the purpose of **Wage Allocation**. This is the 3rd Tuesday of April.

The Ulliance Member Assistance Program is now available to all members and retirees as of 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.com or call 800-448-8326.

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, April 14th at 9:00 am.

Golf Outing is Saturday, July 19 at Flushing Valley. 8am registration. 9am shotgun.

2nd Annual Labor Day Parade. Come be a part of this Family Fun Event and help support not only our union but all unions in Genesee County. Monday Sept. 1.

Upcoming Night Class Schedule:

Night Welding March 3rd thru the 27th Tuesdays and Thursdays 4:30 – 7:30

Weld Test Saturday, March 29th at 7:00am. Sign up with your name, UAID and which test.

Backflow Mar. 3rd thru Apr. 2nd – Mondays and Wednesdays 4:30 – 7:30

Initial Testing will be on April 7th and **Refresher Test** will be on April 9th.

First Aid & CPR March 19th, 2025 at 4:30pm and September 17th, 2025 at 4:30pm

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 Local 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, April 14th, 2025 at 4:00pm

FMR Committee – Tuesday, April 14th, 2025 at 4:00pm

PAC committee – Tuesday, April 14th, 2025 at 5:00pm

Executive Board – Tuesday, April 14th, 2025, at 5:00pm

Building Committee – Tuesday, April 14th, 2025 at 6:00pm

Finance Committee – Tuesday, April 14th, 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 MUSTSAFE.com website and complete all 18 safety modules. Members will not be eligible to work at any job site requiring them until all 18 modules are

(Continued next column)

Local 636, con't

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 mustsafe.org and if it is time for renewal call the Training Center 248-585-0636 and they will register you. Be "ready" when the calls come in. Safety modules and drug tests are paid for by the Contractors Association. **WHEN YOU STAY CURRENT WITH YOUR SAFETY MODULES, DRUG TEST AND FIRST AID, from January 1 – December 31 you will be eligible for your ready to work payment.**



Local 149 Roofers & Waterproofers

Roofers 149

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

General Membership Meeting. The general membership meeting is scheduled for Tues., April. 1, 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., April. 1, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

DETROIT - Mid-Michigan. The Mid-Michigan meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2025 at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420

Notice of Election – Mid-Michigan Negotiating Committee. The election will take place at the Mid-Michigan Union Hall, 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420, on April 8, 2025, from 5pm thru 6pm. You must be a member in good standing to cast a ballot. Members running for the Negotiating Committee are as follows. Robert Coats, Jesse Wangler, Robert "Buck" Parham, Shane Manley, Doug Heyd. Three to be elected.

Nominations of Officers Nominations for the following officers and trustees:

- (1) Business Manager/Financial Secretary/Treasurer
- (2) Business Agent
- (5) Executive Board

Local 370, con't

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

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

- (1) President
- (1) Vice President
- (1) Recording Secretary
- (3) Trustees
- (1) Sergeant-at-Arms
- (1) Pension Trustee
- (1) Insurance Trustee

Please note this meeting is scheduled for the Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216, 7:00pm All elected Officers and Trustees of this Union shall serve for a period of Three (3) years.

Birthday Wishes. Happy 86th Birthday to Bob Kirk (58 yr member)

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 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 6:00pm – 8:00pm 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.

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

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

The publication above is as 3/17/2025, 2:00pm

In Solidarity, Brian Gregg Business Manager, Roofers & Waterproofers Local No.149

"Preach not to others what they should eat, but eat as becomes you, and be silent."

–Epictetus (55 AD - 135 AD)

"Facing it, always facing it, that's the way to get through. Face it."

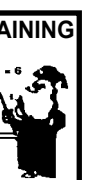
–Joseph Conrad (1857 - 1924)

"The trees that are slow to grow bear the best fruit."

–Moliere (1622 - 1673)

BUILDERS LICENSE TRAINING MIDDLETON

Real Estate Training Inc.
901 Tower Drive, Suite 120
Troy, MI 48068
www.middletontraining.com
248-885-8311





Local 25 Iron Workers

Iron Workers Local 25

NOVI – The March Union Meeting will be Monday March 31, 2025 at 7 pm and will be in person and zoom. We will conduct the third and Final reading of the proposed By-Law Proposal(s). All Union Halls will be open for in-person and Zoom will also be available.

On Wednesday April 2, 2025 we will conduct Voting for the By-Law Proposal(s). All Union Halls will be open from 12 pm (noon) until 7:00 pm. A member is considered “eligible” to vote who is in good standing. Union Dues must be paid through March 2025 or better. Apprentice, pre-apprentice, probationary, honorary and lifetime members, not being full dues paying members, are NOT eligible to vote.

Accepting Resumes the Apprenticeship 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 are accepting applications for a new apprenticeship instructor for the Hudsonville Training Center. The job description is located in the member only section of our website. (www.ironworkers25.org). All interested candidates must contact the Wixom Apprenticeship School to set a time & date to turn in a resume and complete the test. Resumes must be turned in and test completed no later than April 1, 2025.

We continue to communicate through the **PUSH NOTIFICATIONS 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 Saginaw Steward meeting will be March 27 at 6 pm. The Lansing Steward meeting will be Monday March 31 at 6 pm. All are welcome.

A FRINGE FUND PENSION DEPT REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE AT THE NOVI UNION HALL on Wednesday April 2, 2025 from 8 am to 12 noon. If you wish to book an appointment or just have questions, give us a call 248-344-9494.

All Completed Dennis O’Dowd SCHOLARSHIP Applications are now due to the Novi Union Hall. The Deadline has been published for Friday March 21, 2025.

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/johnscholarship> Deadline is May 30, 2025.

FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: 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 your online benefit information: ourbenefitoffice.com/iw25/benefits/

HRA/Benny Card Audit is continuously under way via US Mail – please respond if you have been contacted. You need to save your receipts for three (3) years.

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

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

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 no. 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 IRONWORKER 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.ironworkers.org/ironworker-digital-sign-up>

The Iron Workers’ Local 25 Novi Chapter Retirees’ Club: The Retirees’ Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday April 1 at 8:30 am in Novi. The Retirees’ meeting/luncheon will be Tuesday April 15, at 10 am. All are welcome.

Completed Applications for the Local 25 Retirees’ Club 2025 Scholarship are due by 5pm April 30, 2025. Any Questions please contact John Miller: **TEXT TO: (734) 812-8036.**

The **West Michigan Chapter** Retirees breakfast will meet Tuesday April 1 at 9 am at Red Rock Grille & Café, 228 N. Ball Creek Rd, NW, Kent City, Michigan 49330. All are welcome.

The next quarterly meeting for the **Bay City Chapter** will be in April 17, 2025; at the Iron Workers Local 25 Saginaw Union Hall, 11 Bridgeview S. Saginaw MI 48604 at 12:00 pm. All are welcome.

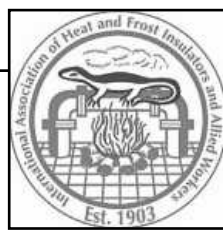
The **Downriver Chapter’s** next quarterly Retirees breakfast will be 9:00 am on April 18, 2025 at Mom’s Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, Michigan, 48183. All are welcome.

