



SHORT CUTS



Join Labor Day events around MI

We published our annual Labor Day issue in our previous edition, but this paper will also be in many mailboxes before Labor Day festivities this year.

This year's Labor Day is on Monday, Sept. 7, and the annual celebration of the American worker will take place in various communities around Michigan, whether it's a walk over the Mackinac Bridge or a cookout in your union hall's parking lot, or a full-blown parade and picnic.

For more information on a Labor Day celebration near you, please turn to page 9. Hopefully you will at least take a moment to reflect on how America's labor unions have improved the lives of its workers.

U.S. joins wrong workers' rights list

This summer, the International Trade Union Confederation placed the United States on its watchlist for "systemic violations of worker rights."

The confederation, which has 340 national affiliates in 169 countries, assesses 150 countries based on 97 indicators "drawn from international standards and jurisprudence."

A publication of the Institute for Policy Studies noted that "the inclusion of the United States on the ITUC's Watchlist is based on the pattern of backsliding of fundamental rights over the past year and serves as a troubling indicator of the country's current state of affairs."

Among those troubling indicators:

- The Trump Administration has revoked the right to collective bargaining from more than one million federal employees.

- The National Labor Relations Board lacked a quorum to operate for nearly the entirety of 2025 because the president refused to appoint a third member.

- Tens of thousands of immigrant union members "have been stripped of their status and rights through the unlawful termination of various forms of rights-based protections and programs."

Joining the U.S. on the watchlist includes Guinea-Bissau, Israel, Liberia, Moldova, the Philippines and Zimbabwe.

"For the first time since the ITUC began this report," said AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler, "the United States is less safe and less free for working people, and it's a stark warning about the state of democracy in our country. We've seen the reality firsthand: the stripping of one million federal workers' collective bargaining rights, the gutting of workplace health and safety agencies and protections, the eviscerating of the National Labor Relations Board, the crackdown on immigrant workers' rights, the rollback of freedom of speech, and more.

"These attacks on our rights and fundamental freedoms don't just stay on the jobsite – when workers are denied a voice and the freedom to organize, and are unable to hold the rich and powerful accountable, democracy itself is weakened."

Quotable

"I believe that summer is our time, a time for the people, and that no politician should be allowed to speak to us during the summer. They can start talking again after Labor Day."
—Lewis Black (1948-)



THE HEALTH SCIENCES Research Building on Wayne State University's campus was topped out Aug. 4, about a year after construction began on the \$200 million project. Ideal Steel has been erecting the steel, and Christman Construction has managed the entire project.

Photo credits: Wayne State University

Steel reaches the top at WSU science building

DETROIT – The steel's up on Wayne State University's \$200 million Health Sciences Research Building.

An Aug. 4 topping out ceremony marked the completion of the building's structural steel framework as the project's final beam was raised into place. Ideal Steel erected the iron, employing Local 25 iron workers and Local 324 operating engineers.

"This building is much more than steel and concrete. It is an investment in the future of research, innovation and economic growth for Detroit, our state and beyond," said Ezemenari Obasi, vice president for research and innovation at Wayne State University. "It represents an investment in the

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THE NEW "HSRB" at Wayne State University will act as a biomedical research hub, collaborating with clinical partners at Karmanos Cancer Institute/McLaren Health and the Detroit Medical Center.

Photo credit: The Building Tradesman



Trump Administration: Keep the Campbell plant open. Nessel: what's the emergency?

By Marty Mulcahy

Editor

LANSING – Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel has announced she will continue to fight for the closure of Consumers Energy's J.H. Campbell power plant.

Nessel on Aug. 17 said she would be filing a request for a rehearing with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), challenging the agency's "sixth and latest arbitrary and unlawful order forcing the continued operation" of the plant in West Olive, which is about 10 miles north of Holland. The attorney general claims that the DOE is pushing to keep the plant open under the "pretense of a fabricated energy emergency."

"After six so-called emergency orders, it is clear



THE J.H. CAMPBELL plant in West Olive, Mich.

Photo credit: Consumers Energy

that DOE intends to stretch Section 202(c) of the Federal Power Act to force an aging, obsolete plant to operate indefinitely," said Nessel. "Hundreds of millions of dollars in unnecessary costs are stacking up, and Michigan families will be forced to foot the bill to keep online a plant that should have been retired more than a year ago. My office remains committed to challenging these

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Steady as she goes for U.S. construction jobs, industry enjoys 'widespread' gains

The U.S. construction industry continues to be a solid employer, with 36 states seeing an increase in Hardhat head count from July 2025 to July 2026. That's a fairly strong number of states with increasing employment – and those states that have lost jobs during those 12 months have only experienced mild reductions.

"Construction employment

gains were widespread in July on both a monthly and year-over-year basis," said Ken Simonson, the chief economist for the Associated General Contractors on Aug. 21. "Nevertheless, there are several risks to continuing increases in employment, including a potential lapse in federal highway funding, growing opposition to data centers, and ongoing shifts

Let unions drive the bus for higher wages, lower inequality, 'affordability'

By Heidi Shierholz
Economic Policy Institute

Affordability – or the lack thereof – has dominated the recent political debate in the U.S. And for good reason. Across the country, too many families are struggling to make ends meet. However, almost every conversation about affordability focuses entirely on prices, as if the only way to make life more affordable is to make things cheaper.

But the actual driver of today's affordability squeeze is suppressed pay – a consequence of decades of policy choices that weakened workers' bargaining power and shifted income away from working people. Had pay for typical workers kept pace with productivity over the past 45 years, their paychecks today would be roughly 40 percent larger.

If policymakers are serious about addressing affordability, they would champion one institution that has consistently proven capable of raising pay: unions.

Through collective bargaining, unions are the most effective mechanism for workers to raise their wages and secure their fair share of the wealth they produce.

Our new report at the Economic Policy Institute quantifies how transformative it would be to rebuild union power. Specifically, we examine what we stand to gain if we tripled current union membership to 30 percent – similar to its peak in the U.S. before decades of relentless attacks on unions and collective bargaining eroded it, and just shy of the current rate in Canada.

We find that tripling union

Viewpoint

'Unions are the most effective mechanism for workers to raise their wages and secure their fair share of the wealth they produce.'

membership would raise pay for the typical worker by more than \$7,700 every year, or nearly \$270,000 over a 35-year career.

This would be life-changing for a working family – nearly covering the cost of raising a child from birth through age 17, for example. And those increases aren't just for unionized workers – strong unions also benefit nonunion workers by establishing broad standards that employers must follow to get and keep the workers they need.

The gains from tripling union density would be especially significant for Black and Hispanic workers, who get a larger boost from unionization than white workers. This is because unions provide transparency and other guardrails that help protect workers from employer discrimination, and because unions deliver larger wage gains for lower-wage jobs, where Black and Hispanic workers are disproportionately concentrated due to the pervasive effects of racism on labor market outcomes. Tripling union density would close one-third of today's

(Continued on Page 3)

Top CEOs are livin' large, made a record 312 times average workers' pay

By Marty Mulcahy

Editor

Wanna get rich quick? A sure-fire way to is to get hired as a CEO of a Standard and Poor top-500 company.

While all American workers collectively earned an average 3.2 percent raise during the 12 months leading up to July 2026, S&P 500 CEOs enjoyed much healthier pay raises, averaging 21 percent over 2025.

And what's more, those CEOs are now making 312 times the wage of the median U.S. worker, up from 285 times in 2024. The increase for those CEOs marks the highest-ever level of executive compensation in the three decades of pay tracking by the AFL-CIO.

The numbers come from the annual AFL-CIO's 2026 Executive Paywatch report, which was released Aug. 13. The AFL-CIO's in tariff policy."

Between July 2025 and July 2026, only 14 states shed construction jobs or saw their numbers unchanged. On the one hand, unfortunately, Michigan was one of them: our state experienced a loss of 1,800 jobs during that 12-month period. That 0.9 percent drop in construction employment

(Continued on Page 3)

annual report analyzes new data on growing pay disparity between S&P 500 CEOs and the workers who make their companies profitable.

"As shown in our latest Paywatch report, executive compensation has reached a new, shameful high," said AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Fred Redmond. "Elon Musk became the world's first trillionaire. Donald Trump raked in over \$2 billion since the 2024 election. Meanwhile, working Americans are struggling to feed their kids and pay their electric bills.

"But there's a better economy we can build for working people. That's why the labor movement will continue to fight for every worker to have a union contract that begins to level the playing field and ensures they take home the share of the profit they create. And it's why we are spending every day until November organizing and mobilizing 16 million union voters to elect pro-worker politicians who will work for us, not wealthy CEOs."

Key findings include:

- Factoring in Musk's \$158.3 billion Tesla pay package, the average S&P CEO pay exploded to \$340.1 million in annual salary, a 1,700 percent increase from 2024.

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Summer camp puts tools, experience in students' hands

By Jen Eyer

Upper Peninsula Construction Council

MARQUETTE – The Upper Peninsula Construction Council (UPCC) celebrated the graduation of its fifth Building Trades Summer Camp class on Aug. 5, honoring students who spent five weeks gaining hands-on experience, developing career skills and exploring opportunities in the union construction trades.

"This camp gives students something they can't get from a brochure or a presentation – the chance to actually do the work," said UPCC Executive Director Mike Smith. "They spend five weeks learning directly from skilled tradespeople, visiting real job sites and seeing the opportunities available to them right here in the U.P. By the time they graduate, they know these are careers they can see themselves building a future in."

Held this year in Marquette, students earned \$14 an hour while working alongside skilled union tradespeople and learning concrete work, scaffold erection, electrical

(Continued on Page 2)

POURING A NEW CONCRETE slab offered a hands-on opportunity for union masonry professionals to impart their knowledge on Upper Peninsula high-schoolers. Here the process is led by BAC Local 2 Business Reps Adam Saari and Steve Savoie, and Laborers Local 1075 instructor Derek Inman.

Photo credit: U.P. Construction Council



‘Big Annie’ gets bronzed, long overdue landmark set for uplifting workers



“The BIG ANNIE life-size bronze statue,” says a description of the work by project organizers, “will serve as a permanent and visually striking landmark located in downtown Calumet, Mich. The statue will depict Big Annie holding the American flag as she led strike marches in support of the local miners during the 1913 copper strike. This statue will enhance the experience of visitors by providing an accessible and engaging connection to the copper story. An interpretive sign will further draw people in, inviting them to learn about Annie’s pivotal role in the 1913 strike.” Big Annie’s sculptor is Andy Sacksteder.

Photo credit: Michigan AFL-CIO

CALUMET, MI — On Aug. 22, the Upper Peninsula gathered to celebrate a landmark achievement in local history: the official unveiling of the Big Annie statue. Located at Calumet’s Greenspace Park, the bronze monument honors Anna “Big Annie” Clemenc-Shaws, a legendary leader of the 1913 Copper Strike, and serves as a permanent tribute to the workers who built the Copper Country.

“We are incredibly grateful to all of the donors whose generosity made this statue project possible and will help preserve Big Annie’s legacy for generations to come,” said Anita Campbell, Ceremony and Unveiling Team Big Annie lead. “We are especially grateful to the State of Michigan for seeing the value of Annie’s story to our nation and awarding us a \$50,000 America-250 grant in support of this important project.”

“‘Big Annie’ Clemenc galvanized women, wives, mothers, sons and daughters to come together and fight for their families at a time when women had no vote and no voice. She helped organize and inspire miners in Copper Country to fight for better wages and working conditions,” said Vada Riederich, donor and volunteer team Big Annie lead. “One hundred and thirteen years later, we carry her voice now and into the future. Calumet and beyond can be proud that the American flag is still picked up and carried forward.”

During the 1913 Copper Country strikes, many of the area mines started introducing eight-hour workdays. Since then, labor has won 40-hour work weeks, weekends, better pay and benefits — but the work is never done. Today, people are still struggling to pay their bills, while groceries and gas keep getting more expensive.

“This statue is a testament to the resilience and the rights won by generations of workers in the Upper Peninsula,” said Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2 Business Representative Adam Saari. “Today, we championed the strength of the people who fought for more safety, dignity, and fairer wages — but the job isn’t done. If you’re looking for better pay and benefits, reach out to a local union near you and start your apprenticeship. If you’re a business looking for workers, hire union: we do it right the first time, costing less in the long run.”

“In honoring Big Annie, we recognize that the fight for workers’ rights is an essential part of our history and will continue to shape our future,” said Michigan AFL-CIO President Ron Bieber. “Her grit, courage, and determination are an inspiration as we continue to fight for a more just and fair future for all working people.”

The Big Annie Statue project, which reached its \$150,000 fundraising goal after nearly four years of effort, is a collaborative achievement between the project committee and the Keweenaw Community Foundation.

By Chad Cyrowski, Michigan AFL-CIO

If you never heard of “Big Annie” as in important labor leader in Michigan, you’re not alone. Here is some more information from a write-up by the National Parks Service:

“Born in Calumet, Michigan to Slovenian immigrant parents in 1888, Anna Klobuchar Clemenc Shaws was instrumental in the fight for worker’s rights during the 1913-14 Copper Miners’ Strike in Michigan’s Copper Country. She founded and served as president of the Women’s Auxiliary No. 15 of the Western Federation of Miners, serving jail time and suffering with ostracization due to her efforts. Inducted into Labor’s International Hall of Fame and the Michigan Women’s Hall of Fame, “Big Annie” led a fight for social justice that was ahead of her time.”

She was inducted into Labor’s International Hall of Fame in 2013, along with this account: “Clemenc-Shaws was inducted into Labor’s International Hall of Fame during a ceremony earlier this year in New York City.

“The event is part of the centennial commemoration of the Keweenaw copper strike



“Big Annie” — Anna Klobuchar Clemenc Shaws — in a 1913 photo.

Credit: Keweenaw National Historic Park Archives, studio portrait.

that started in July 1913. More than 15,000 copper miners simultaneously struck all of the mines in the Keweenaw Peninsula demanding better wages and working conditions.

“Big Annie, the wife and daughter of copper miners, soon received fame as the ‘Joan of Arc of Calumet’ for her fiery leadership of huge parades by strikers, as well as for many other activities in support of the strike.”

U.P. camp provides hands-on experience

(Continued from Page 1)

wiring, painting and staining, heavy equipment operation, structural steel assembly, HVAC ductwork, plumbing and welding, wood framing, and industrial machinery installation and repair.

Applicants completed resume writing and interview skills workshops through UP Michigan Works before interviewing for the program, while selected students also received financial literacy training and completed a Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration safety workshop.

Fridays were dedicated to career exploration through “Field Trip Fridays,” where students toured active job sites and major Upper Peninsula employers, including Payne + Dolan construction site in Ishpeming, Cleveland Cliffs Tilden Mine, the Rayonier lumber mill, Superior Extrusion, the Marquette Wastewater Treatment Plant, Marquette Drinking Water Filtration Plant, Trestle Hotel

Just joking

The inventor of the throat lozenge died.

There was no coffin at that funeral.

...

I told a joke on a Zoom call this morning.

No one laughed.

It seems no one thinks

I’m funny.

Not even remotely.

...

A man approaches a

woman at her

husband’s funeral.

“Do you mind if I say a

word?”

The widow replied, “by all means, please do!”

The man went up to the microphone. “Bargain,”

was all he said, and then he

started to leave.

The widow stopped him

on his way out. “Thank you,”

she said. “That means a

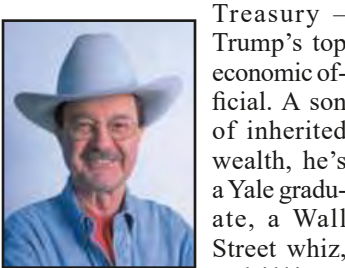
great deal.”

Here’s some first-class economic cluelessness

By Jim Hightower

Wow, here’s some blockbuster economic news from Team Trump: The income gap between the rich and the rest of us is over!

How do we know this? Because Scott Bessent says so. Who’s he? Secretary of the



Treasury — Trump’s top economic official. A son of inherited wealth, he’s a Yale graduate, a Wall Street whiz, a billion-

dollar hedge fund speculator, and... well, Scott says he knows

financial stuff.

So he officially proclaimed last month that the “K-shaped economy... is a thing of the past.” He’s referring to the letter K, which economists use as a graphic shorthand to show the wealth of moneyed elites is zooming up, while the well-being of the middle-class and poor plummets.

“I got sick of hearing about this K-shaped economy,” snarled this potentate of high-finance. So he did what Trump would do — he simply decreed that the rich-poor economic divide is “over.” As evidence, he pointed to Trump’s elimination of the federal tax on workers’ tips.

Could someone please buy a clue for our eminent treasury chief?

No doubt some waiters and bartenders will get a few nickels and dimes from this token tax ploy, but it doesn’t even register on the scale of economic fairness. Plus, a partisan Wall Street millionaire like Scott has zero credibility with working class families. They’ll know when inequality is “over,” because their income will finally begin to cover the ever-rising out-go caused by corporate greed and plutocratic government.

America’s last great Republican President, Abraham Lincoln said: “You can’t fool all the people all the time.” But Trump and his clique of clueless henchmen like Scott Bessent keep trying to prove Lincoln wrong.



FUTURE TRADESPEOPLE? High schoolers from across the U.P. took part in fifth annual Building Trades Summer Camp, sponsored by the Upper Peninsula Construction Council, with participation from a host of union trades, contractors and workforce groups.

Photo credit: U.P. Construction Council

construction site and St. Peter Cathedral restoration project.

Another camp activity was the “Safety Stand Down BBQ,” which gave students the opportunity to network with contractors, and trade and industry representatives.

Students also gave back to the community by building wooden mine carts and planter boxes for the City of Negaunee.

The camp rotates to a different location in the Upper Peninsula each year to give students from various regions access to the

opportunity.

Asked what aspect of the camp surprised him the most, student Mitchell Johnson said welding. “I’ve never tried welding before, and I really love it,” Johnson said. “And the financial literacy was really helpful, to know how to manage money and not just spend all the money that I earned.”

The camp is organized in partnership with UP Michigan Works, local school districts or ISDs, the Workforce Development Institute, and representa-

tives from the UPCC’s signatory union contractors and trades.

Trades participating in the camp include the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades Local 1011, Operating Engineers Local 324, Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2, UA Plumbers, Pipefitters and HVAC Local 111, IBEW Local 906; Sheet Metal Workers Local 7; Iron Workers Local 8; Boilermakers Local 169; Laborers Local 1329; and Carpenters and Millwrights Local 1510.

You and your health . . .



She Fought for Workers. She Changed America.

Frances Perkins was the architect who designed and fought to pass many parts of the New Deal agenda, including Social Security, a 40-hour workweek, unemployment insurance, prohibition of child labor, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), and securing workers’ rights to organize in labor unions. . . . Universal Healthcare was also on her list.

first she worked at the state level in New York. Perkins campaigned to gain the support of politicians of all stripes, including the notoriously clannish Tammany Hall gang. Her efforts led to the passage of a shorter work week for women — 54 hours — and over 30 workplace safety laws.

Perkins gained the attention of a young Franklin Roosevelt, who, as governor of the state of New York, named her his chief labor officer. Keenly interested in devising a system of unemployment insurance, Perkins convinced Roosevelt to send her to Great Britain to learn about their unemployment and old age plans. Though she did not put a plan in place while working in New York, what Perkins learned at this time laid the groundwork for the New Deal programs she would later champion nationally.

Never Easy

Before Frances Perkins accepted the cabinet position of Secretary of Labor, she gave Roosevelt a list of programs she was determined to pursue and made it clear that she would take the job only if he agreed with her priorities. Today, it’s easy to take for granted the reforms that Frances Perkins pushed for and won. But it was never easy, and it was far from certain that it could be done.

Universal healthcare was on Perkins’ program priority list and unfortunately it was the only item she was not able to see through to fruition. Forever a pragmatist, Perkins realized the opposition

from conservative lawmakers and the American Medical Association meant that healthcare would have to wait, but that it could eventually be overcome because “the people are what matter to government, and a government should aim to give all the people under its jurisdiction the best possible life.”

Perhaps the time is now for universal healthcare.

