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January 24, 2025

SHORT

DOL finalizes fit standard for PPE

WASHINGTON, D.C. The U.S. Department of Labor announced Dec. 11 that its Occupational Safety and Health Administration has finalized a revision to the personal protective equipment standard for construction. The final rule explicitly requires the PPE to properly fit any construction worker who needs it, improving protections from hazardous conditions.

"I've talked to workers in construction, particularly women, who have spoken of personal protective equipment that didn't fit or was simply unavailable at the jobsite in their size," said Assistant Secretary for Occupational Safety and Health Doug Parker. "PPE must fit properly to work. I'm proud of the broad support from both employers and unions for OSHA's efforts to make clear that employers must provide the right PPE for each worker who needs it."

The revision to the standard adds specific language requiring that employers provide PPE that properly fits construction industry workers. The change aligns the construction industry standard with the standard already in place for general industry.

Many types of personal protective equipment must be sized to fit a worker properly. Improperly sized PPE can be ineffective in protecting workers; create new hazards for the worker, such as oversized gloves or protective clothing being caught in machinery; and discourage use because of discomfort or poor fit. The matter has been a longstanding industry safety concern, particularly among some women as well as among physically smaller or larger workers.

Get jobless benefit

tax forms online

LANSING - If you collected unemployment benefits in 2024, money you received is taxable, and your year-end tax statement is available online.

Claimants can now go into their Michigan Web Account Manager (MiWAM) accounts to view and download their individual 1099-G tax statement, also known as "Certain Government Payments" form.

Anyone who requested a paper copy of the statement to be mailed to them should expect to have it delivered by the postal service before the end of January.

The Michigan Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA) said it is generating more than 261,000 tax statements for 2024.

To view your tax statement online, log into MiWAM, www. miwam.unemployment.state.

- Click on "I Want To"
- Click the "1099-G" link. • Click on the 1099-G letter for the 2024 tax year and save

Two things to keep in mind about information on your 1099-G, according to the UIA:

a copy for your records.

•If the total benefit amount listed on the form is higher than what was actually received, it may be due to automatic deductions, such as to repay an overpayment or to fulfill court-ordered payments.

•If you believe your 1099-G is incorrect, request a revised statement by downloading and submitting a "Request to correct Form 1099-G" at their website.

Quotable

"How many lessons of faith and beauty we should lose, if there were no winter in our

-Thomas Wentworth Higginson (1823-1911)



SETTING UP an electric vehicle charging station at Huntington Place in Detroit are (l-r) electricians Scott Reinbold and Micheal Monterosso. The IBEW Local 58 members, employed by Freeman Electric, are working to set up the Detroit Auto Show. The chargers would be used to power up vehicles used on a track as part of the show.

Trades assemble smaller auto show

By Marty Mulcahy **Editor**

DETROIT – Compared to the pre-Covid years, the auto show held this month at Huntington Place was a diminished affair, with fewer automakers attending, downsized displays, and less vehicles to see.

Most importantly to the building trades workers who set up the displays, the Detroit Auto Show offered fewer hours in the weeks leading up task of (mostly) filling up the venue's 723,000 square-foot exhibition space for the show provided a welcome, climatecontrolled environment during some chilly winter weeks in the Motor City.

inside, I like the cars, I like the people," said Iron Workers Local 25 steward Billy Middleditch, working to set up the auto show for Convention Show Services.

Middleditch sets up numerous shows throughout the year at Huntington Place. Three days before the event opened, he said about 13 iron workers were employed setting up the show - compared to about 100 that job opportunities and reduced worked prior to the Covid years when it was the North American to the Jan. 10-20 event. Still, the International Auto Show. "It's also a bit more of a slower pace with the set up," he said.

The show was canceled last year, and saw diminished attendance the prior two years. This year, the show returned to its roots from decades ago as a place for

"I like being here, I like being car buyers to scope out new cars, with a still-solid roster of 22 brands representing a range of vehicle segments. Four indoor tracks for driving vehicles took up significant floor space.

> A full spectrum of nameplates put cars in the show, including Alfa Romeo, Buick, Cadillac, Chevrolet, Chrysler, Dodge, Fiat, Ford, GMC, Jeep, Kia, Lincoln, Ram, Toyota and Volkswagen.

Adding to the mix of brands for visitors to explore and "shop" were dealersupported vehicle displays representing BMW, Honda, Hyundai, INEOS, Mazda and Mercedes-Benz.

Absent from the show were new vehicle introductions (Continued on Page 2)



LOOK OUT FOR HI-LOs buzzing around the aisles of Huntingon Place moving crates during the set up of the Detroit Auto Show. This one is operated by Allen "Aldowg" Martinez, and with him (l-r) are steward William "Billy" Middleditch and Charles Hall. The Iron Workers Local 25 members are employed by Convention and Show Services, helping set up the auto show, which ran from Jan. 10-20.

Good vibrations in 2025 for U.S. building outlook

By Marty Mulcahy **Editor**

Looks like more of the same for the U.S. construction industry

"2025 offers quite a few bright spots for the construction industry even as the outlook for some private-sector segments remains quite dire," said Jeffrey Shoaf, the Associated General Contractors' chief executive officer. "Firms expect regulatory relief will help drive demand and they will continue to hire, when they can, and boost investments in technologies, particularly artificial intelligence."

His comments were based on the Jan. 8 release of an AGC/Sage construction industry survey, A Year in the Balance: The 2025 Construction Hiring and Business market for next year. "I know Outlook. The 2025 survey, based

on 1,109 responses from U.S. construction contractors, was released after numbers showing a strong 2024 for the industry started rolling in.

The AGC said the net reading of the survey – the percentage of contractor-respondents who expect the available dollar value of projects to expand compared to the percentage who expect it to shrink – is positive for 15 of the 17 categories of construction included in the survey.

The glad tidings in the AGC's industry survey were matched by other industry forecasts.

Jay Bowman, a partner at FMI Consulting which serves the building industry, told the Engineering News Record he feels "fairly positive" about the (Continued on Page 3)

ABC to ally Trump: time to scrap pro-union PLAs

WASHINGTON, D.C. – President Trump was still 11 days away from getting sworn in to his second term as president when the Associated Builders and Contractors reminded him of their strong support for his candidacy - and of the first favor they want fulfilled.

The anti-union contractor group, along with their like-thinking associates in the construction and business communities, sent the president-elect a letter urging him to rescind Biden-imposed, union-friendly project labor agreements on federal construction contracts exceeding \$35 million. The letter also called for the repeal of additional Biden administration policies pushing PLA mandates and preferences on federally assisted construction projects procured by private developers and local and state governments.

"Experienced, quality, unionfree contractors and their skilled employees who do not belong to a union have delivered exceptional federal and federally assisted projects for decades without government PLA requirements," said Ben Brubeck, ABC vice president of regulatory, labor and state affairs. "This coalition

looks forward to working with President-elect Trump to rebuild America's infrastructure with commonsense and inclusive policies that benefit all of America's construction industry and deliver savings to taxpayers without sacrificing quality or safety."

If he hadn't already done so as this went to press, Trump is almost certain to issue an executive order to comply with the ABC and cancel this and other (Continued on Page 3)

Added payments to illegally fired workers tossed by appeals judge

PHILADELPHIA (PAI) – In a setback for the National Labor Relations Board, particularly for making illegally fired workers whole, the Third U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals tossed out added payments the board OK'd for workers financially harmed by company labor law-breaking.

The case involved two Starbucks baristas in Philadelphia, whom the firm illegally fired for their pro-union activities. A threejudge panel of the appellate court backed the workers, saying Starbucks broke labor law, formally called unfair labor practices.

The court ordered Starbucks to rehire Echo Nowakowska and Tristan Bussiere with net back pay, i.e., what they would have earned after being fired, minus earnings they gained while awaiting justice.

But Appellate Judge Thomas Ambro, a Bill Clinton appointee, limited the ruling, and wrote that added reimbursement for illegally fired workers "exceeded the board's authority." The added money would have covered not (Continued on Page 3)

Bill package seeks to curb 1099 fraud

By Marty Mulcahy **Editor**

LANSING – On the first day

of the 2025-26 legislative term, a trio of Democrat lawmakers introduced a package of bills aimed at penalizing businesses for improperly treating an employee as an "independent contractor." The bills also would set state rules governing the payment of

The "independent contractor dodge," is a decades-old issue that has plagued the state's construc-

and employee sick leave.

minimum wage, tipped wages,

tion industry and other employment sectors. Misclassifying a



Lansing

worker as an independent contractor required to use tax Form 1099 puts the onus on the individual worker to pay workers compensation, unemployment insurance, medical insur-

Meanwhile,

ance and Social Security taxes.

unscrupulous employers not only evade paying those worker taxes, they can avoid paying overtime premiums, while enjoying a tremendous financial advantage over legitimate contractors when submitting construction bids, for example.