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.**

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

In Memory: Lifetime IW Carl Essary #742689 passed away February 14, 2025 at the age of 83 in Tennessee. He was a 58-year member of Local 709/25. He is survived by his son Chris Essary #1144739. Lifetime IW Jack Pattan passed away February 2, 2025 at the age of 84. He was a 58-year member of Local 292/25. He is survived by his wife Michele. Lifetime IW James H. Clement #485069 passed away March 6, 2025 at the age of 95. He was a 73-year member of Local 25. He is survived by many friends in the ironworking industry. Patrick Swihart passed away March 10, 2025 at the age of 79. He was a member of Local 25 from 1970 to 2007 and is survived by his brother Lifetime IW Rich Swihart #986106. Lifetime Rodman Kenneth Hicks passed away March 13, 2025 at the age of 81. He was a 55-year member of Local 426/25. He is survived by his brother Michael Hicks and many friends in the ironworking industry. **Our deep condolences to all of the family and friends as you mourn the loss of your dear loved one(s)!**

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (March 17, 2025 10:00 am E.S.T.)-



Heat and Frost Insulators Local 47

Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 47

LANSING - The next Regular Meeting will be held on Friday, April 11, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., and 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.

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.

Please make sure to call or text ALL Start/Layoff’s to the Union Office. Leave the start/layoff date and the name of the contractor along with your name.

Local 47 has reserved Site 5 at Fitzgerald Park for this year’s 24th Annual Picnic being held on Saturday, June 14, 2025. You will soon be receiving an invite in the mail. Please make sure you fill it out and send it back in as soon as possible. Do not wait until the last minute. This is also a reminder, the picnic is considered a Mandatory Meeting for All Apprentices.

Our Golf Outing will be held on Saturday, July 19 and the cost is \$85/person. If you are interested in golfing with us this year please call in with the name of your team along with chicken or steak for each person. Do not wait until the last minute to call in your team and the spots will fill in fast!

Congratulations to Jacob Fleming and his girlfriend Kailin on the birth of their daughter Willow Jean, born on Tuesday, March 11, 2025!

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 Dr., Lansing, MI 48917-9275 Toll Free: (800) 323-8079 Fax No.: (517) 321-7508

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

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

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

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

Please complete and return the working spousal forms to TIC.

JATC Coordinator Phil Wilson (616-466-8736)

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

Under Duties of Apprenticeship, Section 5.3 part L, page 4 of the Apprenticeship Standards states, “According to the Apprenticeship Standards you are (Continued next column)



Heat and Frost Insulators Local 25

Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25

SOUTHFIELD – UNION MEETING: The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, April 10, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge Street, Southfield, MI 48033.

WEEKLY HUMOR: This week’s joke was supposed to be about paper, but it was “tearable.”

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 9:00 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.

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

EMPLOYMENT CHANGES: All employment changes; hire, lay off, fire, shop change, disability, etc. must be called into the Union Hall within forty-eight 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.

A sense of humor is part of the art of leadership, of getting along with people, of getting things done.

—Dwight D. Eisenhower (1890 - 1969)

If you have a talent, use it in every which way possible. Don’t hoard it. Don’t dole it out like a miser. Spend it lavishly like a millionaire intent on going broke.

—Brendan Francis

Local 47, con’t

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, December 13, 2024.



LiUNA! LOCAL 1191

Feel the Power

Laborers Local 1191

(2161 West Grand Boulevard, Detroit, MI 48208)

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 – 4:00 pm to provide necessary contact information.

Regular Membership Updates: Please check out our website at www.laborerslocal1191.org and the “Laborers’ Local 1191” Facebook page for important information about your Local Union.

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

2025 Election Nomination – Special Call Meeting Notice to Membership: There will be a Special Meeting for the purpose of nominating candidates to all offices of Laborers’ Local 1191. It will be held on Thursday, April 17, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at Laborers’ Local 1191 Union, located at 2161 West Grand Boulevard, Detroit, Michigan 48208. The following offices will be placed for Nomination: President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Secretary-Treasurer, Business Manager/Delegate to Convention & Delegate to District Council, Sergeant-at-Arms, Auditors (3), Executive Board (2), Delegates to District Council (6).

Nominations may be made from the floor of the meeting by Members in Good Standing. A member who has been nominated must accept such nomination in person, unless absent from the meeting on union business, or excused for just cause by a vote of the membership of the Local Union. **THERE WILL BE NO DUES COLLECTED OR ANY OTHER BUSINESS CONDUCTED AT THE NOMINATION MEETING.**

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, at 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 the 4th of April, 2025. May’s General Membership Meeting will be held on May 2, 2025.

Monthly Retiree Council Meetings: 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 Retiree Council Meeting will be held on March 28. The April Retiree Council Meeting will be held on April 25.

Union Dues: 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.

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

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

Referral List: Every member who is looking for work must call or come to the Local Union Office on Mondays between 1-4 pm to put their name on the Out-of-Work list. You must have an Out-of-Work skills sheet filled out and on file in order to be referred out for work by the Local Union. FYI: It is the Member’s responsibility to regularly notify the Local Union of any changes to his/her skillsets. It could mean the difference of being sent to work or not!

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

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

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



Attorneys J.B. Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 55 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

www.ssdfighter.com



INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS BAY CITY MICHIGAN

IBEW Local 692

BAY CITY – Union Meeting. The April monthly membership meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, April 7th, 2025.**

Executive Board Meeting. The March Executive Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, April 21st, 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!

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 15th.**

Work Report. The work report 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:

Thiel Electric is on site at Delta College performing a remodel of the K wing.

Motor City Electric has been awarded the new line at Bay City's GM Powertrain site. Work should begin soon on this project.

J. Ranck Electric is continuing work at SK Siltron semi-conductor 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. Ranck also has short-term needs in Alpena at Holcim cement plant.

Master Electric has begun their work on phase 2 at Bangor Schools.

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

Clements Electric's Clements Electric has work at Mersen USA. Work on the Midland Center for the Arts, Delta College Chillers, Bay City lift stations and HL Mechatronics in Midland continues. Clements Electric is also working on an apartment complex in Auburn.

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

Escon Group continues work at Mersen USA in Bay City's south end and is slowing down some within the I-Park.

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 along with most recently landing another project at Bayview Park. Work on the CMU Tower building in Atlanta will continue. **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.

A larger projects Solar Project is also coming at Consumers Energy's Karn site in Essexville. Multiple Prevailing Wage projects in Bay City have been bid or will be bid soon.

Not only do inside Wireman opportunity to work at home, we need some wireman to man our work or market share will be lost. Open calls continue to exist on a weekly basis. We saw this instance play out in our past brothers and sisters, let's not repeat our mistakes. 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 Secretary

Organizer's Report. Visits to non-union job sites and outreach to unrepresented electricians continues. Local 692 has passed our annual IBEW organizing audit. We continue to bring in new members each month.

Apprenticeship walls have been installed in high schools across the jurisdiction. These "Conduit to the Trades" displays feature scannable QR codes directing students interested in any union craft to websites detailing apprenticeship application instructions and general information about the trades.