Picking Up the Mantle

Union workers are much more likely to have health insurance than those without a union. But that’s not a reason for unions to accept the system as it exists today.

AEPCC was created by labor union leaders who insisted there had to be a better way to deliver the health benefits their members needed without paying astronomically high prices. That mission has served a practical and very real need, and we are proud to be part of it. But the future calls us to do better.

As prices continue to rise, challenging affordability even for those with insurance; as services continue to diminish — especially in rural areas; and as the health system becomes more about finances than actual care, perhaps it’s time to pick up the mantle Frances Perkins left behind: Creating an affordable, accessible healthcare system would be a fitting addition to the legacy of the many programs Perkins championed—programs that have benefited generations of working Americans.

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

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BUILDING MICHIGAN: Hot stuff on early stove manufacturers HISTORY IN THE MAKING

By Marty Mulcahy

You already know about Detroit—the Motor City—as the original worldwide powerhouse of automotive manufacturing during the last century.

And if times and technology hadn’t changed, and if we still hauled coal and wood into our kitchens to fuel the heating of cast iron and steel appliances that made it oh-so-much more convenient for heating our homes and the cooking of three meals a day, then perhaps Detroit would still be the stove manufacturing capital of the world.

But times and technology did change, and the cast iron and steel stoves that were produced by companies like the Detroit Stove Works, the Michigan Stove Co. and the Peninsular Stove Co. eventually became scrap iron, or occasionally, museum pieces. But in their heyday, which lasted from the 1870s until the 1920s, those Detroit manufacturers and others, combined, produced about 10 percent of the stoves in the world.

“Even before the first Model T rolled off the assembly line and on to the city streets,” says a write-up by the Michigan State University Archaeology Program, “Detroit was known as the ‘Stove Capital of the World.’ Because of Michigan’s abundance of natural resources, the 19th and 20th century would prove to be an industrious time period for Michigan; the large amount of cast iron stoves produced in Michigan during this time is a clear indication of this. There were many stove producing companies within the state, but the ‘big three’ included the Detroit Stove Works, Michigan Stove Co. and the Peninsula Stove Co.”

Among those big three, the Michigan Stove Co. claimed to be the world’s biggest stove-maker, casting more than 75,000 units per year at peak production. Their plant at East Jefferson and Adair Street employed 1,400, and consumed 65 tons of iron ore per day.

“In the 1870s and 1880s, stoves were Detroit’s leading industry, and the city was responsible for producing more than 10 percent of the world’s stoves,” wrote Dan Austin for *Historic Detroit*. “This was due in no small part to the abundance of iron ore in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula and the ease of transporting it on the Great Lakes, especially following the opening of the Soo Locks in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., in 1855. (Iron ore is used to make steel and iron, required at the time for stoves).”

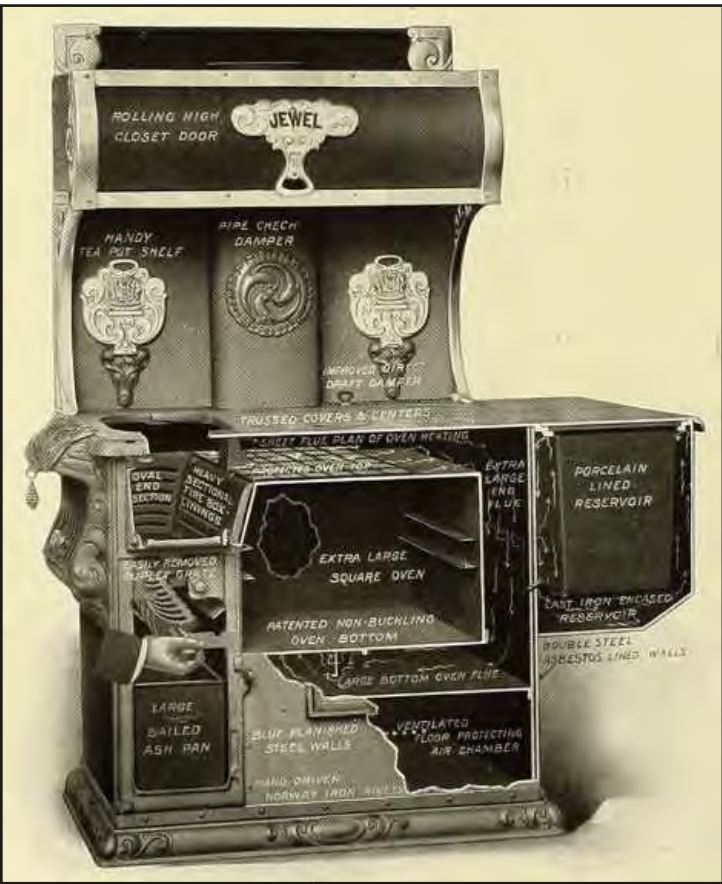
“At the same time, stoves were a relatively new thing in America, not fully replacing the hearth as a source of cooking and warmth until after the Civil War. Indeed, they had become the country’s ‘must-have’ innovation in the late 19th Century.”

“At the same time, the nation’s Western Plains were being developed, and as families went west, they needed stoves to heat their homes and cook... Detroit’s stove companies were baking up incredible profits.”

For centuries, the fireplace and hearth combination were the primary means of heating homes and cooking food. The familiar scene of a black pot for cooking over an open flame in a fireplace dates back more than 2,000 years.

Benjamin Franklin’s invention of the cast iron-plated Franklin Stove in 1742 – with its use of baffles and air convection and radiant heat – was a dramatic improvement over the inefficient fireplace. Eventually, stove manufacturing technology, plus trial and error, and the greater understanding of thermodynamics, led to the stove industry’s ability to shape iron into an even more efficient appliance that could cook or bake multiple dishes at the same time, boil water, and heat the home.

“During the Victorian era,” says a report by the Detroit Historical Society, “cast iron stoves replaced fireplaces that were dangerous and required huge amounts of firewood. First founded as the J. Dwyer & Company in 1861 by brothers Jeremiah and James Dwyer, the Detroit Stove Works was incorporated in 1864 with the financial backing of Charles



A “JEWEL” BRAND stove from 1911 is shown in a Detroit Stove Works company brochure. Aimed for the perusal of salepeople as opposed to homeowners, the image mostly includes depictions of the stove’s mechanical features: the “rolling high closet door,” the “pipe check damper,” the “heavy sectional firebox lining,” the “extra large end flue,” the “porcelain-lined reservoir,” and “double-steel asbestos-lined walls,” plus a “large bailed ash pan” to name a few. And you can’t forget the “handy tea pot shelf.”

(Image credit: Library of Congress)



THE DETROIT STOVE WORKS spanned 13 acres along East Jefferson Avenue near the Detroit River and Belle Isle.

(Image credit: Detroit Public Library)

DuCharme, a wealthy Detroit hardware dealer. The brothers were the first foundry owners in the region to combine modern engineering practices with foundry work. Their company produced the ‘Jewel’ stove, which by the 1890s was available in 800 different models.”

Just like the automotive industry, the stove industry began to whittle down as a result of mergers and bankruptcies. Jeremiah Dwyer left the Detroit Stove Works to join a group of investors, forming the Michigan Stove Works in 1891. The company expanded the variety of stoves available under the Garland label, including kitchen and cooking stoves, and a variety of heating stoves. Stove companies also manufactured reliable cast-iron cookware including skillets and pans.

“It’s worth noting that, though early stoves were black, blocky, bland boxes of iron, the stoves being produced in Detroit during this era were treated like decorative, ornate pieces of furniture,” says the Detroit Historical Society. “Where today, you might have a rather plain black-and-stainless-steel model named the Samsung NV51K7770SG, the Michigan Stove Co. produced ‘the Defiance.’ The Detroit Vapor Stove Co. made the ‘Blue Star.’ The Art Stove Co. offered the ‘Laurel.’ These stoves had elaborate designs with floral or scroll motifs and were often plated in nickel and brass.

“It is also important to appreciate the work that went into producing each of these heavy heaters. In these early days, stove-making was a back-breaking process and mostly done by hand. The stoves’ intricate patterns had to be molded, first into wax, then plaster or clay. Then they were carved into wood, onto which wax was pressed to form the molds for the plaster cast.

“Finally, from there, the iron molds were made. To make the actual stove, a “molder” would then pour molten iron into molds from ladles that weighed some 90 pounds when full. Did we mention it was piping hot molten metal? Once cooled, then everything had to be polished and painted and adorned with the decorative metals and knobs. Unlike Henry Ford’s assembly

line process that sped up production and led to factories pumping out automobiles at a rapid clip, stove-making was a time-consuming and detailed process – especially when you were crafting works of warmth-generating art. The skills used in casting and machining parts for stoves would come in handy when Detroit tried its hands at making cars instead.”

The Detroit Stove Works did have later products that allowed cooking with gas: it bought out the Art Stove Co. in 1923 and continued to make gas ranges for homes, and heavy-duty heating and cooking appliances for hotels, clubs, restaurants, and institutions, under the “Garland,” “Laurel,” “Jewel” and “Detroit Jewel” names.

According to the Detroit Historical Society, in 1925, the Detroit Stove Works and Michigan Stove Co. merged to become the Detroit-Michigan Stove Co.

The fact that wood- and coal-fueled cast iron stoves remained a choice for homeowners into the 1950s reflected the relatively slow installation of natural gas lines and suitable electrification infrastructure.

Although “city gas” derived from coal had long been available, the Panhandle Pipeline from Texas finally reached Michigan in 1935, which brought in a cheap source of natural gas that would eventually fuel home furnaces, ovens and stoves. Electric stoves, which drew significant current from still-undersized power systems, remained a bit of a novelty through the 1930s.

“As late as 1927,” says *Historic Detroit*, “Michigan still produced more than \$36 million worth of stoves and ranges, the equivalent of about \$625 million in 2023 dollars, when adjusted for inflation. In 1928, the stove companies still directly employed 7,500 Detroiters, and produced 250,000 stoves a year.”

The rise of gas and electric ranges and the advent of central heating led to the Detroit-Michigan Stove Co. acquisition in 1955 by Welbilt Stove Co. of New York, which closed the Detroit factory in 1957.

The factory was demolished and the land was later redeveloped.

Let unions drive the bus for higher wages, lower inequality, ‘affordability’

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racial wage gaps.

If you add up the impact across the workforce, tripling union density would shift \$1.2 trillion annually to working people and away from corporate elites—reversing one-third of the rise in inequality since 1979.

The benefits of achieving 30 percent union density extend far beyond wages. Since unions often win better benefits, including health insurance, tripling union membership would result in 25 percent fewer uninsured Americans.

By educating workers and boosting voter turnout, strong unions also protect democracy and give workers a voice in shaping the social and political fabric of their communities. States with high union density invest more in public education, deliver unemployment benefits to a far greater share of jobless workers, and have all expanded Medicaid.

The world our report imagines is not out of reach. Unions are more popular now than they’ve been in decades, especially among younger workers. And survey data show that 43 percent of nonunion workers would vote to unionize if they could— well above our goal of 30 percent.

It’s high time lawmakers translate the public’s near-record support for unions into policy.

Meeting this moment will require not just sustained organizing by workers and unions across the country, but also bold reforms to reverse decades of attacks on unions and collective bargaining.

It’s high time lawmakers translate the public’s near-record support for unions into policy.

Policymakers have a clear roadmap to rebuilding union power. Congress can start by passing two existing bipartisan bills that would reform U.S. labor law and strengthen workers’ right to unionize: the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act and the Public Service Freedom to Negotiate Act.

Congress should also consider bold new ideas alongside the labor law reform bills already on the table. We offer a few such proposals in our report. One

guarantees that newly unionized workers can get a first contract that includes a raise. Another proposal requires collective bargaining at any company where CEOs earn 100 times more than typical workers in their industry—allowing workers to negotiate a fairer share of company profits.

States have a role to play as well. By repealing anti-union “right-to-work” laws and ensuring collective bargaining rights for all public-sector workers and

other workers not currently covered by federal labor law, states can take their own steps to grow union power.

Rebuilding union membership would raise wages, shrink racial wage gaps, expand health coverage, strengthen communities, and protect our democracy—all at the same time. There is no other policy lever that does all of that. It’s what workers want.

And it’s entirely within our power to achieve.

Steady as she goes for U.S. construction jobs

(Continued from Page 1)

ranked Michigan No. 43 among the states. On the other hand, Michigan and nearly all the other job-losing states during those 12 months only experienced mild employment declines.

Alaska, the biggest loser during those 12 months, lost 3.7 percent of its construction workforce. New Jersey (–2.9 percent) and Virginia (–2.5 percent) were next.

Michigan did reverse a several-month-long trend of lower construction employment numbers from June to June 2026, gaining 1,500 jobs (+0.8 percent).

The AGC said that several policy developments “could derail some of the industry’s strongest sources of demand. Growing state and local resistance to data center development, the lack of progress in Congress on a long-term highway and transit bill, and frequent changes in tariffs on construction materials all pose significant threats to future construction activity.”

“Construction firms continue to add workers where demand remains strongest,” said Jeffrey D. Shoaf, the AGC’s chief executive officer. “Policymakers can help sustain that momentum by passing a new highway and transit funding bill before the current law expires on Sept. 30, supporting responsible growth in data centers, and avoiding policies that increase the cost of key construction materials and create unnecessary uncertainty for construction employers.”

...

Meanwhile total U.S. construction starts saw a dramatic monthly rise, up 25.6 percent in July to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1.79 trillion, according to an Aug. 20 report by the Dodge Construction Network.

The gains were led by the nonresidential market, up 57.7 percent for the month, with residential starts up 4.9 percent. For the 12 months ending July 2026, total construction starts were up 14.4 percent from the 12 months ending July 2025.

“Megaproject-driven volatility headlines a disjointed construction market,” stated Eric Gaus, Chief Economist at Dodge Construction Network. “There is strength in pockets, multifamily within residential, data centers within commercial, energy within non-building, but also verticals (specific market sectors) struggling to stabilize.”

The largest nonresidential U.S. building projects to break ground in July were all – no surprise – data centers. They included the \$12.8 billion Project Jupiter Data Center in New Mexico, the \$12 billion Micron Semiconductor Mega-Factory in Clay, New York, and the \$4.0 billion Amazon STACK Highway 3 Data Center in Louisiana.

ZAMLER, SHIFFMAN & KARFIS, P.C.

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Local 292
Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers Local 292

TROY – The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 9, 2026, at Troy Community Center 3179 Livernois, Troy 48083. Use the Banquet Entrance.

The E-Board/Stewards meeting will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall.



PAUL GUALDONI

RETIREEES NOTICE: The next Retiree Luncheon will be on 10/1/26 at 12:30 pm at Madhouse Bar and Grill, 32787 Stephenson Hwy, Madison Heights, 48071. It's always nice to catch up and stay connected. Please get in touch with 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.

LABOR DAY PARADE: Join your brothers and sisters on Labor Day (Sept. 7) and march with us in the annual Detroit Labor Day Parade. We will be handing out T-shirts and hats (there is a limited supply of children's sizes) to all members who take an hour or two out of OUR holiday and spend it with us. We will meet at the Local 58 Electricians Hall (1358 Abbott St, Detroit, MI 48226) at 7:30am. There will also be a complimentary picnic immediately following.

BENEFIT INCREASES EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026: The Board of Trustees of Sheet Metal Workers Local 292 Supplemental Unemployment Fund is pleased to announce the following benefit improvements effective June 1, 2026.

Journeyman/Apprentice: The Benefit payable under this Plan will increase from \$225 to \$275.

Classified A/B: The Benefit payable under this Plan will increase from \$102 to \$124

Classified C: The Benefit payable under this Plan will increase from \$30 to \$37

Please note that all existing credits will also be increased.

HRA BENNY CARD APP: We want to share an important update regarding your Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) and your Benny Card. Effective June 8, 2026, your HRA will move to a new platform designed to make managing your benefits easier, faster, and more convenient. To access the Mobile App, search for the **BeneSys Member Reimbursement** app in your app store. Our Member Services team is still here for you. If you have questions or need help during the transition, please don't hesitate to contact the Fund Office at 248-641-4992.

LOCAL 292 ANNUITY/WAGE DEFERRAL: Beginning 1/1/26 the Annuity Fund will offer both pre-tax 403 (B) and Roth 403 (B) contribution options. Check your mail for flyers from Local 292 & John Hancock explaining the new option.

ANNUITY FUND ACCOUNT ACCESS: You can now access your Annuity account online, by phone, or by mobile app. The phone number to reach John Hancock is 833-388-6466. To create an online profile and a PIN, visit johnhancock.com/myplan and click "register now." Be sure to choose a strong password. Keep your password safe and change it regularly. To establish your PIN by phone, call 833-38-6466 or 888-440-0022 for Spanish.

MEMBER ASSISTANCE: Local 292 has a new partner for Member Assistance.

UNION EAP. Union EAP provides professional guidance for mental health, substance abuse recovery, and complex healthcare navigation for all active participants of the Health Plan. Beyond wellness, they offer expert assistance with legal consultations and financial planning to ensure you have the support you need for every part of your life, all completely confidential. Available 24/7, 365 days a year. 1-855-500-1915.

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. **Please contact Paul or Tony for updated work opportunities.**

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.

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. If you haven't already done so, you must create an account to access your information. If you cannot access the MUST site to complete your safety mods you need to contact the Union Hall.

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

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

CONSTITUTION AND RITUAL: The latest Constitution and Ritual of the 3rd SMART General Convention is now available online. Go to www.sheetmetal292.com, click on the Constitution/Ritual tab located at the top of the home page. The Union Hall now has hard copies if anyone is interested in having one.

SUBSTANTIATION REQUEST: Many members have received Substantiation Request letters from the Local 292 Benefit Fund office. IRS regulations require that every use of the Benny Card be substantiated or validated as an eligible covered expense under the Plan. The IRS requires this validation; the Fund cannot make exceptions. It is the members' responsibility to ensure all requested documentation is returned to the Fund office promptly. By not responding to the Substantiation Request letter, your Benny Card may be suspended until all requested documentation has been received. If you have any questions, contact BeneSys at 248.641.4992 or the Union Hall.

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

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 members interested in a Saturday welding class on August 29, Sept 12, Sept 19, and Sept 26, October 10, October 24 and October 3. These classes would be for members ready to obtain an AWS welding certification, learn how to weld, or need to practice welding.

(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: The next General Membership Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 22 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield. We will be voting for a Warden at this union meeting.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: Next executive board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 15 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: 2026 Retiree Meetings: Oct. 19 (annual party) & Dec. 21. 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



JASON GRUNENWALD

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 - 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: Justin Cook, Dale Schmidt, Robert Bates, Eric Powers, Jim Brasfield, Liam Clay, David Roland, Ralph Coffman, Robert Field, Eric Swenson, Timothy Roberts, Gerald Kalmanek, Justyn Myers, Ron Edwards, Norman Sharay and Giancarlo Iacono.

LABOR DAY PARADE: Please join us downtown at the Labor Day Parade on Monday, Sept. 1. The day will begin at IBEW Local 58's Union Hall, 1538 Abbot St. We will be handing out Local 80 t-shirts and hats starting at 7:30 am to all participants. Parade staging begins at 8am and the parade will begin at 9 am and we will be having a picnic following the parade. We hope you can join us!

DETROIT TIGERS UNION DAY: Join us on Sept. 26 at 1:10pm to watch the Tigers take on the Pittsburgh Pirates. We have a limited number of tickets available so please call the hall to reserve yours.

SEPTEMBER RE-REGISTRATION: If you are laid off prior to Sept. 1 and do not have a work assignment you will need to re-register to keep your spot on the out of work list by Sept. 21. You may do so at the hall, by email registerlocal80@gmail.com or fax 248-557-0297. If you send an email or fax please include your name, current address, current phone number and your membership number. You CANNOT re-register over the phone. Please call the hall with any questions.

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.

WORKING IN OTHER LOCALS: Please remember that if you are working in a jurisdiction outside of Local 80 you must call their union hall and check in as a traveler. It is the member's responsibility to do this, not the contractor's! If you have any questions please reach out to an agent.

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.