'The vast majority of business owners are good actors here in the state of Michigan, but there are bad actors who basically use loopholes within the law to take advantage of workers," said state Sen. Kevin Hertel (D-St. Clair Shores), who introduced

Senate Bill 6 on Jan. 8. "People work because they need to support themselves and their families, and (there) should be a respectful relationship between the employee and the employer, whoever that is."

According to Senate Democrats, Senate Bills 6 and 7 "seek to strengthen the state's laws regarding wage theft, which poses a significant risk to Michigan workers. Currently, minimum wage, overtime, and other payroll fraud violations cost Michiganders who have the hardest time making ends (Continued on Page 2)

On-the-job injuries, fatalities see welcome decline

By Marty Mulcahy **Editor**

WASHINGTON, D.C. -Fatal U.S. workplace injuries declined 3.7 percent from 2022-2023, while non-fatal on-the-job injuries hit a 20-year low.

That's the word from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, whose annual "National Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries" report – which takes months to compile and was released on Dec. 19 – said there were 5,283 fatal workplace injuries reported in 2023. That year the fatal work injury rate was 3.5 fatalities per 100,000 full-time equivalent (FTE) workers – down from 3.7

in 2022.

lasting void for families, friends, co-workers, and communities. We can and we must do better," said Doug Parker, assistant secretary of labor for occupational safety and health, in an OSHA state-

"Today's report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics is more positive news for worker safety and health," he continued. "In November, the bureau reported a 20-year low in the rate of nonfatal worker injuries and illnesses in 2023, and we are further encouraged by the news that the number and rate of fatal worker injuries also dropped in 2023."

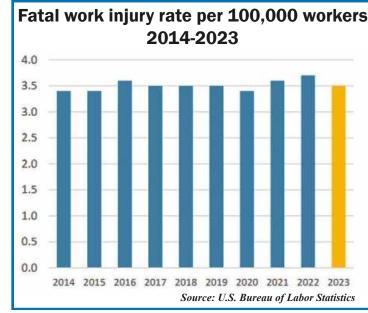
Parker cited "meaningful "Every worker's death is a declines" in fatal injury rates for

profound tragedy that leaves a Black and Latino workers, but he admitted there are still "high rates among these populations" and "a disproportionate impact of work hazards on workers of color." He urged employers to recognize that trend and combat it. The death rates for Black and Latino workers were 3.6 and 4.4 deaths per 100,000 workers, respectively.

Some bullet points from the BLS report:

 Construction had the most fatalities (1,075) among all industry sectors in 2023, and has been the highest sector going back to 2011. Falls, slips, and trips accounted for 39.2 percent (421) of all construction fatalities, with transportation incidents accounting for another

1.5 1.0 0.5 (Continued on Page 3)



Viewpoints



A year for rich to get richer

The new year has begun with old news: The world is continuing to become colossally more unequal – with the United States leading the way. In 2024, wealth trackers at Bloomberg have just reported in a year-end review, "The world's 500 richest people got vastly richer."

Of the world's 15 richest people, Bloomberg data shows, 14 call the U.S. home. The richest of these rich: Elon Musk. He started 2024 with a personal fortune worth a mere \$229 billion. He ended it with a net worth of \$442 billion, the largest personal treasure trove the world has ever seen. Overall, the world's 500 richest ended 2024 worth a combined \$9.8 trillion.

President Trump himself enjoyed quite a rewarding 2024. His personal net worth last year nearly doubled, to a bit over \$7 billion. A little humbling context for Trump: His new \$7 billion fortune amounts to less than 2 percent of the personal wealth his new good pal Elon now holds. That wealth isn't the only hold Musk has on Trump: The Tesla, twitter/X and SpaceX plutocrat has a tight hold on Trump politically, as the president's sudden demand – at Musk's order – to House Republicans to suspend the debt limit for two years shows.

That suspension would let Trump and Musk push through another giant tax cut for corporations and the rich. But GOP hardliners, plus the Democrats, rejected it. Trump and Musk will have to try, try again this year, saddling their followers with a politically uncomfortable vote.

Musk does, to be sure, have ample American company: 15 American deep pockets now boast fortunes worth over \$100 billion. More context: Back in 1982, the year Forbes magazine began publishing its annual list of America's richest, only 13 of the nation's 400 wealthiest held as much as a single billion dollars in net worth.

Simply maintaining a 100-foot-long private yacht today can now run as much as \$2 million a year. But relief for the rich feeling this yachtmaintenance squeeze appears to be on the way. Leaders in the new Republican-majority Congress, Politico reports, are already busily debating just how they can most expeditiously lower the already low taxes the richest among us need to pay. Their goal: To at least extend the expiring Trump tax cut originally enacted in 2017. To cover the cost of that tax cut, or any others, they're going to have to raise the debt limit, though.

In 2025, households in America's top 1 percent will save an average \$61,090 thanks to that 2017 tax cut. Households in the top 0.1 percent will pocket even more, with an average savings of \$252,300. And households in the bottom 60 percent? They'll on average save less than \$500 each.

"Extending the Trump tax cuts that expire at the end of 2025 namely, the law's individual income and estate tax provisions would provide further windfall benefits to high-income households," conclude Center on Budget and Policy Priorities analysts Chuck Marr, Samantha Jacoby, and George Fenton. To make matters worse, Marr and his colleagues add, those windfall benefits "would come on top of the large benefits they would continue to receive from the 2017 tax law's permanent provisions."

"Tax cuts for people making over \$400,000," the Center analysts conclude, "should end on schedule."

Keeping to that scheduled end - given the new Republican control over the House, the Senate, and the White House – will be exceedingly difficult. Welcome to Trump II.

By Sam Pizzigati Co-Editor, Inequality.org The Building Tradesman welcomes your letters to the editor.

By mail: Building Tradesman Editor, 1640 Porter St. Detroit, MI 48216 or, e-mail: buildingtradesman@ameritech.net

Trades assemble smaller auto show

(Continued from Page 1)

and a cadre of international press, as automakers worldwide have shifted away from using auto shows to introduce and market their products.

Union electricians, carpenters, iron workers, Teamsters and Stagehands helped set up Detroit's show.

"It's a smaller show, but there seem to be a lot more handson exhibits," said IBEW Local 58 steward Kahlil "Smokey" Finley. He was working along with 25 other electricians employed by Freeman Electric – that's about a

SETTING UP POWER to a Ford display at the Detroit Auto Show are (l-r) electricians George Costigan, his brother Jason Costigan, Randy Petrie and steward Kahlil "Smokey" Finley. The IBEW Local 58 members are employed by Freeman Electric.

quarter the number of electricians who worked the show in years

He said the Freeman crew

started to set up the show about three weeks before Christmas. "There used to be a lot more

triple-deck displays," Finley said. "And there used to be a lot more man-hours. But it's still a good place to go to work in January."



Bill package seeks to curb 1099 fraud

(Continued from Page 1) meet millions of dollars every

Senate Bills 6 and 7 would:

•Allow workers to file anonymous complaints against employ-

•Strengthen civil and criminal penalties for wage theft. •Prohibit employers from

By Jim Hightower

have his cake and eat it, too.

Then, he intends to eat your cake.

pick to become Commerce Sec-

retary. But first, he's been tasked

with picking hordes of corporate

loyalists to be placed in Trump's

government as friendly "regula-

what Trump & Company mean

Convenient, huh? This is

tors" of corporate hucksterism.

Howard Lutnick wants to

Lutnick is

another bil-

lionaire cor-

porate huck-

ster who was

a campaign

bagman for

Trump, and

now he's

Trump's

dependent contractors," which allows them to pay a wage lower than the legal minimum.

The Dems said in 2022, the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity's Wage and Hour Division recovered more than \$2.6 million in stolen wages. Payroll fraud forces taxpayers to foot the bill for millions in lost tax revenue and employers who play by the rules.

Amanda Fisher, the Michigan director of the National Federation of Independent Business, told the news service MIRS that "I think you will find that a lot of folks that are sole proprietors would be kind of wrapped into this independent contractor rule. Unfortunately, the ultimate goal I see is to get rid of independent contractors all together and make everybody employees. The problem with that, ultimately, is that not everybody wants to be an employee."