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 the unrepresented workers in our industry. If any current members know non-union electricians who may be interested in joining our Local, please do not hesitate to reach out. Immediate onboarding opportunities are currently available around the state, in addition 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 so hard to secure. This is not the time to become complacent or pull the ladder up. We need to continue to organize.

Plenty of anti-worker bills have been introduced to the 119th Congress, most notably among them National Right to Work and a bill to prohibit Federal employees from organizing, joining, or participating in labor unions for the purposes of collectively bargaining for representation. We must all do our best to keep each other informed of any developments on this matter, especially in the event these bills are brought up for a vote. An attack on any Union member is an attack on us all.

Brendon Baranek bbaranek@ibew692.org 989.327.4131
Union Dues. Effective Jan. 1, 2025, dues increased to \$48.20 per month. This \$2 Pension Fund increase was approved by the delegates of the 40th IBEW International Convention held in May of 2022.

Additionally, effective July 1st, 2025, dues will increase to \$49.20 per month. If you have automatic bill pay from your bank or credit union, please make sure to notify them of the increase.

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

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

Death Benefits. We regret to inform you of the death of active Brother James Ortiz, Card No. 8108820, who passed away on Feb. 6, 2025. Brother Ortiz was born on April 15, 1976 (48 years old). He was initiated on Oct. 3, 2022. James resided in Standish but was most recently staying in Florida caring for his mother.

(Continued next column)



IBEW Local 948

FLINT – Meetings

Membership Meeting - Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will be April 14th, 2025 at 6:00 PM.

Retiree Meetings - Retirees next meeting will be April 1st, 2025 at 9:00am.

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 resigns.

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, Katja Summers. 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 Thomas Mikulski. We are tremendously sorry for your losses and will continue to keep our Brother in our hearts.

IBEW 692, con't

#350 Local death fund assessment **\$10.00 each** (due within 30 days) payable to:

IBEW Local 692, 1300 W. Thomas, Bay City, MI 48706

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

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

Important links & numbers

Health Plan & Pension Fund
855.633.4584 – ASK FOR ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE
www.michiganelectrical.org
NEBF/NEAP: 301.556.4300
IO Pension: 202.833.7000

"You cannot live a perfect day without doing something for someone who will never be able to repay you."

—John Wooden (1910 - 2010)

"In matters of style, swim with the current; in matters of principle, stand like a rock."

—Thomas Jefferson (1743 - 1826)

"The secret of a good memory is attention, and attention to a subject depends upon our interest in it. We rarely forget that which has made a deep impression on our minds."

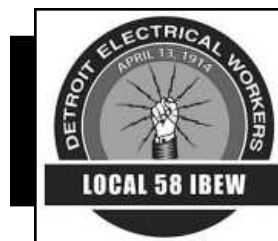
—Tryon Edwards (1809 - 1894)

"On account of being a democracy and run by the people, we are the only nation in the world that has to keep a government four years, no matter what it does."

—Will Rogers (1879 - 1935)

"There's no secret about success. Did you ever know a successful man who didn't tell you about it?"

—Kin Hubbard (1868 - 1930)



IBEW 58

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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, 2441 W. Water St, Port Huron, MI 48060. If you have any questions, please contact Business Agent Paul Ledsworth at 313-802-4970.

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Pay on the APP/Website, send a check, or call and pay over the phone. Please keep the Local up to date with your address, email, and phone number. Dues Statements have gone out earlier this month.

Wiremen's Golf Association (WGA) Members: This year the 2025 Wiremen's Golf Association Tournament will be hosted by Local 139, Elmira, NY on July 29-31 and Aug 1, with the optional scramble being held on Tuesday, July 29. The golf courses being utilized for the tournament this year are Mark Twain Golf Course (Elmira, NY), Soaring Eagles Golf Course (Horseheads, NY), Willow Creek Golf Course (Big Flats, NY) and the optional scramble on Tuesday at The Club at Shepard Hills (Waverly, NY). The host hotel/tournament headquarters for this year is the Radisson Hotel Corning, NY ((607)962-5000) with the overflow hotel being Hilton Garden Inn Corning Downtown ((607)438-1400). Entry fees for this year are \$275 per man for the Tournament and an additional \$75 per man for the optional scramble. They are anticipating a large showing in Elmira and have strict deadlines to provide a count to all the venues so it will be absolutely necessary to have your entry money for the tournament turned in ASAP this year.

All monies must be received by April 31 – NO EXCEPTIONS. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE YOUR MONEY IN TO EITHER RON KRAJENKE OR BRAD GARRITY BY APRIL 31st YOU WILL NOT ENTERED INTO THE TOURNAMENT THIS YEAR. If you are mailing your payment please mail to: Ron Krajenke, 20244 Edinberg Drive, Macomb, MI 48044. Any WGA member who is planning on participating in the 2025 Tournament or anyone looking for information or to join the WGA this year can feel free to reach out with any questions to Ron Krajenke at 313-475-0487 or Brad Garrity at 313-850-1837. We are looking forward to a great WGA Tournament this year in Elmira!

Detroit Electrical Workers Benevolent Fund (DEWBF): The next Benevolent Fund meeting will be Tuesday April 1, 2025. We had four (4) Apprentices turn in applications for the 2nd Annual John Mayernik Memorial Scholarship. The winning Apprentice will be awarded at the General Membership meeting on Tuesday, April 15, 2025. The winning Apprentice will receive a \$2000.00 check to be used at their discretion; new tools, work clothes, boots, paying bills, save for a house, etc.

The next event is the 16th Annual Walleye Tournament on the Detroit River on Saturday May 3. Lines in at 7 am and back to the Union Hall between 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm for weigh in. We will have a fish fry and food available starting at 3:00 pm, as well as prizes and raffles.

The 24th Annual Jerry Gaudi Memorial Golf Open will be on Friday, June 6. The event will be at Glennhurst Golf Course in Redford like previous years. Look for registration information to come out soon. Get your foursome together and money because this event fills up fast. There will also be a Cooler of Cheer raffle at this event.

Members of the Community Service Committee: The next committee meeting will be Tuesday, April 8, 2025, 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 Entertainment Committee: The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 8 following the Community Service Committee meeting that starts at 5:30 p.m.

EWMC of Southeastern MI – The next chapter meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 21 at 6pm. This will be an in-person 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. Please bring any suggestions that you have for EWMC involvement and engagement.

March is Reading Month! A huge "THANK YOU" to all who participated in 313 Reads with DPSCD on Friday, March 14. The EWMC of Southeastern Michigan appreciates the support of IBEW 58 (active and retired members), IBEW 6th District, IBEW 252, IBEW 352, IBEW 175, UnitedWay of Southeastern Michigan, UAW, UA Local 98, Blastone Communications/Hatzel & Buehler, APWU, OPEIU, Black Caucus Foundation, Drug Free Youth of Detroit, the Detroit Pistons and DPSCD. It was an awesome opportunity to read to and engage with the students in addition to securing a presence at the schools. Many have already invited us back for Career Days. Please bring a greeting card (get well/encouragement/thinking of you) to the April meeting so that we can deliver them to Brother Arthur Edge as he continues on his road to recovery. Stay tuned for more volunteer opportunities in the near future. Volunteers will be needed as we continue with our efforts.