Send proof of UIA benefit payments 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: Labor Day Parade – September 7
Detroit Tigers Union Day – September 26

Sheet Metal Workers 292, continued

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 are scheduled for the class.

“Nobody got anywhere in the world by simply being content.”
–Louis L’Amour (1908 - 1988)



Local 7
Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers 7

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

The next Statewide Meeting will be October 8, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.



SAM FULLER

- *Zone 1 September 10th at 6:00 p.m.
- *Zone 2 September 15th at 6:00 p.m.
- *Zone 3 September 9th at 6:00 p.m. (Freeland)
- *Zone 3 October 1st at 6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)
- *Zone 4 September 8th at 6:00 p.m.
- *Zone 5 October 8th at 6:00 p.m.

Please be aware that we are all required to report into the Local/Zone/Area/Jurisdiction in which we are traveling outside of our home Local/Zone/Area/Jurisdiction per the SMART Constitution Article 16 Section 10. Failure to report could result in charges and fines that you alone will be responsible for. Do not rely on your contractor or others to report on your behalf, it is your responsibility. Call your Business Representative if you are unsure of who to contact, they will get you the correct reporting information.

Please register on our website at www.sheetmetal7.org for the most up to date information on meeting schedules for 2026. Once you are registered it must be approved to be able to log on. Please contact your representative if you have 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 to equalize pay and eliminate the incentive to subcontract outside of your area. For more information visit the official website at www.labelitscanitreport.com and download the official app by texting "SMART" to 90975.

Zone 1 Info: Work in Zone 1 has slowed down a bit as we head into fall but still looks to remain strong. If you become unemployed, please update your status with Eric and Vance (apprentices please notify Ryan as well). If you are experiencing any difficulties with Unemployment, ESTA, Insurance, or Pensions, please contact Eric or Vance for assistance. Any Journeypersons interested in any upgrade classes, please contact Ryan at the Zone 1 Training Center for additional information (269) 781-7183 (class availability depends on the number of individuals interested.)

Monthly Retiree meeting: 2nd Tuesday of each month 1:00 pm located at Sarah's Place 1100 Page Ave, Jackson MI 49203.

In Solidarity, Eric Farrington and Vance Saunders.

ZONE 2 Info: Work in Zone 2 remains the same with everyone holding their own. The next scheduled Zone 2 meeting is September 15th, 6:00pm at the VFW Post 3195. Make sure to complete your Dependents Audit report for your health insurance, it needs to be completed by September 15th. Dues are always due prior to the first of the month and keep me informed of any phone number and address changes. **In Solidarity, Mike Adams**

ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw) Work in the area remains steady. Make sure to contact me if you are out of work, there is travel work available.

Be sure to check your dues receipt to make sure you are current; dues are due before the first of every month.

Please contact the Lansing office if your address or phone numbers have changed.

The next Zone 3 membership meeting is September 9 at the Freeland Hall at 6pm.

Next Zone 3 Retiree meeting is September 22nd at the Ponderosa on Wilder Road in Bay City.

Local 7 Golf outing is Sept 12 at Briar Ridge Golf Course in Montrose registration is still open.

–In Solidarity, Joe Dotson

ZONE 3 Info: (Traverse City) Work in our area is steady and will continue into Fall. Anyone eligible for SASMI (underemployment) should have received their application now. Register at www.ourbenefitoffice.com/smw7-3/Benefits to verify your hours for your pension and HW information. Any dues paying member can go to www.sheetmetal-iti.org to take online classes for continuing employment in different areas of our trade. Please work safe out there and have a great Labor Day weekend!

In Solidarity, John Amalfitano

ZONE 4 Info: Summer is quickly flying by; I hope everyone is having a great summer.

Work continues to be good in Zone 4 looks to be another great fall. Please don't forget to get signed up for the Local 7 golf outing tons of fun has great food and prizes. Also, Genesee County is hosting its second annual Labor Day parade this year if you are interested.

Thank you, your brother Scott Brotherton.

ZONE 5 Info. Work in the UP is back in full swing. Don't forget to get your Mine Safety Training up to date. If you need a refresher, please sign up for that at www.upconstruction.org. If you have a change of address, please call me or the Lansing Hall to get that updated. The next retiree breakfast will be September 12th at 10:00 am at The Summer Place in Republic - **In Solidarity, Brandon Langenfeld Dues Department: *Online dues payment is now available*** Dues from 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**

“Chance is always powerful. Let your hook be always cast; in the pool where you least expect it, there will be a fish.”

– Ovid (43 BC - 17 AD)

“This time, like all times, is a very good one, if we but know what to do with it.”

–Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 - 1882),

“It has been said that man is a rational animal. All my life I have been searching for evidence which could support this.”

–Bertrand Russell (1872 - 1970)

“Pick battles big enough to matter; small enough to win.”

–Jonathan Kozol



Michigan Painters District Council 1M

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.

Local 357



Glaziers & Glassworkers

Glaziers & Glassworkers 357

WARREN – The September union meeting has been cancelled due to it falling on the holiday.

Our next regular scheduled union meeting will be on Monday, Oct. 5 at 5pm. Please make it a priority to attend.

There will be a Labor Day Parade this year. We will be meeting before the parade at the IBEW Union Hall. 1458 Abbott St. Detroit. 8am we will gather up before we walk.

We still 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.

This year's annual STAR safety picnic will be held on Sept. 19 at the Warren District Council. In order to be eligible to come, you must be an active working member in good standing, with at least 8 hours of upgrade training, and zero work related injuries.

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

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

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

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

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

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

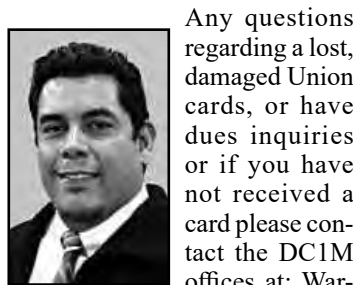
If you are in need of safety modules, please contact your employer if you are employed or

(Continued next column)

Painters DC 1M

WARREN – Dear Members, **DC1M WEBSITE: www.iupatdc1michigan.org**

DC 1M UNION CARDS*



ROBERT GONZALEZ

(989) 695-6888

FINISHING TRADES INSTITUTE of The Great Lakes All Apprentices start school on Monday Sept. 6.

All Apprentices should attend the Labor Day Parade on Monday to receive credit for school.

***LABOR DAY PARADE* MONDAY SEPT. 6, 2026.** Painters District Council 1M has 2 locations for the Labor Day Parade:

Location #1 Detroit: IBEW Local 58, 1358 Abbott St, Detroit MI 48226. **Staging Time: 8 a.m.**

Location #2 Flint: Bristol Rd. Church of Christ, 1315 W. Bristol Rd. Flint, MI 48507

Staging Time: 10 AM

The Union will have shirts for the Members and Family

ONE UNION • ONE FAMILY • ONE FIGHT

SICKNESS AND DEATH. Local 2353 retiree and 50-year Member Gary Merkle Sr. passed away. The Merkle family has 3 generations of members in the IUPAT. Please keep their family in your thoughts and prayers.

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

WARREN – The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 6, at 6:00p.m. Trustees and union stewards meet at 5:45 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 who willingly works at a nonunion shop doing union work can have charges preferred against them under Sec. 16.4, and 19.8 of the District Council By-laws

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

“This became a credo of mine...attempt the impossible in order to improve your work.”

–Bette Davis (1908 - 1989)

“I really do believe I can accomplish a great deal with a big grin, I know some people find that disconcerting, but that doesn't matter.”

–Beverly Sills (1929 - 2007)

“I went to a fight the other night, and a hockey game broke out.”

–Rodney Dangerfield (1921 - 2004)

“Beware lest in your anxiety to avoid war you obtain a master.”

–Demosthenes (384 BC - 322 BC)

Local 357, con't

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*



Local 25 Iron Workers

Iron Workers 25

NOVI – On Labor Day Monday Sept. 7 **all Union Halls will be closed.**

The 2026 Detroit parade starts at 9 am. The meeting point for Members will be at IBEW Local 58 Union Hall parking lot, starting at 8am and Labor Day T-Shirts will be available. The route is up Michigan Ave to the Michigan Central Train Station & back.

The 3rd Annual Labor Day Parade in Genesee County sponsored by Sheriff Chris Swanson invites you to join the family fun on Sept. 7. Staging begins at 10am at the Church of Christ 1315 W. Bristol Rd. in Flint and the parade starts at 11am; ending at the UAW Region 1D, 1940 Atherton Rd. Labor Day T-Shirts will be available at the Church of Christ.

The West Michigan (Muskegon) Labor Day Parade starts at 11 am at the corner of 4th Street & Western Ave.; heads east to Jefferson St., turns right onto Clay Ave and end at 4th St. Celebration in Hackley Park. BBQ, Music, Kids activities, food vendors, bounce house.

Avoca at the Tresle Walk & Fundraiser for St. Clair Co. United Way. Wear your Union Gear. 9am to 1pm Sept 7 at 8989 Avoca Rd., Avoca . Enjoy Michigan hotdog, chips & pop. T-shirts will be available at Avoca Park.

The 2026 Annual Mackinaw Bridge Walk will take place Monday, Sept. 7. There is no fee or registration required to participate. You may start walking any time after the Governor's party starts the walk at approximately 7am. No one is permitted to start walking after 11:30 am so be sure you arrive early. <https://www.mackinacbridge.org/events/walk/> Mike Christensen will be passing T-shirts out starting at 7:00 am on the SE corner of Jamet St & Nicolet St. in Mackinaw City.

Awards Night will be held on Monday, Sept. 14 at the Novi Union Hall. **Letters have been mailed to those eligible members.** We will have a social hour with appetizers/beverages starting at 5pm. Awards ceremony starts at 7pm. **All are welcome.**

The Flint Steward meeting will be Wednesday, Sept. 16 at 6:30 pm (**Note the new time**). The Saginaw Steward meeting will be Thursday, Sept. 24 at 6 pm. The Lansing Steward meeting will be Monday Sept. 28 at 6 pm. All are welcome.

The September Union Meeting is Monday Sept 28 at 7 pm and will be in-person and ZOOM will also be available. All Union Halls will be open. We would like to encourage members to come in person to the September meeting for solidarity & fellowship! 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 10th Annual Local 25 ICIF Fundraiser will be (one week later than usual) **Saturday Sept. 19** at the Novi Union Hall at 4 pm. Tickets are \$25 each and can be bought at the door or through any Business Agent. **Join us for food, drink and comraderie. We have great prizes to raffle off as we've done in the past!**

A FRINGE FUND PENSION DEPT AND HEALTH CARE REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE AT THE NOVI UNION HALL on Wednesday Oct. 7 from 8 am to 12 noon. If you have questions, give us a call 248-344-9494. Walk-ins are welcome!

Apprentice applications accepted electronically. Visit our website (ironworkers25.org) where you can apply online, 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.

The ClickSafety program allows ironworker members to meet a variety of training requirements, offering over 100 online courses in English and Spanish that include many OSHA-authorized courses. Simply log in: <https://sms.copperrange.com/impact/sms/login/> The username is the member's book # and the password is the FIRST 4 digits of your SSN

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 2026 Block Schedule, Roster or Raising Gang Schedule. Please make sure to download the TradeSchool Mobile App to submit your monthly work and school hours. These must be submitted monthly. If you have Facebook or Instagram, give us a follow. Wixom Training Center Ph. 248-960-2130.

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

FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: 800-572-8553 or 248-347-3100 **and follow the prompts.** Hours 7:30 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 years.

Special Meeting Wed Oct. 14 at 1 pm for Retired Members who are enrolled Local 25 BCBSM Health Plan are encouraged to attend an important informational meeting with LaborFirst to be held at the Novi Union Hall 25150 Trans X Rd. Novi MI. Representatives from LaborFirst will explain upcoming changes to the retiree health plan & outline LaborFirst's role as a healthcare navigation & advocacy resource for retirees. We strongly urge all affected retirees to attend. Come prepared to learn about the changes to your health care coverage & how LaborFirst will assist you in understanding & navigating your benefits.

The **Iron Workers' Local 25 Novi Chapter Retirees' Club.** meeting/luncheon will be Tuesday, Sept. 15 at 10 am. The Retirees' Board

(Continued next column)

September 4, 2026

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN 5



Local 169 Boilermakers

Boilermakers 169

ALLEN PARK – Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will take place on **September 11, 2026 at 8:00pm** at Pipefitters Local 111. The address is 2601 North 30th Street, Escanaba, MI 49829.

Our monthly dues will stay at our current rate of \$5.85 for 2026.

We have a very busy outage season coming this fall: let's keep safety and quality number one this season and show our owners and contractors why Local 169 is their best choice.

Scholarship Question: The Annual Scholarship Golf Outing on June 19th was a huge success! A big thank you to Business Agent Don Fajardo for all his hard work. Together with our vendors, Boilermaker locals, and signatory contractors, we raised the funds needed to sponsor our annual scholarship contest.

Boilermakers Local 169 Area Picnics.

Area 2 – Picnic will be on **Sept. 7** (Labor Day) following the parade.

Labor Day is quickly approaching. The following areas will have parades and picnics afterwards.

Area 1 – Meeting at the IBEW Local 58 parking lot September 7th. Jamie will be handing out hats and t-shirts starting at 7:30am and going on until 8:30am. You can walk into the parking lot from Abbott St. or Porter St the parade will start at 9:00am.

Area 2 – Meeting at Heritage Landing Muskegon Sept. 7th. Tony will be handing out hats and t-shirts starting at 10 am, parade starts at 11am.

Area 4 - Sept. 7 in Escanaba meet at the band shell in Ludington Park. Jim will be handing out hats and T-shirts starting at 10:00am will start lining up at 11:00am parade starts at noon.

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 getting the Great Lakes Safety back-ground check for Corteva please contact Business Agent, Scott Ivey 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 Retirees luncheon is on the first Wednesday of every month at 11 am at the White Rhino Sports Bar, 4328 Oakwood, Melvindale.

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

Area 3 Retirees luncheon is the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 11AM. The next lunch will be on Sept. 16 at The Beaverton Tavern, 102 W. Brown Street, Beaverton, MI. 48612. As always, everyone from all areas is 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 Rds. 553 and 480.

Hoodies have arrived in all sizes at the Union Hall. The cost is \$50.00 XL and smaller \$55.00 for 2XL, \$60.00 for 3XL and \$70.00 for 4XL. 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.org 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.

Retiree, Donald Tyrus “Donny” Cobb, age 75 passed away suddenly, please keep his family and friends in your thoughts during this difficult time.

Iron Workers 25, continued

of Directors will meet on Tuesday, Oct. 6 at 8 am. All are welcome.

The **West Michigan Chapter** Retirees breakfast will meet Tuesday Oct. 6 at 9 am at Red Rock Grille & Café, 228 N. Ball Creek Rd, NW, Kent City. All are welcome.

The next quarterly meeting for the **Bay City Chapter** will be Oct. 15 at the Iron Workers 25 Saginaw Union Hall, 11 Bridgeview S. Saginaw Mi 48604 at 12:00 pm. All are welcome.

The **Downriver Chapter** next quarterly Retirees breakfast to be held 9 am Oct. 16 at Mom's Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, All are welcome.

Veterans Crisis Line: Dial 988, then press 1. Or, you can send a text message to 838255 to received confidential support 24/7. For more information visit www.veteranscrisisline.net

In Memory: Joseph Huston #1155328 passed away Aug. 6, 2026 at the age of 61. He was a 37-year member. Lifetime IW Leo Harrigan #391547 passed away Aug. 19, 2026 at the age of 99 in South Carolina. He was a 79-year member. Jane McKinnon passed away Aug. 17, 2026 at the age of 85. She was the wife of the late Andrew “Andy” McKinnon #699203

Our sincere condolences to all of the family and friends on the loss of your dear loved one(s).

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (Aug 31, 2026 11:00 am E.S.T.):-



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Local 190

UA Local 190

ANN ARBOR – UNION MEETING (SEPTEMBER): Please be informed the *awards banquet* will take place on Monday, Sept. 14 at 6 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor. All members are invited to attend this wonderful event. Due to this event, normal business will be suspended. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING (SEPTEMBER): Please be advised there will be a Special Called Meeting on Monday, Sept. 21 at 6 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

OHIO GAS DISTRIBUTION UNION MEETING: is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 26, 2026 from 9 a.m. until Noon, it will be held at our Ohio Training Building, at 2064 Industrial Ct., Covington, OH 45318. Bernadette Maus, Our Benefits manager will be there to answer any insurance, pension, and any other questions you may have, hope to see you there.

MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION UNION MEETING: is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 7 from 9 a.m. to Noon at the Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort, 6800 Soaring Eagle Blvd. Mt Pleasant. Hope to see you there!!

UNION HALL CLOSING: Our office will be closing at 12 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 4 and will be closed all day on Monday, Sept. 7 to observe Labor Day. Wishing you and your family a happy and safe holiday.

REQUALIFICATION WELDING TEST FOR CONSUMERS ENERGY, DTE AND SEMCO ENGERY: The following dates there will be a requalification weld test for Consumers Energy, DTE and Semco Energy at Local 190's Training Center, 8040 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor.

Monday, Nov. 30 through Friday, Dec. 4

Monday, Dec. 7 through Friday, Dec. 11

Please be aware there is a policy change with Consumers Energy and Semco. Welders must not exceed two calendar years between performing initial qualification requirements for all qualifications held. Please contact Ralph Booth at (734) 369-1432 to schedule your test date, first come, first serve!

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

A BIG THANK YOU – PICNIC COMMITTEE: the Local 190 summer picnic was a big success. We thank the following members who are part of the picnic committee, for putting this wonderful summer family event together, a very special thank you to Janie Anderson, Brian Keating, Lori Joseph, Nate Knapp, Anna Brooks, Ryan Henry, Randall Whitaker, Dave Forbes, Melissa Wood and Ralph Booth.

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.*

INFORMATION - FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: ANNUAL PHYSICALS need to be completed by Oct. 31. Please remember to bring in the 2026 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, go to documents, health care, 2026 annual physical verification form (towards the bottom of the page)

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.

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

The Training Center is open to members wishing to update

any certifications, licenses, or qualifications. Office hours of operation are Monday through Thursday 8am. to 5 pm. Friday 8am. to 4 pm. We will close 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 Co. Health Department guidelines.

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:

Lead/Asbestos/Blood-borne Pathogens Training (4 hrs): Please register through the website: ua190.org 2026 **Schedule - 5 p.m. Monday, Sept. 28.**

First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs): Please register through the website: ua190.org 2026 **Schedule - 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 5.**

Welding Fundamentals (40 hrs): This class is designed for apprentices & journeymen who have little to no welding experience and want to learn the basic 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: is Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursday nights from 4-8:30pm, closed for the holidays. There is limited space and first come first served. Welding tests will be scheduled after participants are approved by welding instructors and the training coordinator.

ASSE Backflow Certification: This is a 40-hour class, to become an ASSE Certified Backflow Tester (5110). The second course starts **Sept 8, 2026.** Courses run on **Tuesdays 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 **Must have a current State of Michigan Plumbing License to certify with ASSE.**

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). The third course starts **Oct 13th, 2026.** 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 one of these courses or register through the website: ua190.org **Must have a current State of Michigan Plumbing License to certify with ASSE.**

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

Med Gas Installer Up-Dated (8hrs): This is a two-day course. Second course starts **Oct. 6.** Courses will be on Tue and Thu and are limited to 24 participants, per course.

ASSE 12010 ICRA Certification for Infection Control and Risk Assessment for Construction Workers (16hrs): This is a four-day course. **2026/2027 schedule:** course to be announced later.

EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Certification (40hrs): Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be **Winter/Spring 2027.** 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: **2027 course to be announced later.** Register through the website: ua190.org

Michigan 2024 Plumbing

Code Class (48 hrs.): Journeyman members who are registered with the State of Michigan as **Apprentice Plumbers** with a **minimum of 3 years and 6000 hours** of documented work experience **under a Master Plumber**, can register for the Michigan 2024 Plumbing Code Class. This class will prepare members for the written code and practical sections of the State of Michigan Plumbing Test. Please contact the Training Center to reserve your spot. Dates will be announced when the class roster is full. Members must meet all the requirements to sign up.