With a Republican majority now in the state House, the legislation is sure to see businessfriendly adjustments - if it ever gets adopted into law.

Senate Bills 6 and 7 were introduced in conjunction with Senate Bill 15, sponsored by Hertel, Sam Singh (D-East Lansing), and Darrin Camilleri (D-Trenton) The bill package also seeks to accelerate the increase of Michigan's minimum wage; protect and improve the tipped employee credit; require employers to provide paid sick leave; and strengthen laws preventing the theft of wages.

"Michigan's workers put in long hours to support their families, and they deserve fair compensation for their efforts," said Camilleri. "By bolstering our laws against wage theft, we are making vital strides toward safeguarding the livelihoods of hardworking Michiganders."

'A foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds, adored by little statesmen and philoso-

phers and divines." -Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 - 1882)

misclassifying workers as "increates an unfair disadvantage for

year."

 Enhance wage transparency for workers.

Billionaires regulating billionaires by saying they'll make the government "efficient." Instead of corporate powers having to lobby regulators to get special favors, corporate officials will become the regulators. That is so much smoother for Lutnick and his ilk, who look forward to four free-wheeling years

of devouring our economy.

In choosing who to police corporate price gouging, workplace rules, bank rip-offs, and such, Lutnick has been calling Wall Streeters, Silicon Valley tech bosses, corporate giants, and billionaires, telling them to send their best operatives to Trump's regime. "Let's get them into government," he exults!

Notice that he's not calling any union leaders, consumer protectors, or other real public

By the way, Lutnick himself is in line to profit from the cor-

interest watchdogs.

to cryptocurrency flimflams – and while he's been doing Trump's work, he's simultaneously been pushing Congress to do favors for his personal holdings. But he insists that there is no conflict of interest in his efforts. After all, he says with a straight

porate feeding frenzy he's now

staffing. He is invested in every-

thing from health care profiteers

face, he holds his government policy meetings in separate rooms from his own business pleadings. And that paper-thin wall of

separation is Trump's new ethical standard for protecting us from raw corporate greed.

(via otherwords.org)

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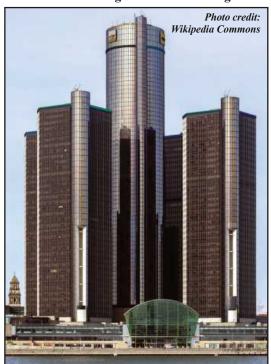


BINGHAM FARMS

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BUILDING MICHIGAN: Our big cities' tallest buildings HISTORY IN THE MAKING

Aside from Detroit, Grand Rapids and Lansing, it's fair to apply quotations to the term "skylines" when it comes to other cities in Michigan. There are mid-rise buildings in cities across the state, but that doesn't mean they're part of a skyline. Still, tall buildings have played in an integral role in the history of many Michigan communities, often providing a prominent marker that helps provide place, identity and some bragging rights for a downtown. Construction of skyscrapers (the Encyclopedia Brittanica suggests skyscrapers are 40-50 stories and up, but the exact height is up for argument) is relatively rare in Michigan – although, the ongoing building of the 685-foottall Hudson's Tower in Detroit is a notable exception. A century ago, when so many of Michigan's tall buildings sprang up, height mattered. "You don't build (a) skyscraper to house people, or to give tourists a view, or even, necessarily, to make a profit," wrote Paul Goldberger, an American author, architecture critic and lecturer. "You do it to make sure the world knows who you are." A number of Michigan's larger cities are fortunate to have century-old ornate, classic, towers looming over their downtowns. Other towers are more modern, but are still landmarks. Detroit has 24 of the 25 tallest buildings in the state. Below, after Detroit's 73-story Marriott Hotel, are the tallest non-Detroit buildings in some of Michigan's other cities and communities, in descending order.

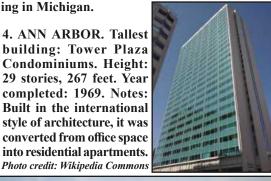


1. DETROIT. Tallest building: The Marriott Hotel at the Renaissance Center. Height: 727 feet, 73 stories. Year completed: 1977. Notes: it is the tallest building in Michigan and third tallest all-hotel skyscraper in the Western Hemisphere. into residential apartments. *Photo credit: Wikipedia Commons*

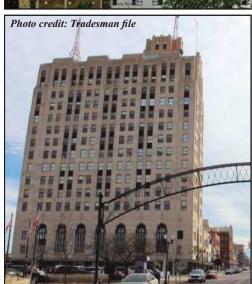


2, GRAND RAPIDS. Tallest building: River House Tower. Height: 406 feet, 34 stories. Year completed: 2008. Notes: This tower is the tallest building in Grand Rapids, and the tallest all-residential build-

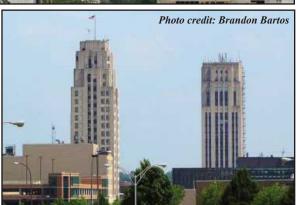
building: Tower Plaza 29 stories, 267 feet. Year completed: 1969. Notes: Built in the international style of architecture, it was converted from office space







5. FLINT, Tallest building: Charles Stewart Mott Foundation building. Height: 250 feet, 16 stories. Year completed: 1929. Notes: It was built as the Union Industrial Bank Building; the Mott Foundation purchased it in 1944. Today it serves as an office building.



6. BATTLE CREEK. Tallest building(s): Battle Creek Tower, left. Year completed: 1931. Height: 21 stories, 232 feet. The Milton Apartments, right, formerly the Old Merchants Bank Building and the Heritage Tower. Year completed: 1931. Height: 19 stories, 238 feet. Notes: The Central National Bank, which originally built the Battle Creek Tower, opened first in 1931. Watching its progress, the owners of the Old Merchants Bank added two stories to their tower at the last minute, to gain bragging rights for having the tallest building in Battle Creek.

Grand Traverse

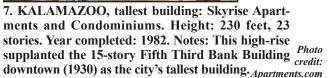
Resort Hotel



Traverse Resort Hotel. Height: 220 feet, 19 stories. Year completed: 1986. Notes: the building is the centerpiece of the 900acre resort and spa owned by the **Grand Traverse** Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians.

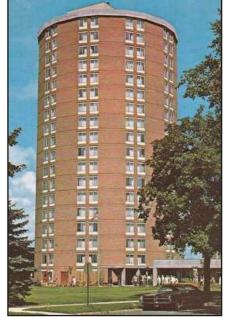
8. ACME, tallest

building: Grand





10. BAY CITY, tallest building: Bay City City Hall. Height: 180 feet. Year completed: 1897. Notes: arguably the most beautiful city hall in the state, the height of the clock tower is is also the tallest building in the Upper what makes this structure rise above all others in Bay City. Peninsula. Photo credit: City of Escanaba



9. ESCANABA, tallest building: Escanaba Harbor Tower, Height: 185 feet, 18 stories. Year completed: 1970. Notes: The tallest building in Escanaba

Good vibrations in 2025 for U.S. building outlook

(Continued from Page 1) of negative talk out there (regarding inflation and labor shortages), but I think the industry is doing pretty good, all things considered." The FMI construction put-in-place forecast expects an overall 5.4 percent increase in construction spending for 2024 and an additional 2 percent gain in 2025.

Contractors in the AGC survey were optimistic about most types of public sector work, with projects under the Biden Infrastructure Act finally rolling out.

Contractors were also bullish on manufacturing plant construction, power plants, health care work, and education-related projects. There were also good expectations for warehouse and multifamily residential construction. Meanwhile, the net reading for private office construction is -3 percent, and the outlook for retail projects is -5 percent.

"One reason contractors have a relatively positive outlook for many public sector market segments is that more contractors are starting to see the effects of increased federal investments in infrastructure," said Ken Simonson, the AGC's chief economist. He noted that 18 percent of respondents say they have worked on new federally funded infrastructure projects, double the 9 percent who said that was the case a year ago.

The survey revealed that most firms anticipate adding workers in 2025 to accommodate the higher demand for most types of projects. More than two-thirds of the respondents expect to add to their headcount, compared to only 10 percent who expect a decrease.

And the decade-long trend of worker shortages in the construction industry isn't going away, with about 75 percent of firms

(Continued from Page 1)

22.3 percent (240) of fatalities.