The Safety Committee meeting will be on Monday, April 14, 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 committee meeting will be Thursday, March 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 1st Wednesday of the month via Zoom and in person at the Hall at 5:30 pm.

IBEW Local 58 Retirees Association: The next Retiree's luncheon will be Wednesday, March 26, 2025, at Corsi's Banquet Center, 27910 W. Seven Mile, Livonia. Doors open at

11, lunch is served at 12:30 pm. Lunch is \$25 per person.

The next Retiree Association Board meeting is Wednesday April 9, 2025 at 10 a.m. in the local union hall's main conference room.

The Annual PIN PARTY is happening on Saturday, April 26, 2025 at the Local Union Hall. We will be honoring all 50, 55, 50, 65 and 70+ year members. Invitations to Honorees will be mailed out soon, and we would appreciate your RSVP as soon as possible. Honorees will be our guests at a catered lunch, guests are welcome. There will be no regular luncheon in April, even if you don't have a friend or family member receiving a pin, you are welcome to attend. Tickets for guests are \$25 per person. Send your checks (payable to the Retirees Association) to IBEW #58, Attn. Retirees, P.O. Box 32756, Detroit 48232-0756. Questions about the pin party or the March Luncheon, and/or reservations call Elaine Crawford at 313 408-5885.

The September Bus Trip is heading to Washington DC this fall. The trip takes place Friday, Sept. 12 through Tuesday Sept. 16. Total cost for the trip per person, \$710, based on double occupancy. Send in your \$75 deposit per person, to hold your spot. A tour of the IBEW International Museum and a tour of the White House are currently being arranged to be included in this 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. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. All trades welcome.

Electrical Workers Credit Union: Our website is <http://WWW.EWCU.NET> (313) 963-6060. In the market for a loan? Check out our low rates! New auto as low as 5.25%. Give us a call today to find out how to apply or go online at <http://www.ewcu.net>.

Who's your Beneficiary? Here are some tips to help make sure your account is up to date with us. Review your beneficiaries periodically, especially if a life change occurs. Be sure the wording is correct, especially if you name more than one beneficiary. Give us a call and we can check who you have listed. State of Michigan Escheat Law: The law states that any deposit account with no activity for 3 years must be turned over to the State. What can you do? Contact us today to find out your account status. Conduct a transaction by either deposit or withdraw (any amount). Close account.

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

IBEW Pension: Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: John S Reiff, Scott Engelhardt, and Thomas McBrien.

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.

Diana Boddy, Wife to the late Pension member, Donald Boddy;

JOSEPH DELOCK, Pension member, 73 year IBEW membership; **WILLIAM A. HARRIS,** Pension member, 63 year IBEW membership; Uncle to Charles Krueger, Pension member, 51 year IBEW membership; Uncle to James Krueger, Pension member, 33 year IBEW membership; and Uncle to Kevin Krueger, JIW; **RAYMOND SHOLBERG,** Pension member, 61 year IBEW membership; and **EDWARD WHITNEY,** Pension member, 56 year IBEW membership.

"Most human beings have an almost infinite capacity for taking things for granted."

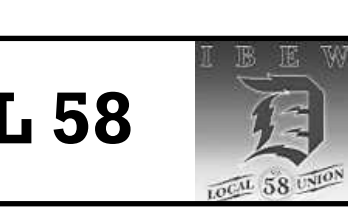
—Aldous Huxley (1894 - 1963)

"He that would make his own liberty secure, must guard even his enemy from oppression; for if he violates this duty, he establishes a precedent that will reach to himself."

—Thomas Paine (1737 - 1809)

"In the future everyone will be famous for fifteen minutes."

—Andy Warhol (1928 - 1987)



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All monies must be received by April 31 – NO EXCEPTIONS. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE YOUR MONEY IN TO EITHER RON KRAJENKE OR BRAD GARRITY BY APRIL 31st YOU WILL NOT ENTERED INTO THE TOURNAMENT THIS YEAR. If you are mailing your payment please mail to: Ron Krajenke, 20244 Edinberg Drive, Macomb, MI 48044. Any WGA member who is planning on participating in the 2025 Tournament or anyone looking for information or to join the WGA this year can feel free to reach out with any questions to Ron Krajenke at 313-475-0487 or Brad Garrity at 313-850-1837. We are looking forward to a great WGA Tournament this year in Elmira!

Detroit Electrical Workers Benevolent Fund (DEWBF): The next Benevolent Fund meeting will be Tuesday April 1, 2025. We had four (4) Apprentices turn in applications for the 2nd Annual John Mayernik Memorial Scholarship. The winning Apprentice will be awarded at the General Membership meeting on Tuesday, April 15, 2025. The winning Apprentice will receive a \$2000.00 check to be used at their discretion; new tools, work clothes, boots, paying bills, save for a house, etc.

The next event is the 16th Annual Walleye Tournament on the Detroit River on Saturday May 3. Lines in at 7 am and back to the Union Hall between 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm for weigh in. We will have a fish fry and food available starting at 3:00 pm, as well as prizes and raffles.

The 24th Annual Jerry Gaudi Memorial Golf Open will be on Friday, June 6. The event will be at Glennhurst Golf Course in Redford like previous years. Look for registration information to come out soon. Get your foursome together and money because this event fills up fast. There will also be a Cooler of Cheer raffle at this event.

Members of the Community Service Committee: The next committee meeting will be Tuesday, April 8, 2025, 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 Entertainment Committee: The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 8 following the Community Service Committee meeting that starts at 5:30 p.m.

EWMC of Southeastern MI – The next chapter meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 21 at 6pm. This will be an in-person 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. Please bring any suggestions that you have for EWMC involvement and engagement.

March is Reading Month! A huge "THANK YOU" to all who participated in 313 Reads with DPSCD on Friday, March 14. The EWMC of Southeastern Michigan appreciates the support of IBEW 58 (active and retired members), IBEW 6th District, IBEW 252, IBEW 352, IBEW 175, UnitedWay of Southeastern Michigan, UAW, UA Local 98, Blastone Communications/Hatzel & Buehler, APWU, OPEIU, Black Caucus Foundation, Drug Free Youth of Detroit, the Detroit Pistons and DPSCD. It was an awesome opportunity to read to



IBEW
Local 498
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Since 1949"

IBEW Local 498
TRAVERSE CITY – Meetings.

Regular E Board- The next regularly scheduled E-Board meeting is set for Monday, April 14, 2025, @ 5:30pm.

Regular Meeting- The next regularly scheduled membership meeting is scheduled for 7pm Monday, April 14, 2025.

Entertainment Committee and Volunteers- We are looking forward to some fun events this year. We need to get a group of volunteers together to brainstorm ideas and host events. Currently we have two events planned for this summer. The Cherry Festival Parade in July and the summer picnic in August. If you are interested in a fun way to get involved with your local, get in contact with Dylan O'Dwyer at 231-943-4980.