Hiring: Full-Time Plumbing Instructor. The Greater Michigan UA Local 190 JTC is seeking a full-time plumbing instructor for a highly important and stable year-round teaching position serving apprentices and journeymen pursuing upgrade training. This role is more than a classroom assignment, it is an opportunity to pass on proven trade knowledge, strengthen the future workforce, and help shape the next generation of skilled plumbing professionals.

The successful candidate will teach day and evening classes, support hands-on learning, and play a key role in preparing students for long-term success in a trade that remains essential to commercial, industrial, health care, data-center, and advanced construction markets. Candidates should have strong knowledge of the Michigan Plumbing Code, excellent communication skills, and proficiency in math and computer skills (Microsoft Word, Excel, Outlook, and PowerPoint). Teaching experience is preferred. Travel is required throughout the year for instructor training through the UA ITF regional training program.

Responsibilities include:

- Teach plumbing-related apprenticeship and journeyman-upgrade courses
- Prepare lesson plans, demonstrations, and hands-on laboratory exercises
- Evaluate student performance and maintain required records
- Maintain a safe, professional, and respectful learning environment
- Assist with curriculum development and updates
- Maintain training equipment, materials, and classroom resources

Participate in instructor training and professional development

Mentor apprentices and help address individual learning needs

Remain current on plumbing codes, technology, and industry practices

The ideal candidate will hold the following credentials:

- State of Michigan Plumbing License
- Medical Gas Certification
- ASSE Backflow Certification

Candidates must also have, or be willing to obtain, the following:

- State of Michigan Master Plumbing License
- Associate's degree in industrial training

This list is not final or exhaustive; additional coursework will be required as technology and trade practices continue to evolve. This position is paid at the UA Local 190 Journeyman Foreman rate and includes a full benefits package. Please submit your resume, Michigan plumbing license, transcripts, and certification documents to the UA Local 190 Training Center **by Oct. 2, 2026.** Qualified candidates selected for further consideration will be contacted for a scheduled interview after the deadline.

RETIREMENT GRATULATIONS:

Mark Flaughter, initiated Dec. 11, 1989; retired July 1, 2026

Jeff Alber, initiated June 20, 2001; retired Aug. 1, 2026

Wishing you both a very happy and healthy retirement. This is the beginning of a new and exciting chapter, may the future include all the things you enjoy.

RETIREE MEETINGS – PLEASE JOIN US: The next Spades meeting will start at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 1 at the Union Hall. Join us for card games, pastries, and 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.



UA Local 85

SAGINAW – The next **Union Meeting** will be held **Wednesday, Sept. 26, 2026**, at the Union Hall, 3535 Bay Rd. at 7 PM.

The next Zone 2 Union Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2026**, at the Grayling Eagles Lodge, 602 Huron St., Grayling, MI 49738.

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, 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 have any difficulties logging in, please call Kristin, (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: Congratulations to our newest journeymen Remington Jackson, Nicole Sutto, and John Laski.

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 Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603 Fax: (989) 791-3468 Email: SUB@ualocal85.org

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

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

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

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

Website Address: Please visit www.ualocal85.org.

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

RETIREE LUNCHEON: The next retirees' luncheon will be held on Tuesday, **October 13, 2026** at 12:00 Noon at UA Local 85 Administration Office located at 3535 Bay Road Saginaw, MI 48603. We ask if you are able, please bring a dish to pass.

Fraternally,

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



UA Local 636

DETROIT – Our next Regular Meeting will be at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2026 at St. George Romanian Cultural Center 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. (Southfield Service Drive) Southfield, MI 48075.

Thank you to everyone that helped out at our annual picnic! A big shout out to Bill Kurtzhals for donating the fresh picked corn!

PIPEFITTERS LOCAL 636 ONLINE MERCHANT STORE IS LIVE! Sign into the members section on our website www.pipefitters636.org and click the link.

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

The Annual Labor Day Parade is scheduled for Sept. 7. We will be meeting at 7 a.m. at the IBEW Local 58 Hall. Address is 1358 Abbott St., Detroit, MI 48226. If you want to volunteer to help, contact Business Agent, Jeff Lewis 248-939-8636.

Trades Women Build Nations – The 16th Annual Trades Women Build Nations will take place in Houston, TX Oct. 9-11 2026 hosted by North American Building Trades. This event is the largest gathering of Union Trades Women and growing each year. Featuring conferences, workshops, speakers and a banner parade through the host city. If interested in attending please contact the Union Hall. Reminder, registration does fill fast.

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!**

March 2026 – Edward Bolin

April 2026 – David Marcy, Anthony Kleinsorge, Mark Petzke, and Mark Solomon

June 2026 – David Manney, David Dobis, Daniel Mosey.

Get Well Wishes to: Jeff Selph, Daniel Albergo, Rebecca Blair, Barbara Brown, Douglas Detomaso, Michael Ferrante, Daniel Foltz, Jonathon Grinter, Ryan Hartmann, Winston Jones, Michael Kovak III, John Lilly, Anthony Lumetta, Ian Martin, Roger Pruitt, Allen Snider Jr, Christopher Sovey, David Stone, Jeremel Ducharme, Mike Marshall, John Pastorius, John Hurley.

Congratulations to Zachary Forche and Briana Cook on the birth of their daughter Ava Lee August 12, 2026.

DUES – 3rd Quarter Dues are due now. Please call the Local to update your email and phone numbers. As a reminder AUTO PAY is available.

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.

988 crisis help line. 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.

636 Retiree Association! The next meeting will be held Sept. 17. Informing all retirees and their significant others to attend our meetings at the Local Union Office in Farmington Hills, every third Thursday of every month at 11 am, excluding December. The meetings present speakers which are very helpful with regard to your retirement and officers are there to answer any questions, you are also brought up to date on the activities of Local 636. Lunch is served for \$7.00 with refreshments and desserts. Also, our next day trip will be to the **Detroit Institute of Arts** Friday, Sept. 25. We

will meet in the parking lot of St. George Romanian Cultural Center 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. Southfield, MI 48075 and board the bus 8:30 am – 9:15 am. Secretary Michael N. Sylvester

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

For direct deposit information, please contact the Union Hall or BeneSys.

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

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

Defined Contribution Pension Plan. The customer service number for Empower is **833-569-2433**. For account information please create log in at **empowermyretirement.com** or download the Empower mobile app.

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

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

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

Training Center News. Regular NIGHT WELDING: Monday and Thursday nights from 4pm till 8pm.

Certified **BRAZING CLASS:** Monday and Thursday Nights 4 till 8.

QUALIFIED BOLTING CLASS: Monday and Thursday nights from 4-8 with Kurt Moran. Call Kim to sign up.

Controls 1 with Jason Blouin Starts Monday, Sept. 21 from 5-8pm

Ice machine maintenance with Kevin Burns Starts Thursday Sept. 21, from 5-8pm

****We will accept applications again for CONSTRUCTION Apprentices beginning in Dec 2026. ONLINE ONLY @ www.pipefitters636tc.org**

“Half our life is spent trying to find something to do with the time we have rushed through life trying to save.”

–Will Rogers (1879 - 1935)

“It has been my experience that folks who have no vices have very few virtues.”

–Abraham Lincoln (1809 - 1865)

“We should manage our fortunes as we do our health - enjoy it when good, be patient when it is bad, and never apply violent remedies except in an extreme necessity.”

–Francois de La Rochefoucauld (1613 - 1680)

“There is no revenge so complete as forgiveness.”

– Josh Billings (1818 - 1885)

“An invasion of armies can be resisted, but not an idea whose time has come.”

–Victor Hugo (1802 - 1885),

“The more original a discovery, the more obvious it seems afterwards.”

–Arthur Koestler (1905 - 1983)

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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, Oct. 6, 2026 at 7 pm 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.

The Retiree Breakfast: will be held **Thursday, Oct. 8**, at 9am at New Beginnings Restaurant in Coopersville.

Office Closed: The front office will be closed 9/7/26 in observance of Labor Day.

Condolences: It is with sadness that brother James Vanden Berg passed away 8/13/26. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers

The annual Labor Day Parade in Muskegon will be Monday, Sept. 7. Staging will begin at 9:30am and the parade starts at 11am. We will be handing out shirts and hats in front of the CIO Hall, at 490 W. Western starting at 9:30am. See you there.

Manistee Labor Fest Parade: Saturday, Sept. 5 at 11:30 AM. Staging at the Armory at 555 1st St, Manistee, MI 49660. Parade starts at 12:30 sharp. Anyone walking in the parade will receive free admission into Labor Fest and a free drink ticket.

Hiring New Organizer: The Michigan Pipe Trades is currently accepting resumes for an organizer. Any UA journeyman member from Michigan can apply. If you have any questions or are interested in applying, please contact Ryan Bennett.

Operation United: As we begin planning for next year's event supporting West Michigan Veterans, we are currently working to identify veteran Union members in need of assistance with yard work and minor exterior home projects next spring. If you know a veteran Union member who could benefit from help, please reach out so we can begin building our project list for 2027.

Local 174 Peer Support Group: Sometimes talking with people who understand makes all the difference. Join fellow Local 174 members for an **anonymous, judgment-free, Peer Support Group at 6 PM the Tuesday after each Union Meeting.** Come talk, listen, share, or just be there. There is **strength in numbers** – the more members who participate, the more experiences, perspectives, and support we bring to the room. **No pressure. No judgment. Members supporting members.**

Union Strong Phone App: If you have not downloaded our app and would like to, reach out to the front office for the link or QR code.

Plumbing Law Changes: As of 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. Make sure that your license or apprentice registration is up to date with the State. If your license has expired or you need to register as an apprentice, you must contact the State Licensing Division at 517-241-9316.

Wage Allocation: The 2026 wage allocation was voted on at the June 2, 2026 membership meeting. Results were \$2.25 increase on the check, \$0.05 increase to the Retiree Bonus Program, \$0.50 increase to the Pension fund, and \$0.50 increase to the Health Fund.

Organizing Update: *For those of you working next to non-union workers on these job sites, talk to them. Don't bring up anything about work, just talk to them about anything. So many times, the non-union sector is intimidated by us or they think we look down on them; if they're doing our work, they deserve a contract! Striking up a conversation about sports, hunting, family, or whatever will emphasize that we have more in common with them than what divides us!*

Simple conversations turn into relationships with workers; it's no different than building relationships with our members. We want the best contracts, and we get these by having the market share (a majority of the workers being Union). If we have this, we WILL get the best contracts the industry offers, and it all starts with talking to the nonunion workers. As always, thank you! We're all doing the same work. We're just not all getting the same wages and benefits! 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 NO Medicare Retirees Aetna: (855) 878-4101 EAP: (888) 238-6232 Save-Rx: (800) 228-3108

Medicare Retirees: Retiree First: (616) 345-0788

*New rates reflected below effective 9/1/26.

Current Health Insurance Premiums: Active Member/Working Retiree \$1,300

Non-working Pre-Medicare Retiree \$926.00 with Non-Medicare Spouse/Dependents
Non-working Pre-Medicare Retiree \$582.00 with Medicare Spouse/Dependents
Medicare Single \$123.63
Medicare Couple \$247.26
Medicare with Pre-Medicare Spouse \$497.13
Medicare Surviving Spouse \$126.67

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.

Retiree Dues: If you are retiring, it is the member's responsibility to inform the Union Hall on the final day of work in order to request a reduction in window dues at the Retiree Rate. Additionally, it is the member's responsibility to call Ext. 17 to notify dispatch of your retirement, providing your name, phone number, contractor name, and the date of your last day worked.

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.

Helpers: Please remember that if you are working as a Helper, 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.**

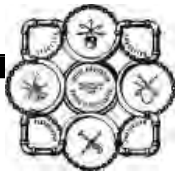
Training News: ATTENTION: Members must notify the Training Office when licenses are renewed so records can be updated. Failure to report renewals may affect dispatch.

ASSE TESTER: Class begins Sept. 8. Class days are Mondays and Wednesdays 5-9pm. Online and practical exam scheduled for October 7th @ 5pm.

ASSE Recertification: Testing will be Oct. 7 @ 5pm. ASSE requires 8 hours of training prior to test.

MEDICAL GAS INSTALLER RECERTIFICATION CLASS: If your installer's certification expires before the end of the year, contact us by Sept. 21. Class dates are Sept. 28, 29, Oct. 1 and test on the 5th @ 5pm.

INDUSTRIAL RIGGING & SIGNALING CLASS: begins on Tuesday, Sept. 22, with classes



Local 357 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service

UA Local 357

KALAMAZOO – UNION MEETING: The next regular Union Meeting will be on **Tuesday, Sept. 8** at 6:30 pm. Other meetings that day will be the Finance Committee at 4:30 and the Executive Board at 6:00.

GOLF OUTING: You can Sign Up for the Annual Local 357 Golf Outing to be held on Saturday, Sept. 12 at Pineview Golf Course. The price this year is \$75 per person = \$300 per foursome. Single players need to team up with others to make a foursome and may sign up and pay at the Union Hall. **You must pay for your golf prior to the outing date.** The price of your golf gets you breakfast (7:30-8:45), refreshments, 18 holes of golf, lunch, dinner and prizes. All participants in the outing must be signed up and paid by Sept. 4. Anyone interested in helping at the Golf Outing – Please contact Lori at lhatfield@ualocal357.com.

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**, 5200 Portage Rd, Portage, MI. The phone number for the location is (269) 337-9800.

CHANGE OF STATUS: If you have a change of status for example: married, divorced, re-married, birth, death, workers comp, address change, etc., please call Lori at the Union Hall. It is very important that we keep all our records up to date and you only have 30 days from the date of the event to make the change.

There also 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 Jack Fowler and family on the birth of a daughter, Sadie.

Congratulations to Peyton Buhler and family on the birth of a daughter, Piper.

Local 174, con't

held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5-9pm until Oct. 22, followed by a Practical Test. Class size is limited to **10 participants**. To register, please call the Training Center. By registering for this class, you are committing to attend **all scheduled class dates**.

FIRST AID: First Aid/CPR/BBP class will be the second Thursday of the month (every month – unless otherwise noted), from 5-9 pm. The next class will be held Thursday, Sept. 10.

WELD TEST: Capability demonstration will be Tuesday, Sept. 8 and the test event to follow Thursday, Sept. 10 at 5pm.

OPEN WELD: Available on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month; Watch the Facebook 'Local Union 174 Members' group page for any updates.

WELDER CONTINUITY: If you have weld certifications and have submitted your continuity, your **welder certification status cards are now being emailed** instead of sent via USPS mail.

If you have turned in your continuity but have **NOT** received an updated status card, please contact the Training Office to verify that we have your current email on file.

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.



UA Local 370

FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 8th, 2026.**

Retiree Breakfast: zach will be in contact with you.

Labor Day Parade Join us Monday, Sept. 7 for this family-friendly parade. Staging begins at 10 at Bristol Rd Church of Christ. Parade starts at 11. Hot dogs will be served at Local 370 immediately after the parade.

The Ulliance Member Assistance Program is now 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 on legal and financial matters. To find out more, go to lifeadvisor.com or call 800-448-8326.

Upcoming Night Class Schedule:

Rigging: Sept. 8 thru Oct. 8. 4-7:30p.m. Testing Oct 12-16.

CPR: Sept.16 @ 4:30p.m.

Boiler 101: Oct. 5, 7, 19 and 21. 5-8pm.

CSD-1: Nov. 2, 3, 4 and 5. 5-8 pm.

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 are available. Cost: \$85. Check, money order or credit card.

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

Committee and Board meetings are as follows:

Examining Board: Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2026 at 4 pm

FMR Committee: Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2026 at 4:00pm

PAC committee – Tuesday, Sept. 8 at 5:00pm

Executive Board –Tuesday, Sept. 8 at 5:00pm

Building Committee – Tuesday, Sept. 8 at 6:00pm

Finance Committee -Tuesday, Sept. 8 at 6:15pm

JATC Committee - TBD

Local 370 office hours

7:30am – 4:30pm.

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

Attendance award drawing for membership meeting information. Members present must have dues paid to date to claim award. The monthly award is 150 dollars.

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.

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

Our web site is up and running. Check it out: 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 can contact the Training Center **-Daniel J Gaudet, Business Manager, UA Local 370**

September 4, 2026

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN 7



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

UA Local 111

UPPER PENINSULA – THE NEXT UNION MEETING: will be held in Escanaba on Thursday, Sept. 24 at 7:30 PM. All members are encouraged to attend.

ONLINE REFERRAL PROGRAM went into effect on **June 1, 2026.** **REFERRAL RULES UPDATE:** Due to recent referral rules change, text messages from the Local are now more important than ever. If you are not receiving texts, call the hall to update your information.

WORK OPPORTUNITIES: Members interested in 1-day shut-downs should contact Business Agent/Dispatcher Scott Pendergraft in the Escanaba Office. Call the Escanaba or Marquette Office for updates: Layoff Line – Ext. #7. All job calls will be posted via our new **online referral program**. The user guide, along with mobile app and desktop login instructions, are available on the website at **lu111.com**. If you have any questions, please contact Business Agent/Dispatcher Scott Pendergraft.

MRA FUND: Members are reminded that the Local 111 Health & Welfare Fund's Medical Reimbursement Account covers **eligible expenses** such as copays, deductibles, coinsurance, eligible self-pay medical costs, non-covered dental and vision services, non-covered medical services and prescriptions, and durable medical equipment. The MRA **does not** cover home exercise equipment, sporting equipment, hot tubs, saunas, mattresses or bedding, beauty products, recurring memberships, fitness trackers, vitamins, vacations, or other expenses that are primarily for general health and wellness. Please refer to the Summary of Material Modifications (SMM) for complete details or **contact the Fund Office at (866) 823-4730 with any questions.**

MRA cards can no longer be used for purchases through the on-line FSA Store or other vendors that use the same merchant category codes. Eligible items may still be purchased from these websites using another form of payment and submitted for reimbursement according to plan rules.

This change helps ensure compliance with plan guidelines and prevent ineligible purchases. Your MRA card may continue to be used for eligible expenses at approved providers and merchants.

For any questions or assistance, please contact the Fund Office at **866-823-4730**.

The IRS requires substantiation for all MRA debit card transactions. Many members have received request letters from Zenith American Solutions. It is YOUR responsibility to submit the requested documentation promptly. Failure to respond will result in suspension of your card until documentation is received. You can review transactions and upload documentation through the Zenith Portal or App.

NEW HEARING HEALTH BENEFIT: UA members have access to an exclusive hearing healthcare program through Amplifon Hearing Health Care. To learn more about this valuable member benefit, check out page 45 of the UA Journal magazine or contact Amplifon, 866-488-3873

NEW MEMBER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: Beginning Dec. 1, 2025, our Health & Welfare Plan will partner with Ulliance to offer the Life Advisor Member Assistance Program (MAP). This confidential, no-cost benefit is available to members and covered dependents and provides 24/7 support for personal and work-related challenges, including stress, anxiety, depression, relationship concerns, substance abuse, eldercare or childcare referrals, and financial or legal guidance. To access services, call 800-448-8326 or www.lifeadvisor.com.

988 CRISIS HELPLINE: If you or someone you know is struggling, call or text 988 anytime to connect with trained counselors for mental health or suicide prevention support.

MEMBER RECORDS: Please keep your records current by contacting April or Rose with any changes to your address, phone number, email, or family status.

LAYOFF REMINDER: Report layoffs immediately; the day you call is the date you are placed on the Out-of-Work List.

APPRENTICES: are required to attend 4 union meetings each year.

WELDERS AND CERTIFICATIONS: UA Welder Qualification Continuity Report forms are available on our website under Training or at the Hall. Certifications expire every six months, and it is YOUR responsibility to ensure forms are turned in on time. Please also update all Non-UA Certifications (Plumbing License, MUST, OSHA-30, MSHA, etc.) by sending a copy to the Union Hall.

SAFETY TRAINING – LOCAL 111 WEBSITE: Visit lu111.com and click Safety Links to complete your online safety training. Members must complete training for each site; trainings are valid for one year.

MSHA TRAINING: Registration and cancellations are handled online at upconstruction.org under the MSHA Calendar.