On-the-job injuries,

fatalities see decline

•Most fatal falls to a lower level (260 or 64.4 percent) within

•Older workers – those 55 to 64 years old – continued to have

•Workers ages 25 to 34 had the highest number of fatalities due

•Homicides (458) accounted for 8.7 percent of all workplace fatalities.

•Opioids were the primary source of 162 on-the-job fatalities and

•Women accounted for 8.5 percent (447) of all fatalities, but were

AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler warned of problems ahead. "We

a contributor in an additional 144 fatalities where multiple drugs were

construction were from a height of between 6 and 30 feet, while 67

fatal falls were from a height of more than 30 feet. Portable ladders

and stairs were the primary source of 109 fatalities in construction.

the highest number of fatalities in 2023 at 1,089 (20.6 percent of all

fatalities). The highest cause of fatalities for the age group was trans-

portation incidents (401), followed by falls, slips, and trips (226).

to violent acts (179), including 121 homicides and 58 suicides.

victims of 18.3 percent of on-the-job homicides in 2023.

the Occupational Safety and Health Administration."

hard time filling both hourly craft positions and salaried openings.

Moreover, among contractors' top concerns for 2025, the three most frequently listed are all workforce related. Sixty-two percent picked rising direct labor costs as one of their top three concerns, while 59 percent list insufficient supply of workers or subcontractors, and 56 percent name worker quality.

Contractors continue to see projects postponed or canceled an experience reported by twothirds of respondents. However, lingering supply chain issues are lessening: nearly 50 percent of the respondents reported zero supply chain issues in 2024, a marked improvement from 23 percent in 2023 and 9 percent in 2022.

Other industry forecasters weighed in on the prospects for construction in 2025.

•"The outlook for the U.S. construction industry in 2025 combines both optimism and caution," says ConstructConnect, a provider of construction information and technology.

"While commercial construction spending continues to grow, it will likely do so at a slower rate next year. Despite an increase in entry-level construction staffing, finding experienced help is still a challenge. Still, companies are bidding on more projects. ConstructConnect expects residential construction spending to rise 12 percent; and nonresidential to increase 8 percent. Total construction spending is predicted to rise 8.5 percent."

•"The construction industry's incredibly strong performance in 2024 will be followed by a more modest 2025," says JLL, a global

reporting that they're having a commercial real estate and investment management company.

"The Architectural Billings Index reported contractions for nine of the last 12 months and starts have been at record lows; impacts that will appear in the spending data over the next few months. Nevertheless, interest rate cuts and increased loan originations, should make for a robust round of starts in late 2025 and drive net spending growth for the year."

•At the end of last year, Dodge Data and Analytics anticipated an 8 percent increase in the dollar volume of U.S. construction starts when all the numbers are added up for 2024, and an overall rise of 8.6 percent for 2025. In 2025, residential starts are expected to rise 11.5 percent, with nonresidential starts increasing 5.9 percent.

Non-building construction starts (usually infrastructure) are expected to see an 8.8 percent increase in 2025 with federal funds continuing to move through the pipeline. "This is still a fairly robust market," said Richard Branch, chief economist for Dodge.

Added payments to illegally fired workers tossed

(Continued from Page 1)

just net back pay but their medical bills and credit card expenses they use to live on while awaiting vindication, among other costs.

Starbucks challenged that wide-ranging back pay the NLRB ordered. Judge Ambro wrote that while the National Labor Relations Act mandates net back pay, juries, not the board, can award more.

Just joking

Sean and Patrick were best friends from childhood.

During one particular night of revelry, the two agreed that when one passed on, the other would take and spill the



over the other's grave as a tribute to a lost friend. And as fate would have it, Sean was the first to reach his deathbed. Pat, hearing of his illness

contents of a

bottle of fine,

Irish whiskey

one last time. "Sean," said Pat, "can you hear me?" Faintly, Sean replied, "Aye, Paddy, I can." Bash-

came to visit his dear friend

fully, Pat started, "Do you remember our pact, Sean?"
"Yes, I do Paddy," Sean
strained. Said Pat: "And,

you'll also remember that I was to pour the contents of a fine, old bottle of whiskey over your grave, which we have been saving for, going on 30 years now?

"Aye Paddy, that I do," whispered Sean.

"It's a very old bottle now, you know," said Pat. "I imagine it has aged beauti-

fully."
"And what are you gettin'
at Pat?" asked Sean, briskly.

'Well Sean, I've been thinking, when I pour the whiskey over your grave, would you be minding if I were to filter it through me kidneys first?"

Health Administration, which have been underfunded by Congress for too long and face further threats to workplace safety rules and enforcement," Shuler said. "Any attack on job safety agency resources is an attack on working people - and unions are ready to fight back." Those "further threats" include President Trump's platform, aka

Project 2025, which declares he must "must rein in agencies such as

will not get there"- to zero - "without federal agencies such as the Oc-

cupational Safety and Health Administration and the Mine Safety and

ABC to Trump: scrap PLAs

(Continued from Page 1)

union-friendly policies that Biden implemented to make his administration "the most pro-union in history."

Project labor agreements, widely used as a tool in both the public and private sectors, are an option that allows owners and contractors to set terms of employment for the workforce on their projects, governing things like local hiring, drug testing, safety standards, workforce training, and adherence to a collective bargaining agreement.

ABC-affiliated contractors, with their focus on lower costs and looser hiring and worker training requirements, can find themselves on the outside looking in when it comes to getting their foot in the door to bid on jobs that employ project labor agreements.



Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2 members:

Journeymen Bricklayers in the Metro Detroit Area get \$38.45 an hour, plus fully paid Health Insurance, and 2 Pensions.

Our Contractors have immediate opening for Skilled Bricklayers, and Masonry **Restoration Workers.**

For more information go to: bricklayers.org

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 January 28, 2025 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, 48076. There will be a Fund Trustee Election at this meeting.

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

TRUSTEE ELECTION OFFICIAL NOTICE: At the General Membership Meeting on January 28, 2025, you will vote on 4



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positions: Health & Welfare, Pension & Annuity, S.U.B. Fund, and J.A.T.C. Trustees will serve a 3-year term from January 2025 through January 2028. Your dues must be current to vote. The following members were nominated at the December General Membership Meeting:

Health & Welfare: Eric McPherson (unop-

S.U.B.: Scott Lewis (unopposed) J.A.T.C.: Sean T. Mulligan, Alexander

Brzuszek, Khris Andrus Pension: Sean Clancy, Tony Stocker UNION HALL REGULAR HOURS Mon-

MULLIGAN day through Friday 7:30 - 4:00, unless otherwise indicated. DEADLINE FOR 2024 READY TO WORK STIPEND

REQUIREMENTS IS JANUARY 31, 2025. If you qualify for this stipend, check your email. For assistance with your login credentials, please reach out to readytowork@smacnad.org

2024 Ready to Work stipend requirements:

Current MUST Drug Test – no lapse Current MUST 18 Safety Modules – no lapse First Aid certification – classroom training OSHA 30 – official certification required

DOL Office of Apprenticeship Anti-Harassment Training Quiz

RETIREE NEWS & MEETING SCHEDULE: 2025 Retiree Meetings: February 17, April 21, June 16, August 18, October 20 (Holiday Party), December 15th. All membership meetings start at 12:30 pm, held at the Local 80 hall. Please enter the hall through the ramp entrance. Any questions regarding joining the Retirees Association please contact Steve Murzen at 248-652-0593. Retiree lapel pins with the SMWIA logo are available to all members of the Local 80 retirees' association. They will be available to all retiree association members at our general membership meetings. Please see the general membership meeting schedule above.

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

THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR **DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE:** Austin Patyk, Dillon Shepherd, Mathew Bennett, Robert Augugliaro, Michael Flora, Jeffrey Waldrop, Daniel Stoyka, Matthew Stevenson, William Brozik, William Bradfield, Aric Dunn, Michael Dostilio, Dale Schmidt, Nick Kelly, Lloyd Sherman, Nick Saylor, James Woodruff, Timothy Nester, Daniel Kojack, William Ryan, Nathaniel Hawk, Paul Grimm, Scott Denver, Matthew Wardrop, Robert Stark, Timothy Moore, Ryan Tidwell, Michael Ganhs, David Keck III, Brandon Donnelly, Daniel Frazier, Steve Flora, Benjamin Engelhardt, James Dandurand, Christopher Malysz, Daryl Glenday John Foley, Thomas Seibert, George Huyghe, Steve Wiseman, Jamie Gartrelle, Derik Carlson, Dylan Zahringer, James Carter, Brendan Ferguson, Robert Lipke, Trevor Young, & Edward Dobek-Orkisz.