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

Important numbers for you to write in your address book:

MEEHP (Health) 1-855-633-4584 Fax# 1-952-854-1632 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#

"The keenest sorrow is to recognize ourselves as the sole cause of all our adversities."
–Sophocles (496 BC - 406 BC)



IBEW
Local 252
Since 1916

IBEW Local 252
ANN ARBOR – **APRIL 9TH UNION MEETING:** April 9th regular membership meeting we will be voting on some changes to Local 252 Bylaws. Look for a mailing detailing the changes.

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- (Monday's) March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 & April 7
EPRI Part B- (Tuesday's) January 21, 28 February 4, 11, 18, 25 March 4, 11, 18 & 25

OHSA 30- (Tuesday and Thursday's) May 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27 & 29. Worth 30 CECs for those that have a current BICSI credential.
CPR- (Tuesday's) March 4 & 11, June 3 & 10, September 2 & 9, December 2 & 9

BICSI TECH- May 7-September 3, 2025. BICSI ITSIMM book is required (\$240 or \$290 digital). Exam certification fee is \$400. BICSI Workbook fee \$115. You must have 3 years of verifiable field ICT experience to sit for the exam. Worth 35 CECs for those who have a current BICSI credential.

BICSI INSTALLER 1- June 2-Aug 25. BICSI ITSIMM book is required (\$240 or \$290 digital). Optional certification fee \$400. BICSI Workbook fee \$115. Worth 35 CECs for those who have a current BICSI credential.

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

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

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 receive prizes. X Golf has a full-service 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, Feb. 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.

EASTER EGG HUNT: This year's Easter Egg hunt will be on April 12, 2025 from 2 p.m. – 5 p.m. Activities include an egg coloring contest, an egg hunt with prizes for kids under 10, games for all ages, and visits from the Easter Bunny. If you would like to volunteer or have questions, please contact Dan Beck (810) 858-0033.

DETROIT TIGERS UNION DAY: We are organizing a trip to the Detroit Tigers Union Day game on April 26th vs the Baltimore Orioles. Tickets are \$30 and include entry to the game, a bus ride to and from, and \$10 of fun money to spend at the park. Bus will leave at 10 am and return after the game. First pitch is at 1:10 pm. Call the hall to sign up.

RETIREE'S 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.

RETIREE'S BREAKFAST: The Retirees' Breakfast will take place the second Wednesday of each month at **9 a.m. (new time)** at Leo's Coney Island, 160 South Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. There is parking and entrances at both the front and rear of the restaurant.

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

ERTS: Please make sure that you are signed up 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 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: Local 252 partners with Health Management Systems of America to provide Employee Assistance for several issues. For confidential 24/7 assistance, call toll-free 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 Emerson for information about Accident, Cancer, Critical Care, Dental and Vision insurance from Aflac. Phone number: (517) 306-0144.

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


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 Nichole Cochran and her family for the recent loss of her grandfather, John Robison. John was the father of Lecia Hansen.

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., 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.



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IBEW Local 131
KALAMAZOO – The next **General Membership Meeting** will be held on April 7, at 6 p.m. The next **Renew** meeting will be held on March 26, at RJ's at 5 p.m.

The Executive Board meeting will be held on April 21, at 5 p.m.

Woman in the Trades Meeting will be held on April 22, at 6:00 p.m.

The EWMC meeting will be held on March 26, at R.J.'s at 5:00 p.m.

The Veterans Group will be meeting on April 3, 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 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at RJ's from 3:30-5:30p.m. 8118 Portage Rd. Portage. Keep an eye out for location changes on the local's FB page.

Detroit Tigers Union Day Game on April 26, 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). Other work in the local has slowed down, we are thankful for our sister locals for keeping the contractors and members busy.

Have you welcomed the new apprentices? The first group started in September. The future Journeyman includes Eduardo Aguilar, Noah Baker, Allison Brandli, Ben Haumann, Jonathan Hopp, Mason Holder, Konnor Miller, William Miller, Creighton Pierce, Leo Pulsinelli, Nathan Riddle, Derek Roblyer, Gabriel Rogers, Ivan Sage, Broderick Try, Eric Vantine, Gavin West, Kiwoa Whitfield, and Sawyer Whitfield. In January, a second class began: Max Aguilon, Samantha Beach, Morgan Bumpops, Maria Carson, DeShaun Darden, Gary Horton, Dylan Johnson, Gabriel Johnson, Kalab Johnson, Nicholas Keene, Hayden Key, Robert Lewis, Zachary Morris, Gabriel Powell, Janice Sienicki, Bryce Stewart, Christopher Stewart, and Sebastian York. The IBEW will always be here for you. Please say hello when you see them on the job.

Apprenticeship Applications: We often get calls on how to apply to Kalamazoo Apprenticeship Program. To apply, go to www.kalamazoojatic.com and navigate to the application page on the website.

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

Code Update 2023 has to be done by March 11, 2025. If you have not completed it please contact Apprenticeship for the online option (269) 388-4434

Retirees' Lunches at the following Locations:

April 16, Lunch at The Crew, 5200 Portage Road, Portage, 49002@11:00.

May 21, Lunch at Judy's Restaurant, 120 W Allegan St. Otsego, 49078 @ 11:00.

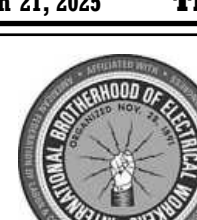
June 18, Lunch at Roxie's Breakfast & Lunch, 4010 Gull Road, Kalamazoo 49048@11:00
July 16, Lunch at McGonigle's Irish Pub, 3512 East Main St. Kalamazoo 49048

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 Pizzeria, 3112 South 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.** @ the hall. This new group is here to discuss retirees' issues.

RETIREMENT: NEBF and IBEW PBF applications take at least 3 months to process but can



IBEW
LOCAL
906

IBEW Local 906
UPPER PENINSULA – MEETINGS

MARQUETTE UNIT – First Tuesday

IRON MOUNTAIN UNIT – Second Tuesday

ESCANABA UNIT – Second Wednesday

Brothers and Sisters, Happy Spring! For the month of April Local 906 will have regular unit meetings as follows.

Marquette first Tuesday 7:00 pm EST.

Iron Mountain second Tuesday 7:00 pm CST.

Escanaba second Wednesday 7:00 pm EST. 2025 is an election year for Local 906, nominations will take place on Saturday May 3rd in Marquette at the Masonic, election judge Mac Larson will be sending out information for the election soon. New short and long sleeve shirts will be arriving later this month.

The work outlook is looking very strong for the summer of 2025 with Renegade Solar in Rock, MI needing 60 journeyworkers, along with other various projects across the Upper Peninsula.

Currently we have a 2 man call for Renegade Solar for MJ Electric, a 3 man call for Systems Control addition for MJ Electric, a 2 man call for Northern Power on Mackinac Island, and a 1 man call for Pieper Electric at Newberry LP. Local 906 will be hosting the Michigan State Conference on Mackinac Island June 11-13.

Reminder that there is a retiree lunch the third Thursday of every month at the Veirling Restaurant in Marquette at 11:00 am EST.