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 maintain 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





PLUMBING A ROOM at the Northern Michigan University Presque Isle apartment project is Alexander Stanley of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 111. He’s employed by Dressler Mechanical.



Plumbers Local 98

Plumbers 98 August 30, 2026

DETROIT – *Membership of Plumbers Local 98. Happy Labor Day to our members and their families. “Thank you for your dedication and commitment. We celebrate you and the value you bring every day.”*

Labor Day Parade: Save the Date, Monday, September 7, 2026. Please come march with fellow Local 98 members and the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council on Labor Day September 7, 2026. We encourage all members to come and bring their families to the Parade. Details to follow on our website and social media pages for time and location to meet.

Our next regular monthly union meeting will be held on Thursday, September 10, 2026 at 6:00pm.

The next board meeting is Thursday, September 10, 2026 at 4:30pm. The Executive Board meetings are *generally* held the first Thursday of the month at 4:30pm and before all Union Meetings.

Retiree Luncheon: The next retiree luncheon is **Wednesday, September 9, 2026 at Noon** at the PLUMBERS LOCAL 98 hall. Please contact Dave Schroeder or Dominic Fanto if you have any questions, or call the hall.

Adopt-A-Highway: Save The Date – Our semi-annual Plumbers 98/Mike Kalso Memorial Clean Up of I-94 in Macomb County is **Saturday, September 19, 2026 8 am to Noon**(inclement weather back up day is Saturday, September 25th). We will meet at Bob Evans in Roseville at 8am. Please RSVP with Jeff Kavalor so we can be sure to have enough supplies.

Marathon Health: Our first two Marathon Health Clinics (Sterling Heights & Novi) are now open. For more information, please see their website at my.marathon.health or call 866-434-3255. Participants enrolled in the Fund’s Medicare Advantage program are unable to utilize Marathon Health. Contact an officer with any questions.

NOMI is part of our health care benefits which started August 1, 2026. The NOMI Health Network is an additional power network to make your healthcare experience more accessible, affordable and tailored to your unique needs. Information has been mailed to our active membership, under 65 and do not have retiree Humana health care. Any questions, please call BeneSys for additional information.

Benefit Update: To better serve you, Local 98 has changed record keepers for our Defined Contribution plan from BeneSys to Empower. Empower can be reached at (833) 569-2433. We have also changed our HRA tracking portal. Any questions on setting up your new accounts please call an officer. In addition, the monthly status reports will only include the past hours and contributions reported since the previous statement. To check your balances please go to fundoffice.lh1ondemand.com The username is your first initial last name and last four of social security number. For additional information please call the hall or BeneSys.

The Ulliance Member Assistance Program is available to all members, retirees, spouses/domestic partners and dependents through the age of 26. This benefit has no out-of-pocket costs and includes confidential mental health counseling, coaching, and 24/7 crisis support. In addition, there are free 30-minute consultations for legal and financial matters, a discount program for goods and services, and free identity theft protection. To find out more, go to lifeadvisor.com or call 800-448-8326.

Pipe Up is the official podcast of the UA General President. The program offers monthly stories, skills and a look into the lives of our membership. Access the podcast at ua.org/pipeup.

Membership Dues Reminder: Friendly reminder to stay up-to-date on your membership dues to avoid suspension fees and/or being expelled. If you have not paid your second quarter dues yet, please pay them as soon as possible to avoid interruption to your benefits.

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. This also includes notifying the hall for jury duty, bereavement, short term disability and worker’s compensation. *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.

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 BENESYS at (248)641-4988 or (866)646-8919.** If they are on the other line, please leave a message and they will get back to you promptly.

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

Applications are now being accepted for our apprenticeship program. Learn more at www.plumbers98TC.org/apprenticeship. Additional information can be found at www.ualocal98.org, Facebook and Instagram.

CONTACT INFORMATION: Hall Operating Hours 8am to 4pm

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 rahamilton98@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

Luke Garcia, Organizer (248) 763-2187 lgarcia@uanet.org
In solidarity, Gary Glaser, Business Manager Plumbers Local 98! Protecting the health of Metro Detroit since 1893.



Local 704 Sprinkler Fitters

UA Local 704

SOUTHFIELD – The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday, Sept. 9, at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

Reminder the Labor Day parade is taking place on Sept. 7, we will be meeting at IBEW 58’s hall at 1358 Abbott St., Detroit MI 48216. We will be meeting at 8am. Please remember to plan for extra time in the morning to find parking.

Congratulations to brother Ryan Wolfenbarger and Elizabeth on their recent marriage. Married on Aug. 21,2026.

Our prayers for the safe deployment of brother Whitmore-Mendoza

Local 704 will be hosting a health gauge event on Oct. 24 2026 see the website for a sign-up link. This service is open to members, spouses and dependents over the age of 18.

As a reminder, your dues payment is due the last day of the month. Please sign up for **MDLive**. There is no cost for you or your family to use this App. You will be able to download it from the Apple Store or Google Play.

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 update any change of address or phone number changes with the Local Union Hall.

A speedy recovery for all our sick and injured members.



Local 333 Plumbers & Pipe Fitters

UA Local 333

LANSING – September’s union meeting will be Sept. 16, 2026, at the Lansing Training Center, 16180 National Parkway. Lansing, MI. 48906 Dinner will be held at 6 pm.

October’s union meeting will be held in Battle Creek, Oct. 21, 2026 at the IBEW Local 445 Hall, 4071 W. Dickman Rd, Springfield, MI. 49037. Meeting will start at 6:30pm.

ATTENTION MEMBERS: We have a new phone system, so when you call please listen carefully to the prompts as they have changed.

Please remember to sign up before attending weld class. We have limited space, and only those who sign up will be allowed to attend class.

Weld classes, 10 weeks starting Sept. 9 for all three Regions.

Lansing: Monday and Wednesday 4:30pm – 8:30pm

Tuesday and Thursday 4:30pm – 8:30pm

16180 National Parkway, Lansing, MI 48906

Jackson: Monday & Wednesday 4:30pm – 8:30pm

Tuesday & Thursday will open only if Mon/Wed class fills

Limit 8 people. 3101 Allied Industrial Dr., Jackson, MI 49201

Battle Creek: Monday and Thursday 4:30-8:30pm. Limit 12 people (KCC) RMTC, 405 Hill Brady Rd. Battle Creek, MI. 49037

Rigging: INDUSTRIAL RIGGING/SIGNALPERSON – NEW CERT – FALL 2026 DATES TBD 4:30 – 8:30PM. ****need 6 people to hold class**

INDUSTRIAL RIGGING/SIGNALPERSON – RENEWAL – FALL 2026 DATES TBD 4:30 – 8:30PM. starting October 2026, rigging/signaling recertification classes will only be held quarterly. Please plan accordingly.

Backflow: ASSE BACKFLOW – NEW CERT – FALL 2026 DATE TBD (Tues & Thurs) 4:30-8:30 PM

****must have a Journeyman plumber license and 5 years of piping experience or be in the 5th year of apprenticeship**

ASSE BACKFLOW - RENEWAL - FALL 2026 DATE TBD (Tues & Thurs) 4:30-8:30PM * starting October 2026, ASSE Backflow certification classes will only be held quarterly. Please plan accordingly.

Medical Gas Installer: MEDICAL GAS INSTALLER – NEW CERT – FALL 2026 DATE TBD (Tues & Thurs) 5:00 – 8:00PM

MEDICAL GAS INSTALLER – RENEWAL – FALL 2026 DATE TBD (Tues & Thurs) 5:00 – 8:00PM. **** starting October 2026, med gas certification classes will only be held quarterly. Plan accordingly.**

Pipefitting: LANSING: ADVANCED PIPEFITTING & LAY-OUT – OCT 2026 DATE TBD. **** must be a 2nd year or greater**

JACKSON: ADVANCED PIPEFITTING & LAYOUT – OCT 2026 DATE TBD. *** must be a 2nd year or greater**

PIPEFITTING FUNDAMENTALS – OCT 2026 DATE TBD

Tube Bending: TUBE BENDING CLASS – OCT 2026 ****must have 6 people to hold class**

Trimble Robotic Station: TRIMBLE ROBOTIC STATION – OCT 2026 DATE TBD **** limit to 6 people per class**

Blueprint Interpretation. Reading: INTO TO BLUEBEAM – OCT 2026 DATE TBD. ****limit of 6 people per class**

Basic First Aid: BASIC FIRST AID – 1 NIGHT 4 HOUR CLASS – WILL SCHEDULE WHEN A MIN 6 PEOPLE HAVE SIGNED UP CPR: – 1 NIGHT 4 HOUR CLASS – WILL SCHEDULE WHEN A MIN OF 6 PEOPLE HAVE SIGNED UP

Please note for all certifications: 2 weeks before class begins, you will be notified of all class details.

Please note moving forward, classes will be held quarterly. Please plan accordingly.

PLEASE NOTE FOR ALL CERTIFICATIONS: Per the UA as of Jan. 1, 2019, all Braze and Weld certifications must be updated within 120 days of their expiration date, or you will lose your certification. Check the dates on your certifications and if they have expired call 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. It is the member’s responsibility to make sure their certifications are current.

Please sign up for classes on the website or call the Lansing Training Center at 517.323.0333.

DO NOT opt out of health care coverage on your auto insurance. If you are injured in an auto accident our health care coverage will not cover you.

ATTENTION: when you have a life change, marriage, divorce, birth of a child, change of address, or phone number. Please contact your regional office with the updated information, request new beneficiary paperwork if changes need to be made.

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.

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

“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 on 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



Laborers Local 1191
(2161 West Grand Boulevard, Detroit, MI 48208)

DETROIT – **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 Mon-Fri 8:00 AM – 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.

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 October 2026 General Membership Meeting will be held on Friday, Oct. 2, 2026, at 7 PM. The General Membership Meeting for November 2026 will be held on Friday, Nov. 6, 2026, at 7:00 PM.

Monthly Retiree Council Meetings: are held on the last Friday of each month at 11 AM at the Local Union, at 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit.

The September Retiree Council Meeting is scheduled for Sept. 25 at 11 AM. The October Retiree Council Meeting is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 30 at 11 AM. Please note that the October Retiree Council Meeting is the last meeting of the 2026 calendar year.

Union Dues for 2026: Regular monthly dues are **\$35.00 for Active Members.** Retiree monthly dues will remain the same at **\$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 six (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 between being sent to work or not!**

Roll Call: All members on the out-of-work list must re-register every quarter within the first five days of the following months: March, June, September and December. Your failure to do so will result in your name being removed from the referral list. *Example: If your name is on the list in April and/or May and you don’t re-register by June 5 your name will be removed from the list.

“Posterity is as likely to be wrong as anyone else.”

–Heywood Broun (1888 - 1939),

“The capacity of human beings to bore one another seems to be vastly greater than that of any other animal.”

–H. L. Mencken (1880 - 1956)



A LABOR DAY parade in Gladstone along Delta Street, year unknown. Credit: Gladstone Area Historical Society

Labor Day: celebrate the holiday for working people at events statewide

(Reprinted from our Aug. 21 edition)
Labor Day represents another unhappy end to our short Michigan summers, but our state’s autumn seasons are pretty darn nice, too. Hopefully you will take time to take part in a Labor Day or Labor Day weekend celebration near you. Following are some Labor Day celebrations scheduled around Michigan:

Detroit – The city’s Labor Day Parade will start at 9 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 7, at Michigan Avenue and Sixth Street, at the Lodge Freeway overpass. Beginning at 8 a.m., as in the past, the building trades will line up on Sixth Street south of Michigan Avenue, then stage for a few blocks south to Porter Street and then on Porter west to Trumbull.

The march will proceed west along Michigan Avenue to Roosevelt Park in front of the Ford Motor Co.’s Michigan Central Train Station, where a stage will be set up for a program by the Metro Detroit AFL-CIO. Various labor leaders and elected officials will speak.

The building trades’ parade lineup: Iron Workers, IBEW, Sheet Metal Workers, United Association of Pipe Trades, Roofers, Boilermakers, Laborers, Bricklayers and Allied Crafts, Cement Masons, Heat and Frost Insulators, Painters District Council 1M, Elevator Constructors, Carpenters and Millwrights, Operating Engineers.

Escanaba – The sixth annual Labor Day celebration will take place on Monday, Sept. 7. A Labor Day Parade will begin that day at noon EST at the Municipal Dock in Escanaba. The parade lineup will start at 11 a.m. at the Karas Bandshell in Ludington Park. Events are sponsored by Delta County Trades and Labor, and will include live music, a bounce house, games, a beer tent and food vendors. Proceeds benefit the Delta County Trades and Labor Charity/Scholarship Fund.

Flint – The labor community celebrates Labor Day, on Monday, Sept. 7, with its third annual parade that starts with staging at 10 a.m. at the Church of Christ, 1315 W. Bristol Rd. in Flint. The parade starts at 11 a.m. and will end at UAW Region 1-D, 1940 W. Atherton Rd., Flint.

Manistee – A Labor Day weekend “LaborFest” parade will take place Saturday, Sept. 5. The parade will line up at 12 pm sharp at the Manistee Armory (555 First St.). The parade will start at 12:30 pm and ends at Lions Pavilion entrance at First Street Beach / Douglas Park.

The march will be followed by an all-day music festival featuring local Michigan bands, food trucks, and a classic car and motorcycle show.

Monroe – The Monroe/Lenawee Central Labor Council says the 2026 Labor Day Parade and Festival will “celebrate the contributions of working families, organized labor, local businesses, and community organizations.” Events will take place on Saturday, Aug. 30. A parade starts at 1 p.m. at Jones Avenue and will proceed down Monroe Street. Festivities afterward will take place at Lorange Square - enjoy festival activities, food vendors, live entertainment and children’s activities.

Muskegon – The city’s Labor Day Parade & Celebration presented by West Michigan United Labor will take place Monday, Sept. 7. The parade begins at 11 a.m. at the corner of 4th Street and Western Avenue and travels through downtown Muskegon before concluding with a family-friendly celebration at Hackley Park.

Visitors are invited to watch the parade, support local participants, and enjoy an afternoon of activities, music, food, and community connection. Activities include games, arts and crafts, bounce houses, and face painting. There will also be live music, raffles, and prizes, food options, and picnic-style gathering with tents, picnic tables, and space to bring your own chairs.

Negaunee - The 37th Annual Labor Day Parade and Picnic will take place Monday, Sept. 7, at Jackson Park, 199 Tobin St. in Negaunee. The parade begins at 11 a.m., with a picnic and activities to follow. The event will feature live music, food trucks, a beer tent, a cornhole tournament and a kids coloring contest.

Events are sponsored by the Marquette Alger Community Labor Council, AFL-CIO and the U.P. Regional Labor Federation.

Rock – The Rock Lions Annual Labor Day Celebration is known as “The largest small town celebration in the U.P.” A parade starts in the tiny community between Marquette and Escanaba at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 5, followed by live music, games, food and beverage, flea market and activities for all ages. Location: Rock Lions Club Grounds - 14454 State Highway M35, Rock, MI 49880.

St. Ignace/Mackinaw City – The 2026 Annual Mackinac Bridge Walk is scheduled for Monday, Sept. 7. The Mackinac Bridge will be closed to public traffic from 6:30 a.m. to noon to accommodate the walkers.

You may start walking any time after the governor’s party starts at approximately 7 a.m. No one will be permitted to start after 11:30 a.m.

No bus transportation across the bridge will be provided as part of the event. Walkers who decide to walk across the entire bridge will need to arrange their own transportation back to the end of the bridge where they started after the bridge reopens to public traffic at noon.

Walkers from either end of the five-mile bridge have the option to turn around mid-point, and return to the city where you started. There is no fee or registration required to walk. The average length of time to walk the bridge one way: about two hours.

“Always laugh when you can. It is cheap medicine.”
–Lord Byron (1788 - 1824)

“Go not for every grief to the physician, nor for every quarrel to the lawyer; nor for every thirst to the pot.”
–George Herbert (1593 - 1633)

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Local 36 Elevator Constructors

Elevator Constructors Local 36
DETROIT – ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED: our next regular membership meeting will be **September 28, 2026, at 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.

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.

Attention All Members, Upcoming meetings:
September 14th – Probationary Meeting at 5pm.
September 21st – Executive Board Meeting at 5pm.
September 28th – General Membership meeting at 5:30pm.

Save the dates: The Labor Day Parade will be on Monday September 7, 2026. We will be stepping off promptly at 9AM and proceeding west on Michigan Avenue ending at Roosevelt Park where we will hear from labor leaders from across the country. We will have shirts, hats and Local 36 cozies for attendees and hope to see a large crowd this year.

The Kyle Owsley Memorial Golf Outing will be held on **Saturday September 26, 2026 @** Links of Novi 50395 West 10 Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48374. The Golf outing is **SOLD OUT** for golfing but if you would like to donate to the outing or have any questions contact Just Smith (248)709-0341 or Mike Waker (734)389-9633 or go to, <https://www.eventregisterpro.com/event/annualiueclocal-36golfouting>

If you haven’t already signed up for the IUEC Voluntary Income Protection (VIP) Plan for short-term, Long-term, Life and AD&D insurance, there are two enrollment dates, the second enrollment will open September 1, 2026 to October 31, 2026 and effective November 1, 2026. This will be the ONLY chance to sign up for this till 2027. www.IUECVIP.com or call (224) 487-5030.

Just wanted to remind everyone that we **DO NOT** provide personal identification as a condition of entering or working on a job. Please refer to the CBA Article XXII Par. 6, when your company tells you to give your license to enter a job or call the hall.

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. Locally contact Scott Erison (Local 36 VAP Chair) (586)482-0768 or email him at sanosire1973@gmail.com or Ricky Azzopardi (Local 36 Co-Chair) (586)719-7465 or email him at rickenpardi@yahoo.com if you would like to get involved or have questions.

The Local 36 Veterans Committee is happy to announce its first annual Side by Side Ride. This fundraiser is to benefit the Charitable Support Fund at Michigan Veterans Homes at Chesterfield Twp. This event will be held at the Belle River Course. The ride will begin and end at the golf course with dinner to follow. Tickets are \$50 and are cash only. Tickets will be available at the union hall or through Ricky Azzopardi. Ricky is also in the process of securing a second location to purchase tickets. Ricky will keep you all updated through this paper, on Facebook, or if you like you can contact Ricky direct at 586-719-7465 or by email rickenpardi@yahoo.com. Also, if you ride dirt bikes or four wheelers you are more than welcome to join us. The more the merrier!!

Local 36’s website is up and running, this is still a work in progress, and we would appreciate any feedback to improve the site to work for our members and retirees. Visit www.iueclocal36detroit.org. Please be patient as we continue to improve the site. If you have any questions, contact the hall.

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 use the website job reporting at www.iueclocal36detroit.org/job-reporting.** This will help us keep track of jobs easier than just calling the hall.

If you move or your address changes, call the hall and make sure you fill out the address change form on the NEIBP website. Mail a copy to the fund office and one to the hall.

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- week waiting period.

If you are unloading a job and you find the fishplates already attached to the rail, predrilled holes on machines/beams, door equipment already installed, or any other violation, take pictures and send them to the hall via email or text with the address of the job.

Attention All Mechanics, just a reminder to Mechanics who 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. **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 **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.

It’s with a heavy heart that I must announce the passing of Brother Mark Waker, please keep the Waker family in your thoughts and prayers. We would also like to wish a speedy recovery for the Brothers and Sisters on our sick and injured list.

“We have only this moment, sparkling like a star in our hand... and melting like a snowflake. Let us use it before it is too late.”
– Marie Beyon Ray

“Deeds, not stones, are the true monuments of the great.”
– John L. Motley (1814 - 1877)

“Personally I’m always ready to learn, although I do not always like being taught.”
–Sir Winston Churchill (1874 - 1965)

“Make the best use of what is in your power, and take the rest as it happens.”
– Epictetus (55 AD - 135 AD)

“Living is a form of not being sure, not knowing what next or how...We guess. We may be wrong, but we take leap after leap in the dark.”
–Agnes de Mille (1909 - 1993)

Heat and Frost Insulators Local 25

Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25

SOUTHFIELD – UNION MEETING: The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, September 10, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge Street, Southfield, MI 48033.