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

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 IN-SURANCE FROM OUR INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Members who have their dues paid in advance (prior to the month of the accident) are eligible for accidental death and dismemberment benefits up to \$7,500.00. This benefit comes as a dues paying member of SMART International.

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

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

OUT-OF-WORK LIST: Members must re-register bi-annually: March 1 through March 20 and 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

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

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

Important: Do not submit your UIA proof directly to the fund office. For questions, call the hall at 248-557-7575.

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

To apply:

Complete the SUB application at the hall.

Provide a pay stub for the week.

The hall will submit your information to the fund office.

Make sure to follow these steps to ensure your eligibility.

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

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

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



Local 292 **Sheet Metal Workers**

Sheet Metal Workers Local 292

TROY - MEETING NOTICE: **NEW LOCATION**: Troy Community Center 3179 Livernois, Troy 48083 1 block north of Big Beaver on the west side of Livernois. Use the Banquet Entrance. Due to a scheduling conflict, the next 2 general membership meetings will be held on Wednesday, February 5, 2025, & March 5, 2025, at **6:00 pm.** The regular meeting schedule will resume in April. Member meetings are held every 2nd Wednesday of the month. Tim Brice will attend the February 5th meeting to discuss and answer any questions

regarding your Annuity contribution. Check out the calendar tab at www.sheetmetal292.com for the location and date.

The E-Board/Stewards meeting will be held on Jan. 28, 2025, at 6 p.m. at the Union Hall.

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

confidential assistance. Ulliance is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Services are of no cost to members and their dependents.

Cyril Persyn 1/25/24 Roger Godreau 1/29/24 Ralph Yakey 1/31/24 John Shoemaker 3/30/24 Richard Sarrach 5/21/24 Jake Gordon 6/14/24 Eugene Wilcox 7/10/24 Charles Augustine 7/30/24

REMEMBERING THE MEMBERS WE LOST IN 2024 Samuel Arreola 8/27/24 Fred Hartman 10/13/24 Michael Stefanski 10/22/24 Norman Lemay 11/5/24 Jeff Demascio 11/6/24 Bryon Belcher 11/18/24 Leslie Benson 11/18/24 Richard Winkler 11/21/24

Please keep their family and friends in your prayers during the grieving and healing process.

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SAFETY MODS AND DRUG TESTS: To access your MUST account, please go to www.mustonline.org or access it through the "links" tab at www.sheetmetal292.com. Remember that your Username is your full S.S. number and your Password is the first four numbers of your S.S. number. Members, please note that if you cannot access the MUST site to complete your safety mods you need to contact the Union Hall.

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

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

RETIREES NOTICE: Thanks to all the retirees who came out to the meetings in 2024. It's always nice getting together and staying connected. The 1st meeting for 2025 will be held on 4/3/25. Stay safe and be well. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Please contact the union hall via our website www.sheetmetal292. com, click on the "Contact Us" page if you would like to be added to the retiree email list.

CONSTITUTION AND RITUAL: The new Constitution and Ritual of the 3rd SMART General Convention is now available online. Go to www.sheetmetal292.com, click on the Constitution/Ritual tab located at the top of the home page. The Union Hall will have hard copies in the near future for members 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

Attention all Welders! We are looking for any member interested (Continued next column)



Local 7 **Sheet Metal Workers**

Sheet Metal Workers Local 7

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

The next Statewide Meeting will be Feb. 13, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

*Zone 1 March 13th at 6:00 p.m. *Zone 2 March 18th at 6:00 p.m.

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

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

*Zone 4 March 11th at 6:00 p.m.

FULLER

*Zone 5 February 6th at 6:00 p.m.

Please register on our website at www.sheetmetal7.org for the most up to date information on meeting schedules for 2025. Once you are registered it must be approved in order to be able to log on. Please contact your representative if you are having issues registering.

SMART Union Labels: Make the union label work for you! The new and modernized SMART Labels are an essential part to wage equalization, which means more money and work for you. Make sure that you are scanning labels in order to equalize pay and eliminate the incentive to subcontract outside of your area. For more information visit the official

website at www.labelitscanitreport.com and download the official app by texting "SMART" to 90975.

ZONE 1 Info. Work in the Zone 1 area continues to be busy and will remain this way through the end of the year. If you become unemployed, please update your status with Eric or Vance (Apprentices please notify Ryan as well). If you are experiencing any difficulties with unemployment or insurance, please contact Eric or Vance for any additional assistance. Any Journeypersons interested in upgrade classes, please contact Ryan at the Training Center for additional information (269) 781-7183 (class availability depends on the number of individuals interested).

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

ZONE 1 Monthly Retiree Meetings:

1st Wednesday of each month @ 8:00 am located at Bob Evans 1725 N W Ave, Jackson

2nd Tuesday of each month @ 1:00 pm located at Rocky Top 1900 Lansing Ave, Jackson

2nd Wednesday of each month @ 12:00 noon located at The Beamery 879 E Michigan Ave, Battle Creek, (Retirees, please notify Vance or Eric of any changes or additions you would like) - In Solidarity, Eric Farrington and Vance Saunders

ZONE 2 Info: Work in Zone 2 remains the same, if you become unemployed update your status with me as there are other opportunities around the state. Thank you to all who took the time to come out to the Zone 2 meeting on the 21st. A few dates to keep in mind for the upcoming year, Local 7 picnic on July 19th in Traverse City and Local 7 golf outing September 6th. As always, keep me informed of any address and phone number changes.

Thank you, Your Brother, Mike Adams

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

ZONE 3 Info: (Traverse City) Work is holding steady and we are waiting for steel on other secured projects. If ANYONE in Zone 3 has worked out of our zone since 2017, please contact me. Please log into your SASMI accounts and update your address and claim your HRA benefit, many have still not claimed this benefit. SASMI's new boot program is going to be tied into getting your physicals this year so make sure to get those scheduled. Please contact me if anyone knows of anyone interested in our trade or if you see any out-of-town contractors in the area. In Solidarity, John Amalfitano

ZONE 4 Info: Work in Zone 4 continues to stay strong, we currently have no one on the bench, and that is fantastic for this time of year. I am really proud of all our members in Local 7. We raised a very large donation to give to the Lincoln Strong foundation. Don't forget to get with Cody Clark and Susan Light at the training center for any upgrade classes that you are interested in. We are hearing some good talk about some big projects that potentially could be coming to Genesee County. Keep your fingers crossed!!! Happy New Year, your brother Scott Brotherton,

ZONE 5 Info Work in the U.P. is busy and should stay that way going through winter. There is a lot of mine work coming up in the next several years so if you don't have your mine safety training make sure you get signed up for that at upconstruction.org. Don't forget our next union meeting will be at our new building at 511 Avenue D. Hope to see you there. In Solidarity, Brandon Langenfeld.

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

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

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

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

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

Local 7 Officers: Samual Fuller (Business Manager/Financial Secretary-Treasurer)

517-882-4064

Eric Farrington (Agent-Lansing/Jackson) 517-242-3223 Vance Saunders (Agent-Battle Creek/Kalamazoo) 269-569-9200 Mike Adams (Agent-Grand Rapids/Muskegon) 616-299-3752

Joe Dotson (Agent-Saginaw) 989-225-0095 John Amalfitano (Agent-Traverse City) 231-590-1112 Scott Brotherton (Agent-Flint) 810-836-3552 Brandon Langenfeld (Agent-Upper Peninsula) 906-372-9288

Local 292 cont'd

in a Saturday welding class Jan. 25, Feb. 1, Feb.15, & Feb. 22. These classes would be for members ready to obtain an AWS welding certification, learn how to weld, or need to practice welding.

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

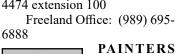
Call the Apprentice School at 248-589-3237, Dave's cell 313-623-9390 or Quintin's cell 248-495-6764 to reserve a spot. Remember we must have the deposit before you will be scheduled in the class.

PDC 1M

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

DC 1M UNION CARDS* Any questions regarding lost, damaged Union cards, or if you have dues inquiries or have not received a card please contact the DC1M offices at:

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





GONZALEZ

DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M SMART PHONE APP Painters District Council 1M is pleased to announce its' all new APP. For IPHONE go to IOS store,

For ANDROID got to Google Playstore Search for "Painters and Allied Trades" download APP Username: your member id# Password: painters

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

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

GET INVOLVED AND PARTICIPATE IN YOUR

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.