IBEW 131, con't

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

American Income Life - Accidental Death Benefit. Recently you may have received a letter in the mail regarding the \$2500 Accidental Death & Dismemberment benefit available through a partnership with the IBEW and American Income Life. All active members are eligible for this benefit. The letter states that you need to return the enclosed yellow card to qualify and name your beneficiary. Please note you are **NOT REQUIRED** to return this card to name your beneficiary; the beneficiaries you have on file at the hall are sufficient. The \$2500 benefit would be paid to your named beneficiary, not to your estate.

American Income Life does offer other policies and services. If you are interested in having a representative contact you to discuss available options, you may return the yellow card in the paid envelope provided. If you have questions, please contact the hall at 269-382-1762.

Three Months or more behind in counter dues payments are the following suspended members: Robert Dalecki, and Gary Yerden.

Morris Applebey
Business Manager



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.

We want to thank all the members of Local 275 who joined us for the St. Patrick's Day parade. This event had great weather and great crowd turnout. Be on the lookout for future volunteer events!

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 17th. The LPC committee is still looking for and accepting donations of wild game. Please reach out to Walter with any questions.

Code update will only be available online going forward. Please go to the JATC website at www.wmejate.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.

As discussed at the previous meeting we are currently working to develop the Local 275 app. This app will help us reach members through the app in addition to all the other ways. We should have more details coming soon.

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 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: Shaun Frantz, Kenneth Krawczak, Jeremy Rinehart, and Michael Nielsen.

Please make every effort to become current with your dues as soon as you can.

"The world is full of people whose notion of a satisfactory future is, in fact, a return to the idealised past."

–Robertson Davies

"There is nothing sadder in this world than the waste of human potential. The purpose of evolution is to raise us out of the mud, not have us grovelling in it."

–Diane Frolov and Andrew Schneider

"The world is governed more by appearances than realities, so that it is fully as necessary to seem to know something as to know it."

–Daniel Webster (1782 - 1852)

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IBEW Local 445
BATTLE CREEK – Local 445 Steward Training: there will be a Steward's Training on April 15, 2025. Please contact the Hall for additional information and get added to the roster.

First Aid/CPR. There is a First Aid/CPR training scheduled after the April 14, 2025, Union Meeting. Check your First Aid/CPR card and if it expires after April 2025, please plan on attending this training. The next training will be held April 2026.

Local 445 Golf Outing The Local 445 Golf Outing is scheduled for July 12, 2025.

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 that you can add it to your quarterly due's payment

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

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

Accordingly, effective January 1, 2025, there will be 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 **January 1, 2025, thru June 30, 2025**, the following due's structure:

- JTWs: Monthly \$60.00 Quarterly \$180.00
- Apprentices: Monthly \$49.00 Quarterly \$147.00

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

- JTWs: Monthly \$61.00 Quarterly \$183.00
- Apprentices: Monthly \$50.00 Quarterly \$150.00

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.

The General Membership Meeting is the second Monday of each month and starts at 5:00 p.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. Respectfully Submitted, *Wanda Secrest Recording Secretary*

"That's the trouble with a politician's life-somebody is always interrupting it with an election."

–Will Rogers (1879 - 1935)

Be thou the first true merit to befriend, his praise is lost who stays till all commend."

–Alexander Pope (1688 - 1744)



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.

RETIREMENT SEMINAR HELD- Thank you to all who attended this year's retirement seminar with the Hantz Group. Members in attendance were caught up all things retirement and given important information regarding their futures.

LOCAL 557 ORGANIZING- With work being the best it has been in Local 557 (and throughout the State), organizing is as important as ever. Local contractors will begin work on traditional work throughout the Local this spring which is important to provide manpower for. Whether work in the Hemlock area continues for a prolonged period or not, it is vitally important to keep all other work of the IBEW in mind. Moving forward, Local 557 will be focusing hard on keeping these projects successful. The future of the Local depends on this work.

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- Work on the Mega Project remains steady. As of this writing, there are currently 459 IBEW members referred to the project. Going forward, a ramp up of second shift will continue to maximize workspace within the building. 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 Book 2 for a very short time as well as some picking up open calls during the dispatch period following a call listed on the Local Job Line. Traveling members can continue to monitor the calls by watching for updates on the Local's website Job Line Calls tab. This is updated throughout the day to provide the latest information regarding calls when they are being filled. If you are on Book 2, please reach out to the Local through the jobline@ibew557.org email address and you will receive a reply as soon as possible.

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS- The next membership meeting is April 1 and will start at **6 pm. Please note the change to a 6 pm start time** due to Overtime being worked in the area.

UNION HALL OPERATIONS- 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-of-town 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 more calls are expected for J. Ranck, Conti and Nooter in the near future, especially for second shift. At the time of this writing, 459 IBEW members working on Project Phoenix. Van Ert Electric from Wisconsin is winding down work on the Wheeler Dairy Farms. Weinstein Electric from Local 948 is winding down work on the new Bavarian Inn Waterpark in Frankenmuth. Overtime is available most of these big projects.



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

Local Union 845
Business Rep: Ed Bracamontes

Meeting date: 1st Thursday of every month at 7 p.m.
Place: 419 S. Washington Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933

Local Union 1052
Business Rep: Jake Fluty

Meeting date: The Fourth Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.
Place: 3115 Joyce St., Burton MI 48529

Local Union 1803
Business Rep: Josh Ovalle

Meeting date: 4th Tuesday of every month at 5:30 p.m.
Place: 7677 Midland Road, Freeland, MI 48623.

Local Union 2352
Business Rep: Jeremy Haviland

Meeting Date: 3rd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.
Place: District Council 1M, 14587 Barber Ave., Warren, MI.

Local Union 2353
Business Rep: Tony Parker

Meeting date: 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m.
Place: District Council 1M, 14587 Barber Ave, Warren, MI.



Glaziers & Glassworkers 357
WARREN – Our next union meeting will be held on Monday April 7, 2025 at 5pm.

This meeting will be a "Special Called Meeting." At this meeting we will be voting on local 357 wage allocations. Please make every effort to attend.

We will be holding a retirees lunch on Wednesday April 16, from 11am-2pm. If you are a retiree, we will be hosting a lunch on this day at our District Council: 14587 Barber Ave., Warren, MI 48088. Please call Don Stepp with questions. 586-335-6480

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.

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

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

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

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



A GAP in the 47th floor of the Hudson's-Detroit tower under construction along Woodward Avenue in Detroit awaits the placement of the final section of the tower's exterior glass.

Image credit: Bedrock

Glass workers cover Hudson's tower

(Continued from Page 1)
 The final glass panel has been installed on the 47th floor of Hudson's Detroit, completing the tower's façade at this landmark development," Bedrock said.

The company said the panels range from 11-16 feet tall, each weighing up to 2,200 lbs. each. "With the completion of the façade at Hudson's, work continues on the 1.5 million square foot mixed-use development," Bedrock said. The tower is set to house the "Detroit Edition Hotel" and "The Residences at The Detroit Edition."

The Hudson's Detroit development includes a 49-story skyscraper and a 12-story office block. The project reportedly costs \$1.4 billion.

A timeline released by Bedrock in January said the "block" portion of the building is expected to be complete in April, while the tower is expected to be complete in the fourth quarter of this year.