We will be having a \$5.00 per ticket 50/50 raffle, with the proceeds benefiting the Breath of Life Foundation to support research for mesothelioma, lung cancer, and other asbestos related diseases.

LABOR DAY PARADE: The 2026 Labor Day Parade will be held on **Monday, Sept. 7, 2026.** Local 25 members will gather at 8 a.m. in the I.B.E.W. Local 58 parking lot, located at 1358 Abbott St. Detroit, MI 48226. Coffee and donuts will be provided. Step-off is scheduled for 9 a.m. Apprentices are reminded that participation in the Labor Day Parade will count as one union meeting towards the required six meetings per year.

CHRISTMAS PARTY: Mark your calendars for the Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25 Annual Christmas Party on Saturday, Dec. 12, 2026. This year’s celebration will be held at **The Henry, at 300 Town Center Drive, Dearborn.** Additional details will be provided as the date approaches.

APPRENTICES: Attention Apprentices: The first week of apprenticeship classes will begin Sept. 14, 2026. Letters containing additional information have been mailed.

WEBSITE: Visit our updated website at www.heatfrost-insulators.org to access helpful links and additional member resources.

CONTACT UPDATE: We are now using admin@heatfrostinsulators25.org as the primary email address for all communication with the Union Hall. Please update your contact records accordingly.

REPORTING JOBS: A reward will be provided to any member that reports non-union or union mechanical installing insulation under our scope of work. Members with valid leads should contact Eloany Rodriguez at (248) 750-4992 and you will receive a \$50.00 gift card.

JOB STARTS: As stated in Local 25’s Constitution & Bylaws Article III Section 5. Failure to report a job start will automatically result in a fine of \$50.00. Future failures to report a job start will result in the amount of the fine being levied left to the discretion of the President. **PLEASE** call in all job starts so we can avoid fining members.

PER CAPITA: Please be reminded that 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 payments **monthly** to Local 25, 21353 Bridge Street, Southfield, MI 48033.

M.U.S.T. SAFETY MODULES: If you have modules expiring, contact the Union Hall to have the testing authorization activated. Please keep in mind, any modules completed outside the quarter requested in, will be paid the following quarter.

EMPLOYMENT CHANGES: All employment changes including hire, lay off, fire, shop change, disability, etc. must be called into the Union Hall within forty-eight hours. This includes employment changes for members, retirees, and travelers. 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 \$50.00 fine.

BENESYS: When calling the Fund Office, Benesys, please be sure to get the name of the representative providing you with information.

“When in doubt, tell the truth.”
– Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)

Heat and Frost Insulators Local 47

Heat and Frost Insulators Local 47

LANSING – The next Regular Meeting will be held on Friday, Sept. 11, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.

PATRICK WELCH

The meeting will be held at Local 47’s Union Hall located at 16475 Ingersoll Rd., Lansing, MI 48906.

Please make sure to call or text all starts and layoffs to the Union Office. Be sure to leave your name, the contractor name, and the start or layoff date.

To ensure all Active Members and Retirees continue receiving Robo Calls, please make sure you have not blocked the following number: (804) 441-8365. Several members currently have this number blocked and therefore are not receiving important notifications. These calls are only used for important notifications from the Local Union Business Manager and funeral notifications. If you are not receiving these calls, please contact the Union Office so we can verify your phone number and ensure the number has not been blocked.

Please notify the Local Union Office of any phone number or home address changes. We need current member information updated throughout our system, TIC records, and with the International.

If you are a Non-Active Retiree or a Surviving Spouse and would like to continue receiving the Building Tradesman, please contact the Union Office.

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

Members must notify the office before ANY overtime is worked.

ATTENTION RETIREES: Effective Immediately, the 79 hour rule has been waived until further notice.

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

Allied Workers’ Local 47 Fringe Benefit Funds, 6525 Centurion Drive, Lansing, MI 48917 Toll Free: (800) 323-8079 Phone Number: (517) 321-7502 Email: joshkroell@insulators47.com

Joshua Kroell is available by phone to answer questions regarding Pension, Welfare, Vacation Funds, and Special Benefits.

To all Active Members: if you have not submitted your Coordination of Benefits Form, Spousal Form, or Birth Certificates for your children to TIC, no one will be covered under our insurance plan until these items are received. Please contact TIC immediately at (800) 323-8079 and submit the required documentation as soon as possible. Coverage will be reinstated retroactively once the information has been received.

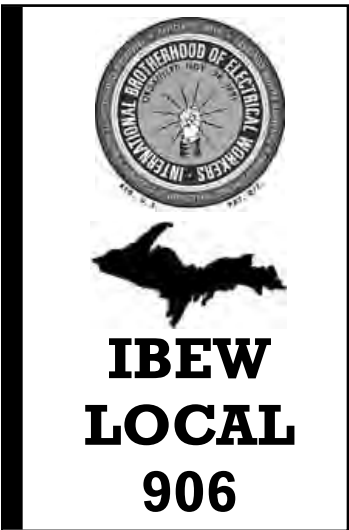
Auto and motorcycle accidents are not covered under our plan. These claims should be covered through your personal automobile insurance policy.

Members with questions regarding Pension and Welfare Funds may contact TIC International at the numbers listed above or visit <http://www.heatfrostlocal47benefits.org>. Please also remember to complete and return all Working Spousal Forms to TIC.

JATC Coordinator Mitchell Carpenter (616) 375-0538.

Applications are now open for the Apprenticeship Program. Please call the Union Office or visit insulators47.com to complete an application.

Under Duties of Apprenticeship, Section 5.3 Part L, Page 4 of the Apprenticeship Standards states: “According to the Apprenticeship Standards you are required to accurately fill out the online work report no later than 10 days from the end of the current work week.”



IBEW Local 906
UPPER PENINSULA – MEETINGS. There will be no unit meetings for the month of September, 2026. There will be a general membership meeting held on Sept. 12, 2026 at 1219 1st Ave S, Escanaba, MI 49829 at 1 pm EST.

Work Outlook- Work is busy. Upcoming projects include, VA Hospital in Marquette, Brimley solar, LP Sagola Outage, Billerud Escanaba Outage, and Republic Solar.

We currently have a 2 man call for Michels Power in Naubinway, a 1-man foreman call for MJ Electric, a 6 man call for Pieper Electric in Sagola, a 2 man call for Pieper in Ironwood and a 2 man call for Code Electric. Please call the hall 906-226-7497 if you're interested in any of these calls.

IBEW Local 906 accepts book 2 signing via email. Please email cflouryibew906@gmail.com for all book 2 signings.

Union Hall Hours of Operation- Normal Business Hours are Monday-Friday 8am-4:30pm.

Upcoming Events-

Escanaba Labor Day. Join us for the 6th Annual Labor Day Celebration hosted by the Delta Co. Trades & Labor Council!, Monday, Sept. 7. Municipal Dock, Escanaba. Parade starts at noon. Parade lineup at The Karas Bandshell at Ludington Park at 11 AM

Marquette Labor Day. Join us for the annual Labor Picnic & Parade hosted by the Marquette Alger Community Labor Council, AFL-CIO & U.P. Regional Labor Federation! Monday, Sept. 7, Jackson Park, Negaunee. Parade starts at 11:00 AM. Walking in the parade? Line-up is at 10:15 AM!

Merchandise- To all members interested, we have merchandise at the hall. It can be picked up or coordinated to be brought to a union meeting. Payment can be done in person, over the phone, or on the website/app under the Merchandise order form page. All products are available for viewing on the website/app. We have new challenge coins and pins, please be sure to take a look!

Retiree Events- There is a retiree lunch the third Thursday of every month at the Vierling Restaurant in Marquette at 11 am EST.

There is a retiree breakfast the 1st Saturday of every month at Hardrees in Iron Mountain, 8 am CST.

There is a retiree breakfast the fourth Thursday of every month at Burger King in Houghton at 10 am EST.

We have a new website and mobile app. Please reference those new tools for any new announcements and updates within the local. The website can be found at ibew906.org and the app can be found under IBEW 906. Dues payments can also be made through the app and website. If you are in arrears, you will not be able to pay on the app or website. If you have questions or are having trouble with the app please call the hall.

RENEW- There is a RENEW (Reach out and Engage Next Generation Electrical Workers) zoom meeting held the first Thursday of every month at 8 pm est. To get the zoom link please reference the calendar section of the app or website.

Union Dues- A friendly reminder that dues are \$49.00 per month. Please keep this in mind if you are mailing a check for dues payment. There will be no Dues increase for 2026. If you are paying for the whole year at one time you receive a free tee shirt.

Fringe Benefits- Make sure your beneficiaries are updated, especially if you've recently been married, divorced, had children etc. Forms can be obtained at the union hall.

New Journeyman- Congratulations to brother Gabe Ochs.

Retirements- None

Members who have passed away- Our heartfelt condolences to the families and friends our of fallen Brothers and Sisters.

Brother **Timothy Ovist**, Pension member, 35- Year Member

Labor History- IBEW Local 906 is looking for labor history in the Upper Peninsula for our union. If you have any information that you'd like to submit or meet up for an interview please call the hall.



IBEW Local 131
KALAMAZOO - Saturday, Sept. 12: Local 131 Anniversary Party @ Gun Lake Casino. The registration deadline has closed. There are still some extra seats available, please call if you are interested. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

FREE TIGERS TICKETS – Saturday, Sept. 26 is the Tigers annual Union Day game! Tickets are now free to all members and their guests! That includes access the Blue Moon Bases Loaded bar for pregame activities and charter bus transportation. The bus will leave at 8:30AM. Opening pitch @ 1:15PM. Call the hall (269) 382-1762 to reserve your spot.

FREE WMU Broncos Football Season Tickets – Local 131 has once again partnered with WMU athletics, which includes 50 season tickets to see the Broncos @ Waldo Stadium all season long! Any member can go to every game if they choose (so long as tickets are available). Please call the hall or text Jon Current @ 269-716-7577 to reserve your tickets!

Media and Anniversary Photos: If you are able to take photos or videos at work, please send them our way! We are in need of media for our Downtown Media campaign and our 110-year anniversary. You can upload your videos and photos to our google drive folder.

IBEW Local 131 App and Website Launch: Local 131 has launched its new app, which can be found on Apple Store and Google Play Store by searching “IBEW 131.”

Ulliance is Local 131's Member Assistance Program that offers mental health counseling, financial planning, legal assistance, divorce support, substance use support, parental counseling, elder care advice, and much more. If you or a friend could benefit from support, please call 1-800-448-8326 to speak with a professionally trained advisor and counselor today.

The next **Renew & EWMC** meeting will be held on Tuesday September 5PM @ the hall

Veteran's Committee Meeting: Sept. 3, 2026

Executive Board: Sept. 21, 2026, 5PM @ the Hall

RENEW Committee: Sept. 22, 5PM @ the Hall

Brotherhood Night is on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the Month @ CJ's beginning at 3:30. 1027 Schuster Ave, Kalamazoo. Keep an eye out for location changes on the Local's FB page.

Hall Hours: Monday thru Friday 8AM to 4:30PM – Lunch hour between 12:30 and 1:30

Upcoming Events:

Tuesday Aug. 25: Retirement Seminar for members 50 and over with retirement questions, call the hall if you would like to register

Saturday Sept. 12: 110th Anniversary Dinner and Party @ Gun Lake Casino 5PM to 11PM

Saturday Sept. 26: Tigers Union Day game, bus leaves from the hall @ 8:30AM

Saturday, Oct. 10: Member Orientation Breakfast 8-10 AM.

Work Outlook: Palisades continues to chug along as more “emerging work” pops up every time a new system is activated. The immediate work picture is slowing outside of Palisades as we have several apprentices on the books waiting for assignment.

Retiree's lunches at the following locations:

The 3rd Wednesday of the month Lunches. All are welcome.

Aug. 19, Old Mill Brewpub and Grill 717 E. Bridge St. Plainwell.

Sept. 16, Julianna's Restaurant, 205 Lake St., Kalamazoo.

Oct. 21, Berries Famous Pancake House, 5585 Gull Road, Kalamazoo, MI. 49048

On the last Friday of each month, retirees and others meet at Jac's Cekola's Pizza, 3112 South Ninth St., Kalamazoo, @11:30.

Every Tuesday, Retirees can meet at The Crew, 5200 Portage Road, Portage, MI @10 a.m.

Death of Members: None to report

Delinquent Members: Jeffrey DeHaan, Ruben Dunbar, Casey Hilliker, Nicholas Morrison, Gabriel Powell, Herbert Sykes, Cory Werner-Hoskins –Jonathan Current, Business Manager, IBEW Local 131



IBEW 445 PICNIC: Thank you to all that attended the IBEW 445 Family Picnic! It was a great day of fellowship with our Brothers, Sisters and their families. Congratulation to our Service Award recipients: Daniel Bumford- 65 Years, Gary Riegel- 50 Years, Matthew Rice- 10 Years, Brandon Hillman- 10 Years, Deral Murrie- 50 Years, Justin Stasa- 5 Years, and Daniel Case- 30 Years.

IBEW LOCAL 692
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS BAY CITY MICHIGAN

IBEW 692
BAY CITY – Union Meeting. Due to the Labor Day Holiday, the next monthly membership meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, September 14th, 2026.**

Executive Board Meeting. The next Executive Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, September 21st, 2026.**

Message from the Business Manager. I have been having conversations with Training Director Casey Stoike and his team circling around the opportunity of offering classes to our membership who have surpassed the apprenticeship school in their career. The upcoming opportunities approaching for continuing education in the electrical industry are Arc Flash Training and also a class on Medium Voltage Terminations.

The first class revolves around Arc Flash Safety. The Arc Flash course will teach proper personal protective equipment, safety boundaries, and various other safety related topics revolving around Arc Flash potential. Please Contact Training Director Stoike at (989) 686-4890. A date for this class will be determined once we have the number of members interested.

A medium voltage cable terminating class will also be held in the near future. If you are interested in signing up, please contact Training Director Casey Stoike at (989) 686-4890. A certificate of completion will be offered upon completion of course. A class date will be determined once the class has been filled.

Work Report.

The work report in our jurisdiction remains solid. We have had open calls recently in Zones 1 & 2.

AZCO continues work at Consumers Energy's Karn Solar site in Essexville. Although weather has been an issue, more calls are still expected.

Bay Valley Electric is finishing work at a nice dorm project at Alpena Community College.

Clements Electric's work at the Mersen in Bay City and Midland's Center for the Arts and Dow continues, as work at the Bay County Health Department is wrapping up. Work on a mixed-use development in Downtown Bay City, Water Street Lofts, has started. Bay City Animal Control and Bay County Road Commission projects have been secured with work to start soon. Clements was also awarded a nice project out to Michigan Sugar, in addition to a handful of other local projects.

Conti Electric has ongoing work at the Karn Generation Facility and Consumers Energy's dams along the Au Sable. Phase 3 of Little Trout Solar in Hawks is wrapping up late summer.

Countyline Power continues work at Midland Waste Water, has upcoming work on the Tittabawassee dams, and secured a high voltage termination project at Michigan Sugar.

Escon Group has some work in Midland's I-Park and McLaren's Bay City West campus and Bangor Schools.

John's Electric continues work at Clear Lake and Hoefft State Parks.

J. Ranck Electric will be adding a battery storage facility on the Mission Road Solar project in Rosebush late this summer. J. Ranck has begun pole testing at solar sites in West Branch and Cheboygan to fully mobilize in 2027.

Master Electric continues work at Clare County Road Commission and has also picked up a couple nice projects out to CMU.

Nelson Electric is wrapping up projects at Bay City Powertrain and continues access control and security work at the Amazon warehouse in Clare.

Northern Power has secured summer work at Alpena Schools.

Northern Valley continues work at the AMRIZE Cement Plant and has started Alpena's Meijer remodel. Work at Alpena Community College's solar field is also ongoing. Their residential and generator divisions continue to secure a fair amount of work.

S&G and Hardies Electric are keeping their crews busy on various projects.

Swan Electric has secured a decent upcoming project at TCE Charlton in Johannesburg.

Teds Electric continues work at Clare Schools.

Van Ert Electric continues work on their solar project in Gladwin, calls for this project will again pick up soon.

Consumers Energy has recently announced plans for future work in our jurisdiction. Essexville's Karn site plans to add a new battery storage facility (Rauhorn Electric) and two new gas-fired turbines to replace units 3 & 4. Three large solar sites will start civil and dirt work this summer and require substantial manpower in 2027. Those sites are in Prescott, Spruce, and Harrisville.

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
Organizers' Report. Job calls are now posted on our website, www.ibew692.net. The out-of-work list has been updated with additional information such as ding detail, a job log, and a list of recently rolled members. Please note initial sign of the out-of-work list should be in person at the hall. Re-signs after rolling can be done by emailing, texting, or calling Business Manager Ryan Charney.

Solar calls may become a great onboarding opportunity for unrepresented licensed electricians. If you know anybody currently working non-union who may be interested working those jobs, please have them reach out to organizers. The latest solar call has been filled with Book 2, 3, and 4 applicants.

Apprentices will be receiving COMET and PAL training courses over the next two months. COMET stands for Construction Organizing Membership Education Training, while PAL stands for Politics, Activism, and Livelihood. Any members or retirees interested in sitting in for either course should contact Deon or Kevin.

-Brendon "Deon" Baranek 989.327.4131 • Kevin Klapish 989.252.9225

Union Dues. There is no dues rate increase for the 2026 calendar year. Monthly dues will remain at \$49.20.

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

Retirees Lunch. The September retiree lunch is scheduled for 1:00 P.M. on Thursday, Sept. 17 at Brinstar Arcade Bar & Grill located at 415 E. Main Street in Midland.

Local 692 Retirement Party. Invitations for this year's party have been mailed out. The event is being held on Friday, October 2nd, 2026 at the Doubletree in Bay City. Please mark your calendars and make every effort to attend

this great event to honor our retirees! **RSVP deadline is Friday, September 11th.**

American Income Life Accidental Death Benefit. The first mailing has gone out recently regarding the \$3,000 Accidental Death & Dismemberment benefit available through a partnership with the IBEW and American Income Life. All active and retired members are eligible for this benefit.

The letter states that you need to return the enclosed yellow card in order to qualify and name your beneficiary. Please note you are **NOT REQUIRED to return this card** in order to name your beneficiary; the beneficiaries you have on file at the hall are sufficient. The \$3,000 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 postage paid envelope provided. If you have any questions, please contact the hall at 989-684-4510.

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

"I am an old man, but in many senses a very young man. And this is what I want you to be, young, young all your life."
–Pablo Casals (1876 - 1973)

"Perpetual devotion to what a man calls his business, is only to be sustained by perpetual neglect of many other things."
–Robert Louis Stevenson (1850 - 1894)

"A life spent making mistakes is not only more honorable, but more useful than a life spent doing nothing."
– George Bernard Shaw (1856 - 1950)

"The only time people dislike gossip is when you gossip about them."
– Will Rogers (1879 - 1935)

"Roam abroad in the world, and take thy fill of its enjoyments before the day shall come when thou must quit it for good."
–Saadi (1184 - 1291)

"It is a sign of a creeping inner death when we no longer can praise the living."
– Eric Hoffer (1902 - 1983)

"Those that think it permissible to tell white lies soon grow color blind."
–Austin O'Malley

"A gift, with a kind countenance, is a double present."
–Thomas Fuller (1608 - 1661)



IBEW Local 445
BATTLE CREEK – Pension Benefits Workshop **Correction on the Date** The Benefits Workshop will be on Nov. 12, 2026 at 5pm. Please RSVP for this event.

First Aid/CPR JIW training The First Aid/CPR will be on September 14, 2026, after the Union Meeting.

Paying dues late If you pay your Monthly/Quarterly Union Dues late, you will be charged a \$10 assessment for each month late. If you do not pay for the Late Fee Assessment, it will be added to your account as a delinquent amount due. If you are unsure if you have an amount due on your account, please call Wanda at the Hall to verify your status.

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.