Glaziers &

Glassworkers Local 357

Glaziers & Glassworkers 357

WARREN – Our next union meeting will be held on Monday February 3, 2025 at 5pm.

This meeting will be a "Special Called Meeting." At this meeting we will be holding Local 357 officer nominations. Please make every effort to attend.

The March meeting will be March 3, at 5pm. This meeting will be a "Special Called Meeting" where we will be voting, and electing Local 357 officers.

We had a terrific turnout at our holiday parties. Thank you for attending, and making these events a success once again.

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 number: 248-641-4957; fax 248-813-9898.

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

Michigan Painters **District Council**



District Council 1M Michigan

<u>District Council 1M</u> Business Manager: Robert Gonzalez

Meeting date: 2nd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m., with the Executive Board meeting at

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.

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

Local Union 845 Business Rep - Fred Freder-

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.



Sign, Pictorial & Display Local 591

Sign Pictorial & Display 591 WARREN - The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 4, at 5:30p.m. Trustees and union

stewards meet at 5:00 p.m. Members must be in good standing (dues up to date) with District Council 1 app or receipt of paid dues to attend meeting.

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

Council By-laws Any questions on local union issues, please call Jeremy Haviland at 586-899-0183, your

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

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

"First say to yourself what you would be; and then do what

you have to do. -Epictetus (55 AD - 135 AD)

"We should take care not to make the intellect our god; it has, of course, powerful muscles, but no personality.

-Albert Einstein (1879

"I get up every morning determined to both change the world and have one hell of a good time. Sometimes this makes planning my day difficult."

–E. B. White (1899 - 1985)



Iron Workers Local 25

NOVI - The next Union

Meeting will be Monday, JANU-

ARY 27, 2025 at 7:00 pm at the

Novi Union Hall. All outstate

offices will be open for in-person

be due in the Novi Union Hall

ON OR BEFORE 4 pm Jan.

27, 2025. This meeting will be

the first Reading of any proposed

by law(s). If you plan to mail

in a proposal, please make sure

it arrives several days earlier

than Monday 1/27/2025. We've

noticed mail has been slow in

will be Monday, Feb. 24, at 7 pm.

This union meeting will be the

second Reading of any proposed

by law(s). The third Reading will

be during March's Union meeting

Monday March 31, with the Vote

for the Apprentice Coordinator

position. The full details of the

job description & qualifications

can be found on the member

only section of our website.

(www.ironworkers25.org).

Please contact the Training

Center to set up a time to sub-

mit your resume and set a time

to test at the school. APRIL 1,

2025 is the deadline to turn in

through the PUSH NOTIFICA-

TIONS for alerts & emails.

You can download our APP for

android on google play or for

iphone at the APP store just

search "Iron Workers Local 25"

Martinez web shop. Or sign up

via our website (www.ironwork-

ing will be Monday, January 27,

2025 at 6:00 pm. The Flint Stew-

ard meeting will be Wednesday

SION DEPT REPRESENTA-

TIVE WILL BE AT THE NOVI

UNION HALL on Wednesday,

February 5, 2025 from 8:00 am

to 12 noon. If you wish to book

an appointment or just have ques-

tions give us a call 248-344-9494.

SCHOLARSHIP Rules & Ap-

plication form is available. All

requests must be made by Friday

March 7th and all completed

applications are due by March

14, 2025. Call the Novi Union

Hall 248-344-9494 to get one

mailed to you. These are for

sons/daughters of full dues pay-

ing active/working members of

Ironworkers Local 25 who are in

their senior year of High School.

The member must have a mini-

mum of five years continuous

membership to be eligible. The

application is also on the Member

only section of our website where

FICE: 800-572-8553 or 248-347-

3100 and follow the prompts.

Hours 7:30am to 4:30pm. The

mailing address for member

BENEFIT related matters is: Iron

Workers Local 25 Fringe Benefit

Funds, PO Box 99219, Troy MI

48099-9219. Blue Cross Health

Claims and Customer Service

877-790-2583. Delta Dental

Claims and Customer Service

problems with the HRA substan-

tiation letters please call Dennis

Card Balance: my.wexhealthcard.

com (where you can create a log-

information: ourbenefitoffice.

is continuously under way via

US Mail - please respond if you

CHILD: Any member who has

a newborn child, or a new de-

pendent child through marriage

MUST NOTIFY the Fringe Ben-

efit Office of your new dependent

within 31 days; otherwise wait

until the next open-enrollment

CHANGE: Any member experi-

encing a divorce or a new spouse

MUST NOTIFY the Fringe Ben-

efit Office within 31 days; oth-

erwise wait until the next open-

tions are being accepted BUT

you MUST go to ironwork-

ers25.org where you can now

make your application appoint-

ment & pay the application

fee online; you must have an

appointment to turn in your

New Apprentice Applica-

enrollment period (April 1-30).

BENEFIT FOR LIFE

period (April 1-April 30).

com/iw25/benefits/

have been contacted.

If any member is having

Check your HRA/Benny

Check your online benefit

HRA/Benny Card Audit

BENEFIT FOR NEW

800-482-8915.

Aguirre.

FRINGE BENEFIT OF-

you still must print it out.

The 2025 Dennis O'Dowd

February 19th at 5:30 pm.

The Lansing Steward meet-

A FRINGE FUND PEN-

We continue to communicate

We are accepting Resumes

date TBD.

resumes.

ers25.org).

February's Union meeting

Michigan, so please be aware!

BY-LAW(S) Proposals will

and Zoom will be available.

Local 25 Iron Workers

application. No walk-in foot

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

REMINDER: The IRON-WORKER Magazine is published by the International & is issued every other month (6 times per year). The Directory issues is published in December. To subscribe to the digital edition of the Ironworker, please use the following link: https://www. ironworkers.org/s/ironworkerdigital-sign-up

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

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

The West Michigan Chapter Retirees breakfast will meet Tuesday, Feb. 4, at 9 am at Red Rock Grille & Café, 228 N. Ball Creek Rd, NW, Kent City, Michigan 49330. All are welcome.

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

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

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

FindTreatment.gov where you can search by zip code/ city. Or call SAMHSA 800-662-4357. MentalHealth.gov provides information & programs about mental health. Dial 988 (National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) For help 24/7 in a **Time of Crisis**. Call or text 988 if you or someone you know is in danger of suicide or experiencing a mental health crisis. You can also Chat at 988lifeline.org/chat (English & Spanish). Whatever you are struggling with, help is available – its free & confidential. **Suicide Prevention Resources** on IMPACT: http://www.impact-net.org/safety/suicide-prevention-resources. US Crisis Text Line: Text **HOME** to 741741 from anywhere in the United States, anytime, about any type of crisis. A live, trained Crisis Counselor receives the text and responds, all from our secure online platform. A volunteer Crisis Counselor will help you move from a hot moment to a cool moment.

In Memory: Lifetime IW John Crabtree #619380 passed away Nov. 4, 2024 at the age of 86. He was a 67-year member. Dennis Evans #1251458 passed away on Jan. 1, 2025 at the age of 73. He was a JIW who held membership with Local 25 from 1971 to early 2013. Lifetime Rodman Illes "Eli" Papp #830997 passed away Jan. 4, 2025 at the age of 88. He was a member for 55 years & is survived by many friends in the Rod working industry. *Our deep* condolences to all of the family and friends as you mourn the loss of your dear loved one(s)!

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (Jan. 17, 2025 2 p.m. E.S.T.).-



Local 169 Boilermakers

Boilermakers Local 169

ALLEN PARK - Our next membership meeting will take place on Feb. 7, 2025. This meeting will be at IBEW Local 275, 140 64th Ave N, Coopersville, MI 49404.

In an effort

to assist our

Brotherhood,

the Executive

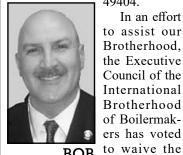
Council of the

International

Brotherhood

of Boilermak-

increase in



BOB HUTSELL

monthly dues for the second year in a row. Current Union dues for 2024 are \$55.85 and will remain \$55.85 for the 2025 calendar year in accordance with the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers Constitution. The Union Hall accepts Visa, Mastercard, and Discover. Payments can

and over the phone. Apprentice Advancements are scheduled for the following dates. Please note that all homework and apprentice reports must be turned in Prior to Advancement dates!

be made both at the Union Hall

Area 1 and Area 3 are Feb. 11 at 5PM and the union hall.