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Michigan Painters District Council

Painters DC 1M
WARREN – Dear Members, **DC1M WEBSITE:** www.iupatdc1michigan.org
DC 1M UNION CARDS*

Any questions regarding a lost, damaged Union cards, or have dues inquiries or have not received a card please contact the DC1M offices at:
WARREN OFFICE: (586)552-4474 extension 100
Freeland Office: (989) 695-6888

Sickness and Death. With a heavy heart we announce the passing of:
 Retiree Ronald Hollis Local 357
 Retiree Thomas Hutchinson Local 357
 Retiree Orville McCracken Local 357
 Ronald Mertz Local 357

Please keep the families of these brothers in your thoughts and prayers.
RETIREE LUNCH WEDNESDAY APRIL 16. We will be holding a retirees lunch on Wednesday April 16, from 11am-2pm. If you are a retiree, we will be hosting a lunch on this day. The lunch will be at our District Council: 14587 Barber Ave., Warren, MI 48088.

UPGRADE CLASSES AT THE DC 1M FTI OF THE GREAT LAKES
WARREN TRAINING FACILITY. There will be a **Rigging and Signaling Class** on Saturday March 22nd at 9AM.

There will be an **Architectural Drawings class** held Saturday April 5th 9AM.
Lift Certification Class will held April 28, 29, 30 & May 1 & 3.

OWOSSO TRAINING FACILITY. There will be a **Fall Protection Class** held Saturday April 19th, 9AM at the Owosso Training Facility. **Contact Di-**

"The worst sin toward our fellow creatures is not to hate them, but to be indifferent to them: that's the essence of inhumanity."

–George Bernard Shaw (1856 - 1950)

"Be bold and mighty powers will come to your aid."

–Basil King

rector 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 go to Google Playstore

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

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.



Sign, Pictorial & Display Local 591

Sign Pictorial & Display 591
WARREN –The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday April 1, 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

"The only way most people recognize their limits is by trespassing on them."
 –Tom Morris

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Local 169 Boilermakers

Boilermakers 169

ALLEN PARK – Our next membership meeting will take place on **April 18, 2025**. This meeting will be at The United Trades Building located at 119 S. Front Street, Marquette, MI. 49885.



BOB HUTSELL

Congratulations to Grant Genaw on winning our local apprenticeship competition. By winning,

Grant will now represent our local at the Great Lakes Area competition in Indiana this Summer. If you see Grant, please congratulate him and encourage him on his upcoming event. We are all very proud of him. Way to go!

Spring is just around the corner, and so are many of our annual events. With our annual golf outing and picnics in all four areas, there are plenty of opportunities to volunteer and attend these events. We need more of our younger members to get involved if we are to continue our rich tradition of Brotherhood at these family fun events.

Local 169 is celebrating its 130th anniversary this year! Founded in 1895, our local has survived through good times and bad. For all those who came before us, and all those with the courage and loyalty to stay true to our great Brotherhood, I offer my sincere gratitude and congratulations. Pick up our new 130th anniversary stickers at the Union Hall or at our next scheduled union meeting.

Local 169 is happy to invite members to “Union Day” at Comerica Park. Unions across Michigan will be attending this game on Saturday, April 26th at 1:00 pm. Your local has tickets in section 138 for the Tigers vs the Orioles on this date. If you are interested in attending, please contact Jamie Ratliff. The first ticket is free to members in good standing. Additional tickets may be available for \$50.00 which is discounted from the \$62.00 face

value. Members will be given priority over those purchasing additional tickets. Call to reserve your ticket, make your additional ticket request, and if extra tickets are available, you will be informed. Please take advantage of this opportunity to attend this union event with your Brothers & Sisters.

Get ready to celebrate Local 169’s 130th anniversary! Our annual dinner dance will be held on June 28th at the Athenum in downtown Detroit. This event is always a great time. The event will begin at 6:00 pm and end at 12:00. With an open bar, live music, and great food, this is an easy decision. Complimentary beer steins and shot glasses will be available for members to enjoy a “boilermaker” and take home at the end of the night. 130 years is a huge milestone for our organization, I hope you will ALL take advantage of this opportunity to show your Boilermaker Pride and celebrate this historic accomplishment.

Rooms are available at the discounted rate of \$229.00 with valet parking available at a discounted rate of \$20.00. Use the word Boilermaker for the discount when making your reservation. Please send a \$50.00 check to reserve your spot at this event. Significant others are welcome to attend. Your check will be returned upon arrival. This is necessary to establish a proper head count for food and beverage totals.

With our current full employment and a large group of new apprentices, I encourage every member to make safety your number one priority. The busy workload looks like it will continue throughout the year so please make every effort to safeguard yourself and your Brothers and Sisters on the job.

In an effort to assist our Brotherhood, the Executive Council of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers 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 please contact Area 3 Business Agent, Mike Card at 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, 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 March 19 at 11AM at The Boulevard Lounge, 316 S. Saginaw Road, Midland, Midland, Mi. 48640. All retirees and members from all areas are welcome to attend.

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 \$45.00. 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.com 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 member needing the services of a Notary Public can do so at no charge at the Boilermakers Local 169 Union Hall. Please call ahead to ensure availability.

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.

“Do not fall prey to the false belief that mastery and domination are synonymous with manliness.”

–Kent Nerburn

“He that respects himself is safe from others. He wears a coat of mail that none can pierce.”

– Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807 - 1882)

U.S. construction hiring moderates, as tariff, workforce questions loom

(Continued from Page 1)

Martin, associate director of forecasting at Dodge Construction Network, on March 12. “Increased uncertainty around material prices and fiscal policies may begin to weigh on planning decisions, but for the time being, planning activity is largely continuing to move forward.”

U.S. construction employment in February totaled 8,310,000. Including the increase of 19,000 jobs from January, headcount rose by 174,000 jobs, or 2.1 percent during the previous 12 months. That was a bit shy of the 2.4 percent gain in jobs from February 2023 to February 2024.

The AGC said growing uncertainty “about whether tariffs will be imposed and for how long” is already driving up prices for key construction materials. The group added that the Trump administration’s decision to “end work authorizations for workers from a variety of countries is shrinking an already tight labor market, making it hard for firms to keep pace with construction demand.”

Blue Water Building Trades food drive

(Continued from Page 1)

food, and the volunteers did the rest that day, with a tightly organized effort of packing and distribution after the Teamsters donated the boxes.

“We’re just a group of people looking to take the sting out of expensive food bills,” Grunenwald said. “The Blue Water Building Trades made an effort to step up to help people in need. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped out.” Food that was left over from the effort was donated to a local food pantry.

The Food Bank of Eastern Michigan, where this food was purchased, partners with more than 600 hunger relief organizations across 22 counties in the state.

The group says it offers “a crucial safety net for over 211,000 food-insecure individu-

als in the region. By offering food assistance, we help fill gaps in household budgets, ensuring families have access to essential nutrition. Since its founding in 1981, the Food Bank has been a trusted and respected leader in the fight against hunger, steadfastly addressing the growing demand in our communities. With the support of our partners, we distribute over 30 million pounds of food annually to neighbors in need.”