2026 dues structure The Delegates of the 40th IBEW International Convention, which was conducted in Chicago, Illinois, during the week of May 9-13, 2022, approved several amendments to Article IX of the IBEW Constitution.

As of **January 1, 2026**, the following due's structure:
JIW's: 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 on 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.

2026 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 on the fourth Monday of each month starting at 4:30 p.m. **Respectfully Submitted, Wanda Secrest Recording Secretary**

"Toil to make yourself remarkable by some talent or other:"
–Seneca (5 BC - 65 AD)

"Returning violence for violence multiplies violence, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars... Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that."
–Martin Luther King Jr. (1929 - 1968)

930 W Ann Arbor Trail
Plymouth, MI 48170
Cell: (734) 664-9090
Office: (734) 459-6222
Email: [louwasik@remerica.com](mailto:louwasi@remerica.com)
Website: hometownmoves.com

Lou Wasik
Realtor

Longtime member of Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25



IBEW LOCAL 58



IBEW Local 58

DETROIT – The next General Membership meeting: will be held on Tuesday, September 15, 2026. Dinner with the brotherhood begins at 5:30 pm and the meeting starts at 6:30 pm.

UPDATE – Sub Pay is NOT available at this time. **If you have any questions, please contact the Local 58 Union Hall 313-963-2130.** If you have any questions regarding the Port Huron office, please contact Business Agent Paul Ledsworth at 313-802-4970.

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

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

Local 58 Dues Department – Please look at your dues receipt, if the paid-through date shows 12-31-2025, you have lapsed membership and need to call the hall to set up an appointment with the Executive Board to be reinstated. If your dues receipt has a paid-through date of 03-31-2026, you owe the \$30.00 reinstatement fee, plus dues and will lapse at the end of the 3rd quarter if your dues are not paid.

Statements for the 4th quarter will be going out this week. You can pay on the APP/Website, send a check, or call and pay over the phone. We ask that you keep the Local up to date with your address, email, and phone number. Thank you.

IBEW Local 58 Retirees Association: Our next board meeting is Wednesday, September 9, 2026 at a.m. at the local union hall.

Bus Trip travelers, if you still need travel insurance for the September Trip, here is the contact information, on-line www. TravelConfident.com or call 1-(855)376-2037.

Our September Luncheon venue continues to be closed from a fire earlier this year, so we will be at the Gazebo Banquet Center on Wednesday, September 23, 2026. The cost is \$25 per person (payable to the Retirees Association), mail your reservations and checks to IBEW #58, Attn. Retirees Association, P.O. Box 32756, Detroit, 48232-0756. Questions, call Elaine Crawford at 313 408-5885.

Electrical Workers’ Joint Boards of Trustees (Fringe Benefits Office) – Any questions regarding Local 58 Pension, Annuity, Health insurance or Life insurance should be directed to the IBEW Local 58 Benefits Office at 586-575-9200. They also distribute the 1099R tax form for the Local 58 Pension.

Retirement: The NEBF pension applications are no longer available at the Local 58 union hall. They are available either by contacting NEBF directly at 301-556-4300 or through your online account at NEBF.com. Standard processing time for NEBF pension applications has been 90 days. Please allow at least 3 months prior to your retirement date to submit your application to NEBF directly for processing. The IBEW PBF (International Pension Benefit Fund) applications can still be obtained at the Local 58 union hall. For questions regarding the NEBF or IBEW PBF pensions, please call Rebecca at 313-963-2130 ext. 3013. Questions regarding the Local 58 Pension or Annuity should be directed to the Local 58 Benefits Office at 586-575-9200.

Detroit Electrical Industry Training Center - Know anyone interested in learning the Electrical Trade? Please inquire with the Training Center at www.detroitetc.org for information on Apprenticeship and training opportunities.

Detroit Electrical Workers Benevolent Fund (DEWBF): Next meeting will be Tuesday October 6, 2026 at 5:30 pm.

Anyone looking for appliances or electronics, please contact Ryan Heinrich at ABC Warehouse 734-981-7780. Ryan has helped out the Benevolent Fund with many purchases and is always willing to help out anyone in the Building Trades.

Members of the Community Service Committee: The next committee meeting will be Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 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, September 8, 2026, 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, September 21, 2026 at 6pm. This will be an in-person meeting with a ZOOM option. Please make sure your cell phone number and your email address are up to date. The meeting information will be sent out as soon as available. 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.

Thank you to all who came out to Developing K.I.D.S. for their Summer Jam. A good time was had by all. Mark your calendars for their Fall Registration & Resource Fair on Monday, September 14, 2026 from 4:00pm to 6:30pm. We appreciate being able to give back to the community and will continue to support efforts that make a difference in the lives of the children and families that we engage with.

Save the date - Friday, November 13, 2026 - for our “Tux & Chucks Casino Night Party”. Flyers will be available soon. More information to come.

The Safety Committee meeting will be on Monday, September 14, 2026, at 5:30 PM.

The Veterans Committee - The IBEW Veterans Committee serves all those who have served, building community and strengthening veteran voices within the IBEW and throughout the entire electrical industry. We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 5:30pm at the hall with an option to attend via Zoom. At our next meeting we plan on reviewing the Veterans Committee field manual that has been put together by the I/O.

In recognition of service to country and union, all IBEW members who have served in the military can claim their free challenge coin by visiting the website: <https://ibew.org/about-ibew/affinity-groups/veterans-committees/>

Local 58’s Women’s Committee – The next meeting will be Thursday, Sept. 24, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. If you have questions, please contact Committee Chair Angela Milam (586-291-8014) Email at 58womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org.

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

The RENEW Committee: The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 22, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. at the Hall and on Zoom.

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.

Electrical Workers Credit Union is offering **New Auto loans** starting at **3.99%** and **Used Auto loans** starting at **4.99%** Give the Credit Union a call to see if you qualify! 313-963-6060. Credit Union hours are Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm; Closed Friday between 11:30 am – 12:30 pm for lunch). You may now apply for membership online. Go to ewcu.net.

Dormant accounts! Please call the credit union to see the options to make your account active.

Be sure to keep the Union Hall updated with **any** changes to your phone number, address, email and beneficiaries. If your marital status has changed, please be sure to **update any beneficiary forms** for the Local 58 Pension and the IBEW.

Local 58 Senior Softball: Looking for seniors 55+ years old to join and have some fun. Beginning in May 2026 on Monday and Wednesday mornings. For more info please contact: Dennis Schwiager 586-725-0452 or Jim Miles 586-933-3551.

Local 58 Senior Golf: Looking for seniors 55+ years old to grab your clubs and join us for multiple dates of golfing and fun. Golfing starts at 9:00 am for each date.

September 17, 2026 Bee Tee Golf Course 22871 21 Mile Rd Macomb, MI 48044

October 8, 2026 Sanctuary Lake Golf Course 1450 E. South Blvd Troy, MI 48084

Please contact Jeff Gregory via phone call or text @ 248-240-7449. Thank you!

Wiremen’s Golf Association (WGA) Members: We had around 30 members make the trip down to Akron, Ohio the week of Aug. 17 representing local 58 at the Wiremen’s Golf Association Tournament this year. As representatives of Local 58 we had a very successful tournament this year. We were able to secure the 4-man team low gross trophies, the age 50-59 individual low gross trophy, the age 60-69 individual low gross trophy, and the age 80-89 individual low net trophy this year.

Along with these trophies that were won representing Local 58 we had one of our members, Joe Hernandez, make an extremely memorable swing on the sixth hole at Brookledge producing a hole-in-one while playing in the tournament this year. Congrats Again Joe!!!

It was, as always, an eventful, successful, and fun tournament for all of us from Detroit and the roughly 360 players in total that attended the tournament from across the Midwest. Just wanted to put out a little recap detailing our play in the event and say thank you to all the brothers and sisters within Local 58 for their support to the Wiremen’s Golf Association players representing Detroit every year at this tournament. It is very much appreciated. Thank You!

IBEW Pension: Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: Kevin Brown, John Drouillard, Craig Gale, Steven Huck, Mark Juresich, David Loy, Thomas Minchew III, Keith Pearson, John Rickard, David Schaller, Alan Spencer, James Sterling and Michael Wright. We wish you all the best as you begin your new journey. Thank you for your years of service with the IBEW.

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. **James Biding**, Pension member, 59 year IBEW membership; **Donna Davis**, Wife to the late Pension member Joe Davis; Mother to the late Pension member Randall Davis and Ronald Davis, JIW; Daughter-in-Law to the Late Pension member Moore Davis; **Sharron Markey**, Widow to the late Pension member Richard Terrence “Terry” Markey; and **Dru Toczylowski**, Pension member, 38 year IBEW membership; Son to the late Pension member Joseph Toczylowski; Brother to Mark Toczylowski, Pension member, 38 year IBEW membership; Brother-in-Law to Greg Burns, Pension member, 38 year IBEW membership.



IBEW 275

COOPERSVILLE – Work Outlook: Work in the Local has hit a small stall with a large layoff at one solar site. Swan Electric is starting a job for a new gas compressor and will start calls in September and is calling for 60 people. Please make sure to call the recorder for jobs.

Healthcare coverage: At the April 2026 allocation meeting the body voted to add vision coverage as an additional benefit. Benefits will be in effect as of Aug. 1 and we are being told by the administrators that there will not be an additional card but would be the same information as your Delta dental cards. They also have an app that we will work on distributing. Some members have reached out about their special fund cards expiring. Please keep an eye on your mail for new cards coming, your current card will remain working until the end of the month.

Building Corp: Thank you to all who came to the open house to see the potential new building in Walker. We will continue to update the Local on the progress as we move forward.

Labor Day: Please join Local 275 in the Muskegon Labor Day parade. The parade will be on Monday, Sept. 7, with the parade starting at 11 sharp. Please keep an eye on all our media platforms as to where we will be in the parade (assignments haven’t been given out as of this writing) for lineup. We once again will be doing Tie Dye shirts for all those that participate in walking with us. As a reminder, you must walk or ride with Local 275 to get the Tie dye. As a reminder, the hall will be closed in observance of Labor Day.

Volunteer Info: Please keep an eye out for future events.

West Michigan EWMC: Meetings will be held monthly on the 4th Tuesday of every month, 6pm via ZOOM. The ZOOM link will be available on Local 275 Members Only Facebook group as well as on the Local 275 Mobile app. Please join the EWMC on Oct. 11 at Millennium Park in Grand Rapids as we walk to raise awareness for suicide prevention. Check in starts at 11, and the walk starts at 1pm. All are welcome!

RENEW: Renew continues to meet monthly and discuss future events. If you are interested in joining, reach out to Mark for the next date.

Training: Apprentices- Please check in Tradeschool for any updates.

The JATC is now offering master’s Exam Prep courses. Please reach out to the JATC for more information. wmjatec@gmail.com

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

General Info: If you are working on a project in our jurisdiction and are told that you were selected for a random, DO NOT take it, call the Hall first. Randoms are part of the MUST program that was agreed to by NECA and the IBEW in our contract. We’ve been seeing our contractors who are subs being told by the G.C. that one of our members were selected for a random through their program. We are not signatory to B&V, Barton-Malow or any other G.C., therefore we are NOT subject to their drug testing.

We’ve had a few instances of inappropriate comments on the job site. Be aware that the IBEW Constitution that we’ve all sworn an oath to uphold states, in part; *“This Brotherhood will continue to oppose communism, Nazism, racism, sexism, fascism or any other subversive “ism”.*” We have adopted a Zero Tolerance approach to these behaviors and NO ONE - black, white, brown, gay, straight, male or female should have to endure that treatment from anybody. If you are the victim of this behavior, let your Business Manager, Jonas Talbott know and it will be dealt with.

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

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 (Continued next column)



IBEW LOCAL 252

IBEW Local 252

ANN ARBOR – ESTA MESSAGE FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER: Associated General Contractors (AGC) of America have filed a new federal lawsuit regarding ESTA. We continue to get favorable decisions from Michigan Wage and Hour Division, but those decisions are currently on hold due to the new lawsuit. If you are requesting ESTA payment from your employer, we are asking you to email those requests to your employer. If denied ESTA pay, please file a complaint to the State of Michigan Wage and Hour Division at <http://www.michigan.gov/wageclaim>. The act references substantial fines and penalties for failure to comply, but you must file your complaint with the State.

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 2026: ALL CLASSES START AT 5 PM

1. First Aid/ CPR- Sept 1, Sept 8, Dec 1, Dec 8
2. Fire Alarm- Every Wednesday except Union meeting night, starting Sept 2 and ending Oct 21
3. NICET PREP- Every Wednesday except Union meeting night, starting Oct 28 and ending Dec 23 (book purchase required, call the training center for more information)

Additional classes will be added as they become available. For interest in a class not listed, call the training center. 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 p.m.

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.

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 on 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.

DUES PAYMENTS ONLINE: We can now accept payments for union dues online. Visit our website www.ibew252.org and click on “Pay Dues”. Follow the instructions to create your account through the payment portal. Your dues receipt will be mailed to you.

RETIREE’S NIGHT: The regular membership meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 9 2026 starts at 6 p.m. sharp. The purpose of this meeting is to honor our retired members who have worked so hard to make our Local what it is today. Please make every effort to attend. Dinner and refreshments will be served.

Members receiving their 50-year pins are: Robert A. Jacobs and Keith A. King. Members receiving their 55-year pins are: Frank E. Dufek, Edward C. Ernst, Paul N. Everett, John W. Iverson, Richard R. Kett, Thomas F. Ruthven, Odie J. Smith, Gregory A. Stephens, Jim I. Tobias, and Frank B. White. Members receiving their 60-year pins are: William E. Fox, Douglas A. Hartman, Gary A. Hedding, Larry R. Lochey, John R. Melling, Gary C. Peck, Gerald R. Pitts, and Ira H. Shubel. Richard G Wilbur is receiving his 70-year pin.

DETROIT TIGER’S UNION DAY: The Union Day Tiger’s game will be on Sept. 26 against the Pittsburgh Pirates. Tickets are \$30 and include entry to the game, bus transportation, and \$10 fun money to spend at the park. The bus will depart from the union hall at 10:30 a.m. Tickets first come, first serve, and will not be held until they are paid for. Call or stop by the union hall to sign up.

VETERANS’ COMMITTEE: We are looking for veterans to join our veterans’ committee. The meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 5:00 p.m. at the Union Hall. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact John Gilbert at (517) 920-1422.

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.

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.

DUES PAYMENTS – Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 6/2026, 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 \$143.25 by cash or check, or \$147.55 by credit card per quarter for 2026. Dues for “BA” members are \$73.80 by cash or check, or \$76.01 by credit card per quarter for 2026. Please mail your check to 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Your third quarter dues (July through September) are due now. **Payments for third quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2026.**

IMPORTANT DATES:
September 9, 2026: Retiree’s Night
September 30, 2026: 11:30 a.m. Deadline for 3rd Quarter Dues
October 24, 2026: Trunk or Treat
December 12, 2026: Holiday Party

IBEW Local 275, continued

double check that you aren’t using that number.

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

Monthly dues are still \$50.90 per month, and as of this writing we have not heard of an increase. If you pay for 1 years dues at once, there is a challenge coin that can be picked up at the hall.

Delinquent Members: At the time of this writing the following members are three months or more behind on dues: Jamie Butcher, Tim Davis, Dan Foster, Kevin Koon, and Demitri Vorgias. Please make every effort to get caught up.





IBEW LOCAL 557

IBEW 557
SAGINAW – NEXT UNION MEETING – The next Local 557 Union Meeting will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 6 at 5:30pm.
LOCAL557 GOLF NIGHT – Tee times are now moved up to 5 pm every Thursday at Twin Oaks. Earlier tee times will continue until the end of the golf season.
2026 MID TERM ELECTIONS – As you may have heard before, this year’s election is the most important of our lifetime. We have an opportunity to put in place Labor-Friendly candidates. The IBEW and the AFL-CIO do an excellent job recommending candidates that should do the best for working families. If you are interested in helping the cause, many door-knocking and phone banking opportunities are available and all the help we can get is greatly appreciated. Please either reach out to Gus or someone at the Hall for further details.
RENEW COMMITTEE MEETINGS – These meetings occur immediately following each Monthly Union Meeting.
JOBSITE SAFETY - Job-site safety is and should always be #1 on all IBEW jobs. No deadline or profit should be placed ahead of the simple fact that members need to go to work and return home in the same safe state in which they were prior to their day of work. All members should be as diligent as possible when it comes to making sure work is completed in a safe manner.
LOCAL 557 ORGANIZING – Organizing is the lifeblood of any Local Union. Rex and Gus are doing great work for Local 557 on the organizing front. Organizing is a tough task. 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.
UNION HALL OPERATIONS – Normal Business Hours are Monday-Friday 7am to 12pm,

CLOSED for lunch, and re-open again from 1pm to 4:30pm. The next CBA recognized holiday is Labor Day, which falls on Monday, September 7th.
BOOK SIGNING – If you are a Local 557 member and receive a lay-off while working on a 557 Book 1 referral or apprentice training assignment, you must come to the hall and register on Book 1 or the apprentice out of work list 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 rence@ibew557.org
WORK OUTLOOK- Local contractors continue to work on various projects at schools, hospitals, auto plants, wastewater plants, and other various jobs. The Saginaw Township schools re-light project should kick off after Labor Day. Calls have begun for Battery Energy Storage System (B.E.S.S.) projects in multiple locations within the Local’s jurisdiction. Locations include Alma, Merrill and Fairgrove. All are expected to hire moving forward. We will need our members to take these calls as well as calls at the Solar Field in the Freemont Township area.
New contractor W.S.G. has the Freemont Solar job and are currently waiting for permitting to go through before beginning the work. The Ingersol Township Solar Farm has been delayed with no clear resolution in sight. Local 557 is expecting a great deal of calls to be coming in shortly that may prove to be challenging to fill. It is very important to fill these calls to protect our market share and contract conditions.
HEALTH CARE – Don’t forget to schedule your annual physical with your doctor. By completing your annual physical, you could catch a health concern early and help keep the cost of health care down. Registering

on the Blue Cross/Blue Shield website is highly recommended. Please take the time to visit www.bcbsm.com. Upon registering you can take the Free Health Assessment test and find instant results that can lead to living a healthy lifestyle.
BLUE CROSS APP – Download the Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan app for your smartphone. Search for “BCBSM” on the Google Play app or Apple store. Benefits to utilizing the app include the following: instant access to EOBs, a virtual ID card on your phone, information on deductibles, explanations of coverage and other helpful tips related to your Health Care coverage. EOBs can be downloaded to smart phones or computers and used to substantiate WEX receipt request.
WEX APP – To download the WEX app on your smartphone, search for “MI IBEW Special Fund” in the Google or Apple store. The app allows you to monitor your special fund balance and other great features.
JOB CALLS – Please stay vigilant checking the Job Line if you are seeking work. All work calls for the day will be available on the Job Line after 4:30 pm.
IF YOU ARE SEEKING WORK don’t forget to CALL 989-781-0516, option 3. You can also view job calls for the day through the Local 557 website and the accompanying smartphone app as well. Local 557 utilizes a bid system for job calls. If you see a call you would like, please place a bid on the telephone system and call backs will occur the next business day to fill the calls until they are gone.
STAY CURRENT ON DUES –Paying dues can now happen through the Local’s new website & app.
CONTACT NUMBERS- Michigan Electrical Employee Pension fund and Michigan Health Plan (855) 633-4584. Website is: www.michiganelectrical.org
In Solidarity,
Evan Allardye,
Business Manager



IBEW Local 948
FLINT – Meetings.
Membership Meeting - Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will be September 14th, 2026 at 6:00 PM.
Retiree Meetings - Retirees next meeting will be October 6th, 2026 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. For further details on job information please ensure the hall has your email address for our job calls and re-signs.
Dues Reminder - Members, please ensure your dues are paid in full. For any questions, concerns, or payments please see Jenny Wallace or call the main office at (810) 767-3308.
Seeking New Membership - As always, we are actively seeking to organize new membership. For any questions, concerns, or interest please contact Organizer Eric Crites.
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.
Retirees - Congratulations to Robert Bishop and Rolland Eastwood 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 Keith McKenzie & Floyd Dodge. We are tremendously sorry for your losses and will continue to keep our Brother in our hearts.
“He who undervalues himself is justly undervalued by others.”
–William Hazlitt (1778 - 1830)



Local 149
Roofers & Waterproofers

Roofers 149
DETROIT – Attention. This paper is to serve as an official notice to the membership.
General Membership Meeting. The general membership meeting is scheduled for Tues, Oct. 6, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216
Executive Board Meeting. The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., Oct. 6, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216
Mid-Michigan. The Mid-Michigan meeting is scheduled for Tues., Oct. 13, 2026, at 6 pm. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420.
2026 special election. The results of Special Election will be in the next publication.
Detroit Training Center Information. Journeyworkers upgrade classes to improve your skills, your worth, and our Brotherhood/Sisterhood is available at no cost to all Detroit LU 149 members.
Dues must be current in order to enter the Training Center.
If you are interested in any of these classes, contact Thomas Jaranowski at the Training Center, 248-206-7620, or TJaranowski@DetroitRoofers.org to make arrangements.
Mid-Michigan Training Center Information. Journeyworkers upgrade classes to improve your skills, your worth, and our Brotherhood/Sisterhood is available at no cost to all Mid-Michigan LU 149 members.
Dues must be current in order to enter the Training Center.
If you are interested in any of these classes, contact the Union Hall/Training Center, 810-687-1368 to make arrangements.
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 we will contact the Local in that area to avoid fines against you.
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.
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 date of this publication above is 8/31/2026, 2:00pm
In Solidarity, Brian Gregg Business Manager, Roofers & Waterproofers Local No.149
“If we all did the things we are capable of doing, we would literally astound ourselves.”
–Thomas A. Edison (1847 - 1931)
“I cannot pretend to feel impartial about colours. I rejoice with the brilliant ones and am genuinely sorry for the poor browns.”
–Sir Winston Churchill (1874 - 1965)
“Do thou restrain the haughty spirit in thy breast, for better far is gentle courtesy.”
–Homer (800 BC - 700 BC)

ALL BUILDING TRADESMEN

Notice of Asbestos Health Hazards in Michigan

BRICKLAYERS

BOILERMAKERS

ELECTRICIANS

INSULATORS

PIPE FITTERS

PLUMBERS

SHEET METAL WORKERS

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

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

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

Many building tradesmen worked with or near asbestos. Some are not aware they were even exposed. Family members may be at risk of bystander exposure.