Area 2 is scheduled for February 12, 2025 at 5PM at The Holiday Inn Grand Haven at 940 W. Savidge Street, Spring Lake, MI. 48456

Area 4 is scheduled for February 13 at 5PM at the Operating Engineers Hall at 802 Clark Drive, Gladstone, Michigan

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

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

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

Any members interested in EPRI Rigging, which is required for working in the Nuclear Plants. Please contact Tony Herrera at 616-296-9131, or Jamie Ratliff at 313-584-8520. Your name will be

added to the list. Once we have a full class, you will be notified when and where to attend. Per your International, any member with EPRI training will not be required to have Rigging 1 through 4 for placement on the BDS.

Retirees: Retiree luncheons. **Area 1** Retiree luncheon is on the first Wednesday of every month at 11 am at the White Rhino Sports Bar, 4328 Oakwood, Melvindale, MI 48122.

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

Area 3 Retirees luncheon is the 3rd Wednesday of the month. The next lunch will be January 15 at 11AM. The location is The Silver Palace, 1500 Woodside Avenue, Essexville, MI. 48732. Everyone from all areas is welcome. Please note, to avoid tolls to Bay City, please take the Veterans Bridge.

Area 4 Retirees' lunches are on the first Tuesday of the month at 11am in Rapid River at Jacks Restaurant 7898 S. Main Street, Rapid River, MI. Area 4 retirees also meet in Marquette on the second Tuesday of the month at 11am at Crossroads Bar on the corner of County Rd 553 and County Road 480.

Hoodies have arrived in all sizes at the Union Hall. The cost is \$45.00. Payments can be made with cash or a check. If you live outside of the area and would like to order one, please call the hall. Additional shipping charges will be added. Baseball caps are also available. Varsity jackets are available by special order. Please contact the Union Hall for details.

The upcoming MSHA training schedule is available at www. boilermakerslocal169 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

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 repre-



ing. 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 hun-

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 hear-

dred cases before a court date is even set. Those denied can appeal on their own but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals.

And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet. In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske

has written a book for attorneys about the subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

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

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

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

www.ssdfighter.com



Plumbers, Pipe Fitters, Service Technicians,

UA Local 190

ANN ARBOR – MONTH-LY UNION MEETING: will be held on Monday, Feb. 10 and will start at 6:00 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, MI. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

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

GAS DISTRIBUTION APPRENTICES DOWN HILL WELDING TRAINING & **HELPER TRAINING:** Will begin Monday, Jan. 6 and run for 2 ½ months. This class will be held at the training center Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. *In order to* take the journeyman gas distribution weld test, you must attend this training as a prerequisite. Please note that 4th and 5th year gas apprentices have preference to sign up for this welding training. Limited space is available so please contact Pat Duffy 734-368-4423, Roy Musgrove 734-646-8838 or Ralph Booth at 734-369-1432.

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

MICHIGAN GAS DIS-TRIBUTION JOURNEY-MAN: If you are currently laid off and you would like to work building trades. Please contact Kristyn at out Training Center to get information on a UA 21 Weld Certification. 734-426-3700 Ext. #1 for Kristyn

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

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

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

CREDIT CARD MA-**CHINE:** You now have the ability to pay your union dues or purchase merchandise by credit card or debit card. We accept Visa, MasterCard and Discover. A surcharge of 3% is added to your card on the transaction amount. We will then mail you your dues receipt and credit charge slip.

INFORMATION -FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: 2024 HEALTH COSTS: Just a reminder to all members if you have paid 2024 health costs personally, you must submit information to the Union Hall 7920 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, MI 48103 to the attention of Bernadette by Feb. 15, 2025. If you have any questions please contact

Bernadette, 734-424-0962 EXT 3 NEW BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD APP FOR YOUR SMART DEVICE: you can download the free Blue Cross Blue Shield APP on your smart device. This will allow you to see a copy of your BCBS card, review your claims, explanation benefits and much more. **Down**load: BCBSM

BERNADETTE MAUS IS OUR FULL TIME BENEFITS MANAGER: (Please Note: Bernadette's office entrance door is in the back of our building and is marked "Bernadette Maus - Benefits Manager") Please use this entrance door for Bernadette

Bernadette will be available by

Gas Distribution 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

schedule an appointment. **MEDICARE:** When you become eligible for Medicare, please contact Bernadette Maus, 1-888-390-7473.

her directly at (888) 390-7473 to

2021 State of Michigan Plumbing Code Update is scheduled for Jan. 27, 2025, at the UA 190 Union Hall, 7920 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, MI. **48103 from 5-8:30pm.** Please show up at least a half hour early for check in. Late arrivals will not be registered and must be rescheduled. Participants must bring their State Photo ID, Union Card, and current Plumbing License to attend. Participants must also be a member in good standing with the UA to attend. Please call Kristyn at the training center to be scheduled. Class size is limited to 100 participants, this class is a State of Michigan requirement to renew your plumbing license. DO NOT WAIT UNTIL APRIL 2025, classes will fill up fast. New 2021 Michigan Plumbing Code books will be available for purchase for \$89.75

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

The Training Center will no longer accept cash payments, we will accept checks or credit card payments only. We are following CDC, OSHA, MiOSHA, MD-HHS, and Washtenaw County Health Department guidelines.

Check your Certifications to make sure that you are current!

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

Available Journeyman classes: Lead/Asbestos/Bloodborne Pathogens Training (4 *hrs*): Please register through the website: ua190.org 2025 Schedule - Mondays - Feb. 17, April 21, July 21, and Sept. 29, 2025.

Each class will start at 5:00 pm. First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs): Please register through the website: ua190.org 2025 Schedule - Mondays - Feb. 24, April 28, July 28, and Oct. 6, 2025. Each class will start at 5:00 pm.

Welding Fundamentals (40 hrs): This class is designed for apprentices & journeymen who have little to no welding experience and want to learn the 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: Currently open welding lab is Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursday nights from 4pm to 8:30pm. The open welding lab will run Monday through Thursday 4pm to 8:30pm and Saturdays 7am to 3:30pm. There is limited space and first come first served. Saturdays will only remain open with member participation. Welding tests will be scheduled after participants are approved by welding instructors and the training coordinator.

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

> ASSE Backflow Re-Certi-(Continued next column)



DETROIT

Sprinkler Fitters Local 704

DETROIT - The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

Nomination of Officers will be held at the Feb. 19 meeting. Position due for election is Sear-

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

A speedy recovery for all our sick and injured members.

Local 190, con't

fication (8hrs): ASSE PRICE **INCREASE** ASSE has increased the retesting fee to \$85 for this recertification. Re-certification for the ASSE Backflow Tester (5110). 2025 Schedule: First course starts Feb 11. The second course starts May 6. The third course starts Oct 14. Courses are on Tue and Wed and start at 5 pm. Each course is limited to 8. Call the Training Center to sign up for one of these courses or register through the website: ua190.org

Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification: This is a 40-hour class to be Med Gas certified. Must have a minimum of 4 years, documented experience in the plumbing and/or piping industry. 2025 Schedule: First course starts March 11. The second course starts Sept. 2. Courses will run for 5 weeks, Tue and Thur. These courses are limited to 16 participants. Call the Training Center to sign up for one of these courses or register

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

ASSE 12010 ICRA Certification for Infection Control and Risk Assessment for Construction Workers (16hrs): This is a four-day course. 2025 schedule:

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

EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs): course to be announced later. Please register through the website: ua190.org

RETIREE MEETINGS -Our next Spades meeting will start at 9 a.m. and be held on Thursday, Feb. 6 at the Union Hall.

NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE BUILDING TRADES-**MAN 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 on Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2025, at the Union Hall, 3535 Bay Rd. at 7 p.m.

The next Northern Union Meeting will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2025, at 7 p.m. at the Grayling Eagles.

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

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

(231) 499-7330 csteele @ualocal85.org Andre Alexander, Business

Agent (989) 799-5261 x 8515 aalexander@ualocal85.org Bobby Anderson, Orga-

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

fessional (989) 799-5261 x 8511 ktuthill@ualocal85.org Please check the ualocal85.

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

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

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

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

GOD BLESS ORGA-NIZED LABOR AND THE LABOR MOVEMENT!

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

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

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

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

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

NOTE TO ALL MEM-

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

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

Website Address: Please visit www.ualocal85.org.

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

RETIREE LUNCHEON: The next retirees' luncheon will (Continued next column)



and HVAC Service

FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2025, at 7 pm.