Volunteers for this effort hailed from Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2, Cement Masons and Plasterers Local 514, IBEW Local 58, Michigan Regional Carpenters Council, Operating Engineers Local 324, Pipe Fitters 636, Plumbers Local 98, Sheet Metal Workers Local 80. John Wright of LIUNA Local 1075 coordinated much of the effort.



THESE ARE AMONG the 199 nicely organized boxes of food distributed by the Blue Water Building Trades in Port Huron on Feb. 26.

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Outdoors

Haven't seen you in a while, Arctic grayling



NOT SEEN IN MICHIGAN since 1936, the Arctic grayling will see an opportunity for a re-introduction to the state's waters with a ceremony Monday, May 12, at the Oden State Fish Hatchery Visitor Center in Alanson.

(From the Michigan DNR)
The effort to reintroduce Arctic grayling to Michigan waters will enter its next phase with a ceremony Monday, May 12, at the Oden State Fish Hatchery Visitor Center in Alanson.

At this event, the Department of Natural Resources will provide a total of approximately 400,000 grayling eggs to the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians and the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians. These partners will reintroduce the eggs at locations along the North Branch of the Manistee River, the Maple River and the Boardman-Ottaway River.

What are Arctic grayling?
Arctic grayling (*Thymallus arcticus*) – often referred to simply as “grayling” – are a freshwater fish in the salmonidae (salmon) family. They have a unique and striking appearance, with a prominent, sail-like dorsal fin and often iridescent markings. Grayling can be found in the Arctic Ocean and Alaska, as well as in rivers and streams of the northern U.S. and Canada.

Native to only Michigan and Montana in the Lower 48 states,

grayling historically were found in coldwater streams in Michigan's Lower Peninsula and were common in the Manistee and Au Sable rivers – the city of Grayling, Mich. along the Au Sable, is named after the Arctic grayling.

Despite the importance of grayling as a food source, sport fish and cultural resource, habitat destruction, unregulated timber harvest and pressures from non-native fish species led to the extirpation (local extinction) of grayling from Michigan by 1936.

Why are Arctic grayling being reintroduced?

In 2016, the DNR, in partnership with the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, announced a proposed initiative to reintroduce Arctic grayling to the state, creating the Michigan Arctic Grayling Initiative, or MAGI. Consisting of more than 50 partners, the MAGI seeks to establish self-sustaining populations of this historically and culturally significant species within its historical Michigan range.

Previous attempts have been made, without success, to bring back Arctic grayling to Michigan waters, but new technologies and

methods have improved the likelihood of effective reintroduction. The grayling eggs being reintroduced will be placed in streamside incubators that will allow them to imprint on the waters in which they are placed, helping them thrive. MAGI partners will closely monitor the hatching and development of the fry, as well as follow up on how they move through these systems as they grow.

The return of grayling to Michigan is a years-long process, and this initial handoff of eggs begins the reintroduction phase of this effort. In November 2023, three Michigan lakes were stocked with Arctic grayling that were surplus from the DNR's grayling broodstock. While establishing the broodstock was an important milestone in the reintroduction process, this stocking did not (and was not intended to) establish a self-sustaining wild Arctic grayling population.

More details on the Arctic grayling reintroduction event will be released as available. Learn more about the Michigan Arctic Grayling Initiative at migrayling.org, or plan your visit to the Oden State Fish Hatchery at Michigan.gov/Hatcheries.

MDNR photo



MORE THAN 250 LICENSES were issued across both periods of the 2024 Michigan elk hunting season, and hunters harvested 180 elk in all. Pictured here is one of the successful elk hunters, Alex Mshar of Lewiston.

MDNR photo

2024 elk hunting results

(From the Michigan DNR)
With the wrap of Michigan's 2024 elk season, hunters saw challenging conditions during Hunt Period 1 and improved outcomes in Hunt Period 2. More than 250 licenses were issued across both periods, and hunters harvested 180 elk in all.

Hunt Period 1.
The season began in late August and spanned 12 days throughout September. High temperatures during the fall hunt reduced elk movement during the day, making it difficult to locate elk during hunting hours. Additionally, the heat deterred some hunters from participating out of concern about meat spoilage and heat-related conditions.

Michigan's early season is designed to remove elk living outside of the designated elk management area, which is primarily the Pigeon River Country State Forest. There are 100 licenses issued for Hunt Period 1: 30 any-elk licenses and 70 antlerless-only licenses.

Despite the challenging weather, Hunt Period 1 proved to be successful for 59 percent of hunters, who harvested 24 bull elk and 35 antlerless elk, including two calves. This harvest rate is the lowest documented, falling below the average of about 74 percent since 2007.

This particularly low success rate in Hunt Period 1 likely can be attributed to heat-related factors. High temperatures are not unusual for this time period, but daily highs this year were consistently above 70 degrees.

Hunt Period 2.
Winter conditions brought fresh snow and cooler temperatures, leading to better results during the December hunt.

There were 160 elk licenses issued for this hunt period: 110 antlerless licenses and 50 any-elk licenses. Over the nine-day December season, hunters harvested 46 bulls and 75 antlerless elk, including eight calves. The hunter success rate of Hunt Period 2 was 75 percent, which is in line with the five-year average success rate of about 79 percent.

“Snowfall during the December hunt provided much-needed assistance to hunters, allowing for improved tracking conditions and a successful conclusion to the season,” said Angela Kujawa, Michigan Department of Natural Resources wildlife biologist. “Overall, the 2024 elk season showcased the dedication of our hunters and their important contribution to maintaining a healthy and sustainable elk population in Michigan.”

During Hunt Period 2, there was snowfall for the first couple days of the hunt, which made locating and tracking elk easier and led to higher hunter success.

The late season is used to manage overall elk population numbers across the entire elk management unit. In 2024, hunters in hunt periods 1 and 2 harvested 180 elk.



A COUGAR CUB in Ontonagon Co. Uncredited photo via MDNR

Cougar cubs sighted in MI

(From the Michigan DNR)
For the first time in more than 100 years, cougar cubs have been discovered living in the Michigan wild.

State biologists on March 12 confirmed the existence of two cougar cubs on private land in Ontonagon Co. in the western Upper Peninsula. The spotted cubs, believed to be 7 to 9 weeks old, were verified from photographic evidence of the cubs taken March 6 by a local resident.

This is the first time cougar cubs have been verified since the big cats were hunted out of existence in Michigan in the early 1900s, said Brian Roell, large carnivore specialist for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Roell, a wildlife biologist for 26 years, led the team that verified the cubs.

“It's pretty exciting, considering this could be the first known cougar reproduction in modern times in the western Great Lakes states,” said Roell, referring to Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota. “It really shows that we have a unique place in Michigan where someone has a chance to see a wolf, a moose and a cougar in the wild. It's something that should be celebrated, that we have the habitat to support an elusive animal like this.”

The cubs were spotted and photographed without their mother. Cougar cubs are highly dependent on their mothers, often staying with them for the first two years of life. Although cougars are native to Michigan, most of them now appear to be transient animals, dispersing into Michigan from Western states. The DNR has verified 132 adult cougar reports, Roell said, but DNA testing has confirmed only male cougars to date.

The cubs have not been spotted since March 6. “Those young cougars are very vulnerable right now,” Roell said.

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