\$1.8 MILLION VERDICT

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

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

Contact us today:
800-799-2234
www.gpwlaw-mi.com

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

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



Please don't delay, protect yourself and your family before it's too late. You may be entitled to claim money damages from the responsible members of the asbestos industry. Call for a FREE consultation.

Keep Campbell plant open? What's the emergency?

(Continued from Page 1)
lawful extensions before the Court to protect our ratepayers.”
Over the past decade, Consumers Energy and other utilities in Michigan have been steadily moving toward solar and wind production and closing their coal-burning power plants. In 2021, Consumers Energy announced its intention to close the coal-burning Campbell plant by May 31, 2025. The plant, which has been in operation since the 1960s, employs three units to produce more than 1,400 megawatts. After the utility announced the plant's closure, the Trump Administration stepped in and used emergency powers as its justification for keeping Campbell open. Last month, the latest communication from Secretary of Energy Chris Wright explaining the agency's stance said, “specifically, I determined that MISO likely faced tight reserve margins due to well-documented year-round resource adequacy concerns, particularly during periods of high demand or low generation resource output.” In other words, the feds fear the region will lack adequate baseload power production if the Campbell plant closes.

MISO is the “Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc.,” a non-profit organization that manages the high-voltage electric power grid across parts of 11 U.S. states and part of Canada.

There is a relatively short window from the Department of Energy's emergency declaration for ordering that the plant be kept open. Wright said “the Campbell Plant shall be made available for operation through Nov. 14, 2026,” although that could be easily extended with a seventh subsequent emergency declaration.

Nessel said that Consumers Energy has a “carefully considered plan” to replace the energy produced by the Campbell plant. Maintaining and improving the aging plant has been a boon to the building trades over the decades, but maintaining it isn't cheap.

“The retirement was expected to save Michigan ratepayers nearly \$600 million,” Nessel argued. “Instead, Consumers Energy has reported \$295 million in costs associated with the Campbell plant from May 2025 to June 30, 2026, which the utility is seeking to recover from electric customers across the north and central regions of Mid-continent Independent System Operator.”

The Campbell plant is one of seven coal burners in the nation that were set to be shuttered before the Trump Administration declared the emergency and kept them open. Nessel said she has consistently argued that DOE has not been able to show an actual emergency to justify the continued operation of the J.H. Campbell Plant. She said she has already filed five requests for rehearing with the DOE and four petitions for review with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Top CEOs are livin' large, top workers pay by 312x

(Continued from Page 1)
Musk's total compensation alone was 2,522,203 times the median Tesla worker's pay in 2025.

•President Trump returned to the White House and cashed in on \$2.2 billion in income in 2025 – almost a 254 percent increase from what he received in 2024. The median U.S. worker would need 43,154 years to earn what Trump made in his first year back in office.

•Workers' share of U.S. national income fell to its lowest level since World War II. While their bosses rake in millions, workers at Amazon, Dollar Tree, FedEx, McDonald's and Walmart are among the highest users of public assistance, relying on programs like Medicaid and SNAP to make ends meet.

•As CEOs gave themselves a 21 percent raise, 16 percent of adults cannot pay all their bills in full, 26 percent skipped medical care due to cost, 37 percent do not have enough cash to cover a \$400 emergency expense and 23 percent of renters fell behind on their rent in the past year.

Steel tops out at WSU science building

(Continued from Page 1)
future of discovery. Within these walls, researchers from across disciplines will come together to tackle some of society's greatest health challenges.”

Wayne State plans for the five-story, 160,000-square-foot building at 545 E. Canfield Street to serve as a hub for “collaborative, interdisciplinary biomedical and health sciences research, helping accelerate discoveries that improve health outcomes while strengthening Detroit's innovation ecosystem.”

Ground was broken a year ago on the project, which is being built on the site of a former parking lot. The Christman Co. is managing the project. The company said the building “includes core labs, wet labs, offices, conference rooms, and shared student and researcher spaces. Its strategic location links the facility to existing academic buildings..

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and their families over 30 years

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FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION!

CUTTING A PIPE at the Northern Michigan University Presque Isle Apartments project in Marquette is Patrick Pryal of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 111. He's employed by Dressler Mechanical.

Photo by Jack Deo

Local 514 Cement Masons & Plasterers

obtain your balances, and, during regular business hours, speak to a representative by contacting Principal either via its website, www.Principal.com, or by telephone, 800-547-7754.

Access and make changes to your account in two easy ways:
Go online: Principal.com
If you are a first-time user, go to Principal.com/Welcome Select Get Started.

Enter your first name, last name, date of birth, mobile phone number (this is the quickest way to verify your identity), and your ID number (this is either your Social Security number or a specific ID provided by your employer) or ZIP code.

Agree to do business electronically and click Continue.

If you don't provide your mobile phone number, you'll need to answer a few personal questions to confirm it's really you.

Create a unique username, set a secure password, and add your email address.

Select and answer three security questions to use if you need to call us.

You now have access to your online account, and you'll get a confirmation email within a few minutes.

The first time you log in, you'll need to choose where we send you verification codes (text message, voice call, or authentication app) and how often you want to use them.

Feel free to call the principal at 1-800-547-7754 and speak with someone between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. CT, Monday-Friday, with any questions regarding online access.

As always, if you have any questions or need help with any matter relating to the Fund, you can contact the Fund Office at (248) 645-6550 or 5600 New King Dr., Ste 330, Troy, MI 48098. The fund office's business hours are 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Plasterers and Cement Masons: It is your responsibility to complete reciprocity forms if you plan to work outside the Local 514 area. This will ensure your hours are returned to your home fund. If you have any questions or need any forms, please get in touch with the Local.

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

If you have questions concerning your pension benefits, **Road Builders** can call: Toll Free at 1-877-876-9357 or (517) 321-7502.

Plasterers and Commercial Cement Masons can call (248) 645-6550 for pension and annuity, and 1-877-876-9357.

All **Plasterers and Cement Masons** can contact (517) 321-7502 for health & welfare information now through Outstate Michigan Trowel Trades Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan.

For the INTERNATIONAL PENSION, call 1-888-880-8222 or (202) 638-1996.



Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' Local 514

DETROIT – The September meeting is canceled.

Membership Gold Cards- Congratulations!

September 2026

James McKeage-30 Years

Marcus Martinez is the new Apprenticeship Coordinator; he can be reached at (313)-350-0389 or by email: mmartinez@opcmiami.org

Please contact the local office at 248-548-0800 or email your updated information to aajrouche@opcmiami.org. Please send your updated information promptly.

MUST Safety Awareness Training: Please check the MUST website at www.Mustb-safe.com to see how many modules you have. You must create a new username and password. **We will send ALL MUST drug authorization forms to the members' email addresses.**

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.

All members need 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 by phone when a member of the Local has passed away and submit a copy of the Death Certificate for any deceased active or retired member.

Attention, all Apprentices: you will now 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 get in touch with the Local so we can update our records. Please call (248) 548-0800.

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

Please refer to the website for updated information.

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

Members working for non-signatory commercial contractors are negatively impacting our market share. Members working non-union will be brought up on charges and fined.

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

Please make sure your modules and drug test are up to date; some plant jobs require the MUST modules. You can go online at www.mustonline.org or call the Local if you need a drug form sent out.

Please make sure we have all of your current contact information, address, and phone number so we can keep the fund offices updated on your health care and pension, and whether you are having your vacation checks mailed out. If you have moved, please get in touch with the Local, and we will update your address with all fund offices.

Important Notice for Plasterers and Detroit Commercial Cement Masons: You can find out more about Fund investments, change your investments,

Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers



BAC Local 2

WARREN – UPCOMING MEETINGS.

KALAMAZOO CHAPTER: Thursday, Sept. 10, 2026, at 6:00 PM, 11847 Shaver Road, Schoolcraft, MI 49087.

MARQUETTE CHAPTER: Monday, Sept. 21, 2026, at 7 PM, 119 S Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

SAGINAW CHAPTER: Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2026, at 6 PM, 1300 W Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706

HOUGHTON CHAPTER: September Meeting is **CANCELLED**

**** NOTE: GRAND RAPIDS CHAPTER** is holding their first meeting after a hiatus. Meet your new business agent, Chris Wallace, and learn more about what has happened in your area.

Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother Joseph Plummer** (Bricklayer) who passed away on 04/21/2026. Brother Plummer had been a member for more than 74 years.

Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother Gerald Daman** (Bricklayer, Marble Mason & Stone Mason) who passed away on 07/01/2026. Brother Daman had been a member for 73 years.

Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother Greg Friday** (Cement Mason) who passed away on 07/12/2026. Brother Friday had been a member for more than 45 years.

Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother Robert Hagerman** (Bricklayer and Cement Mason) who passed away on 07/13/2026. Brother Hagerman had been a member for over 45 years.

Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother Patrick Linkes** (Bricklayer) who passed away on 08/23/2026. Brother Linkes had been a member for over 41 years.

Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother William West** (Bricklayer & Stone Mason) who passed away on 08/04/2026. Brother West had been a member for more than 57 years.

LABOR DAY PARADE – Monday, Sept. 7, 2026

The Detroit Labor Day parade will begin at 9 a.m. in Corktown, near Trumbull Ave. and Michigan Ave./Abbott Street.

Flint Labor Day parade will begin at 10 a.m. at the Bristol Road Church of Christ, 1315 W. Bristol Rd.

Negaunee (UP) Labor Day parade will begin at 10 a.m. at Miners Park, Corner of Maas Street and US-41.

Port Huron Area Labor Day parade will begin at 9 a.m. at Avoca Trestle Park, 9898 Avoca Rd., Avoca.

CONGRATULATIONS to all of our Apprentices who participated in the **2026 BAC Local 2 Apprentice Competition** on Aug. 1. Each and every one of you did a fantastic job & we are so proud of the craftsmanship you displayed. **A special shout out to William Carnarvon Jr, Anthony Michael Jimenez and Dustin Grow who will represent BAC Local 2 at the 2027 Masonry Skill Challenge in January.** They represent 1st, 2nd and 3rd Year level apprentices. The future of the BAC looks solid with these up and coming members from our training center.

APPRENTICE HOURS PORTAL: We have moved the Apprentice Hours Portal to a new

platform called WorkHands. You should have received an email or text message with an invitation to join the platform.

All monthly hours must now be submitted through the WorkHands app. After you submit your hours, they will be reviewed by your foreman or superintendent, who will complete an evaluation of your progress before forwarding them to the Training Center.

Submitting your hours monthly through WorkHands is a requirement of your apprenticeship and is necessary to stay on track for your scheduled raises. All submissions must be completed online and include detailed information about the work you performed during the month.

If you need assistance accessing the portal or help submitting your hours, resources are available online at: <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org/resources>

You may also contact Nate Nestor at (313) 467-5382 for additional support.

For more information about the Training Centers, visit: <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org>

BAC LOCAL 2'S TRAINING CENTERS: Both of 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 Nate Nestor directly at (313) 467-5382. Go to <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org>, to view the Apprenticeship and Training website and register for future 2025 training classes.

UNION DUES: Pay 9 months, get 3 free. To receive the 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. 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!

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.

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/iubac-member-assistance-program-map> and are also available via telephone at 1-833-MAP TALK (1-833-627-8255) Monday – Friday 8 am – 7 pm. These services were established and are intended to help get us through difficult life situations.

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

PENSION AND HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION.

BAC of Michigan Health & Welfare Fund – (248) 828-6000
CALL-A-DOC – (800) 835-2362
Cement Pension & Vacation Funds – (248) 645-6550

International Pension/Annuity Fund – (888) 880-8222 or (202) 638-1996 (bacbenefits.org)

Michigan Masonry Trades Pension – (248) 641-4954



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Outdoors

Counting wolves with trail cameras



By Andy Henion
Wildlife Division,
Michigan Department of
Natural Resources

For the first time, researchers from Michigan State University and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources have successfully estimated Michigan’s wolf population using remote cameras deployed throughout the Upper Peninsula.

The camera survey method, which began with a pilot project in 2022 and has since expanded, produced monthly estimates that generally align with wolf biology – lower counts during winter when the wolf population is at its lowest due to mortality, then increasing in the spring after pups are born.

In addition, the camera survey aligned closely with the DNR’s longstanding winter track survey. Both surveys produced a February/March 2024 estimate of just under 800 gray wolves.

While the track survey is limited to producing a minimum estimate during winter, when wolf tracks are clearly visible in the snow, the camera survey provides a first look at how Michigan’s wolf population fluctuates throughout the year.

Camera survey estimates ranged from a low of 525 wolves in March 2025 to a high of 1,198 wolves in October 2024.

“Our winter track survey was doing exactly what it was designed to do, and that is to get a minimum count of wolves in wintertime,” said Tyler Petroelje, the DNR’s northern Michigan research specialist. “And now the camera survey is doing exactly what it’s intended to do, and that is to provide information on changes in total abundance throughout the year.”

In Michigan, the gray wolf is a federally protected endangered species. However, wolves have surpassed state and federal population recovery goals for more than two decades and no longer warrant endangered status, according to the DNR’s wolf management plan.

The state’s ability to produce



A WOLF PACK walks down a road on a late winter day.

MDNR photos

data on wolf abundance is important for reclassifying the animal as a recovered species and satisfying post-delisting federal monitoring requirements.

The DNR has monitored the wolf population through winter track surveys every other year since 2014. Because track surveys cover about 60 percent of the U.P. in any given year, they can be labor-intensive and costly. Staff must not only locate wolf packs multiple times but also follow them, sometimes for miles, to determine the number of wolves in each pack. In addition, track surveys require ideal snow conditions.

“If you think back to 2024, that was a very mild winter, and the track survey was difficult to pull off,” said Brian Roell, the DNR’s large carnivore specialist, who has conducted wolf track surveys for more than 25 years. “And then in 2026, we had the opposite – it was snowing every day and covering up the tracks, making it difficult as well.”

Biologists are increasingly using remote cameras across the country to estimate wildlife abundance, according to project researcher Jerrold Belant, Boone and Crockett chairman of wildlife conservation at Michigan State University.

While initial camera purchase costs are high, short- and

long-term costs can be less expensive, and the camera surveys are not weather-dependent. Biologists can deploy remote cameras across large survey areas for extended periods, providing abundance estimates throughout the year.

Camera surveys can also be used to document and potentially

help manage other wildlife species. The U.P. camera survey produced more than 2 million total images of various species including white-tailed deer, gray wolf, coyote, wild turkey, red fox, black bear and bobcat.

The DNR is currently using remote camera images of the elusive gray fox for another research



A GRAY WOLF is captured on a trail camera in 2022 as part of the wolf camera survey.

project.

“There are many applications for remote camera surveys, not just for wolves but other species as well,” Belant said. “When you think of the importance of monitoring wildlife – not only for biodiversity but in relation to harvestable species – having a single tool you can use to monitor multiple species simultaneously can be a real advantage, both in terms of time and cost.”

Belant developed a proposal for the remote camera survey to estimate wolf abundance in 2020 with Dean Beyer, a former wildlife research biologist for the DNR.

After the DNR greenlit the project, researchers conducted a pilot camera survey of wolf abundance in 2022 and early 2023. The results were promising, and the U.P.-wide camera survey was launched in mid-2023.

For the U.P.-wide survey, researchers placed 1,311 DNR-owned cameras throughout the peninsula.

The cameras were positioned on tree trunks about 4 to 5 feet high along low-use roads and trails where wolves were expected to travel. Researchers also posted a notice to passersby about the research purpose of the cameras.

The research team changed out the cameras’ memory cards and batteries every year. Matt Nelson, an MSU doctoral candidate who is coordinating the fieldwork, said the images were downloaded, run through machine learning programs to identify species and then double-checked by researchers.

Computer software removes all photos of humans and vehicles.

Using a scientific “space-to-event” model, the researchers can estimate the wolf population at specific times throughout the year. Researchers estimated Michigan’s wolf population monthly. By doing so, they could evaluate how mortality, reproduction and provisioning of pups changed the estimates throughout the year.

Results from the first 21 months of the full research project (October 2023-June 2025) show:

•The three highest monthly population estimates were in October 2024 (1,198 wolves), November 2023 (1,084 wolves) and September 2024 (1,061 wolves).

During the fall months, wolf detection is greater as pups are now large enough to travel with the pack and young wolves disperse to find a mate and new territory of their own.

•The three lowest monthly population estimates were in March 2025 (525 wolves), February 2025 (538 wolves) and April 2025 (544 wolves). This makes sense, researchers say, because late winter is the lowest point in the annual population cycle for wolves. In addition, denning season typically occurs in early spring, when female wolves give birth. Fewer wolf detections occur when pups remain in the den and pack members spend more time returning to the den to care for the young.

•Camera population estimates from February 2024 (773 wolves) and March 2024 (794 wolves) were very similar to the snow track survey estimate – 768 wolves – conducted during the same timeframe.

Researchers said the results support what they expected about Michigan’s wolf population.

“There were no real surprises,” Nelson said. “The camera survey worked really well and aligned with what we know about wolf ecology.”

Nelson said he’ll be in the U.P. until October pulling memory cards from the cameras to collect a third year of data, including an estimate for this past winter. That estimate will be compared to the 2026 winter track survey, which produced an estimated minimum population of 792 wolves.

Gray wolves once roamed the entire state of Michigan but are now known to inhabit only the U.P. Michigan is one of about 14 states with wolves, according to the Wolf Conservation Center.

In Michigan, the gray wolf is currently protected under the federal Endangered Species Act.

The federal government delisted the gray wolf from endangered species status in 2020, but a federal judge struck down that delisting in 2022. Prior to that, the wolf had been reclassified seven times from 2003 to 2014 amid a host of legal challenges involving conservation groups, ranchers, developers and others.

To find out more about wolves in Michigan visit Michigan.gov/Wolves.

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