UA Local 370

Retiree Breakfast will be on Monday, Feb. 10 at 9 am. **Upcoming Night Class Schedule:**

Weld Test Saturday, Feb. 1 at 7 am. Sign up with Janelle in the training office.

2021 Michigan Plumbing Code Update Class Tuesday, Feb. 18 + 4:30 - 7:30. Call the Training Center with your plumbing license number to sign up

Night Welding Feb. 3 thru the 27th Mondays and Thursdays 4:30-7:30 Medical Gas Installer Jan.

6 thru Feb. 26 - Mondays and Wednesdays 4:30 - 7:30The refresher test will be on

March 4th. Book fee \$140 Backflow Mar. 3 thru Apr. $2-Mondays\ and\ Wednesdays$ 4:30 - 7:30. The testing will be

on April 7 and 9. First Aid & CPR March 19 and Sept. 17.

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

All classes and test days can be signed up with the Training Center at 810-720-5243 ext 15

or at training@ualocal370.org 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, February 11th ,2025 at 4:00pm FMR Committee – Tuesday, February 11th,2025 at 4:00pm

PAC committee - Tuesday, February 11th,2025 at 5:00pm Executive Board -Tuesday, February 11th, 2025, at 5:00pm

Building Committee - Tuesday, February 11th, 2025 at 6:00pm Finance Committee -Tuesday, February 11th, 2025 at 6:15pm

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

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

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

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

Attention All Active Members in Good Standing. The Joint Apprentice and Training Committee voted to reimburse any active member of Local 370 who takes and passes any training, testing or certification that may be required to perform their work. This includes Rigging, Med-Gas, Back flow or any work-related training or certification expense.

Members will be reimbursed after successful completion and verification of the cost. Lost wages will not be covered by the JATC. Plumbing license renewal is still the responsibility of the member. If you have any questions, please contact local 370 JATC.

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

Local 85, con't

be held on Wednesday, Feb. 5, at 12 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



Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & **HVAC Service**

UA Local 357

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

K-WINGS HOCKEY NIGHT: Local 357 will be participating in a "night out" K-Wings Hockey Game on Saturday, Feb. 8 at 7:00 pm. Tickets will be at the K-Wings WILL CALL window. Please call Lori at (269) 679-3708, or email her at lhatfield@ualocal357.com on or before Monday, Feb. 3, to reserve your tickets.

HOLIDAY PARTY: We give a special Thank You the Mark Little and his Wife who did an OUTSTANDING Job with this year's Holiday Party. It was well attended and a lot of fun for all the members that could attend. We will be looking forward to next year's event.

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

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

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

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

CONGRATULATIONS: Congratulations to Brandan Nelson, and family, on the birth of a son, Nolan.

CONDOLENCES: Condolences to the family of Kyle Goldberg on the recent passing

of his mother. Condolences to the family of Life Member, Bennie Bowden, on his recent passing.

Local 370, con't

will add more content to the site as we move forward.

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

Remember to keep your dues current. Any member failing to pay for 3 months shall stand suspended, unable to vote for a period of 1 year or run for office for a period of 2 years and subject to a \$50.00 reinstatement fee. Dues must be paid in 3-month increments according to our bylaws. Dues will be accepted up to 6:45 on union meeting nights.

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

Local 370 ball caps and winter fleece caps are available at the union offices. Ball caps \$10.00 and fleece caps \$5.00. Pocket Tee shirts are available for \$10 dollars each. Hooded sweat shirts and long sleeve pocket tee shirts are available. The sweat shirts are \$30 and the long sleeve tee shirts are \$15. Golf polo and golf wind shirts are available for \$25.

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



UA Local 671

MONROE - The Local 671 Membership Meetings have now been moved to the 3rd Thursday of the month in accordance with our By-Laws and a subsequent vote at the January Meeting. The next meeting is now scheduled for February 20, 2025 at 7pm.

The Executive Board meetings will now also be held at 5pm on the 3rd Thursday of the month (next meeting February 20, 2025). If any member would like to attend the Executive Board Meeting, please contact the Union Hall prior to the meet-

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

Also, please refer to our website https://www.unitedas- sociationlocal671.com/ and its calendar for the latest updates.

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

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

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

Open Weld Shop Nights: The open Weld Shop nights are now Thursday nights from 6pm-10pm. A booth will need to be reserved by noon on Friday prior to the practice night. If we have (3) or more signed up, we will hold the practice night. Booths will be first-come, first-served with whoever is practicing for a UA test getting priority.

Michigan Plumbing Code **Update Class:** The Local 671 2021 Michigan Plumbing Code pdate Class will be held on February 1st, 2025, from 9am to 12pm in the Union Hall. Please call Carly to register, and have your license number ready when you call, please. This will be the only session held at Local 671, and there is no cost for this training. This update is required if you wish to renew your license in April of 2025.

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

In Closing: Now that the Holiday season is behind us, we have the cold blustery days of winter to look forward too. Take the time to work on yourself. No one else will do it for you.

Remember one thing: Your talent determines what you can do. Your motivation determines how much you're willing to do. Your attitude determines how well you do it. Remember to always strive to improve and try to make the world a better place. Lord knows we could use it.

God bless you all and Local

Mike Jewell: email: mike@

ualocal671.com Vinnie Fenech: email: vin-

nie@ualocal671.com

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

"Let me advise thee not to talk of thyself as being old. There is something in Mind Cure, after all, and if thee continually talks of thyself as being old, thee may perhaps bring on some of the infirmities of age. At least I would not risk it if I were thee.

-Hannah Whitall Smith (1832-1911)

"We could never learn to be brave and patient, if there were only joy in the world."

- Helen Keller (1880 - 1968)

"Reprove thy friend privately; commend him publicly. Solon (638 BC - 559 BC)

Plumbers Local 98

DETROIT – Membership of Plumbers Local 98

The officers and staff at Local 98 wish you a meaningful Martin Luther King Jr. Day as we continue to honor his legacy of equality and justice for all.

Announcements, information on meetings, links to your benefits, the Training Center, and more can be found on our web site. Go to UALOCAL98tc.org

Meetings & Union Hall. Our regular monthly union meeting will be held on Thursday, February 13, 2025 at 7:00pm.

Retiree Luncheon meeting will be held at the hall on Wednesday Feb. 12 from 12-2pm.

The Executive Board meetings are generally held the first Thursday of the month at 5:30pm and before all Union Meetings. The next board meeting is Feb. 6, 2025

Fall Food Drive: Special thanks to our membership for all your donations. We collected 1374 lbs. of food which FST Dan Nixon delivered to Forgotten Harvest for distribution to those in need.

Attention 98 Hockey Players: Any Local 98 member interested in playing on the 98 Hockey Team,

please contact FST Dan Nixon. **Apprentice Council Chili** Cook-Off: The Apprentice Council is hosting a Chili Cook-Off before our meeting on Feb. 13 from 4:30-7. If you have questions or would like to enter your chili call John Linardakis 989 324-8551.

Applications are now being accepted for our apprenticeship program. Learn more at www. plumbers98TC.org/apprentice-

Expelled Members: We currently have five expelled members this month; John D. Hocking; Ramell D. Ledford; David J. Murray; Columbus R. Ward; and Christopher Webster. Please contact Business Manager Gary Glaser or Financial Secretary-Treasurer Dan Nixon for further information to stay active and catch up on your dues.

Dues: Please keep your email and contact information up to date at the hall. We have several options to pay your dues; in person, online, automatic deduction from an account and pension deduction for retirees. Contact the hall for more information.

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 locahave a dedicated email to send your unemployment certifications and/or backup documents to receive SUB pay. Please email correspondence to: sub@ualocal98. org by Thursdays at 3:00pm to ensure ample time to process the payments. Make sure your contact information is up to date, as well as MUST and other certifications. If you have any problems with state agencies involving unemployment, or questions on MUST models and staying current, please contact Rufus Hamilton.

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

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

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

In Memoriam: Let us remember our family, friends and brothers and sisters who have passed or lost a loved one. Our deepest condolences and sympathy to the families and friends of deceased Brother Anthony Gervasi, initiated on 09/27/1956, he was a 68 year member; Brother Richard Selby, initiated on

01/25/1968, he was a 55 year member; and Brother James Stevens, initiated on 08/08/1994, he was a 30 year member.

CONTACT INFORMA-TION:

Gary Glaser, Business Manager (313) 580-0148 gglaser 98@

ualocal98.org Dan Nixon, FST (248) 752-

3702 dnixon98@ualocal98.org Rufus Hamilton, Business Agent (313)542-2758 rhamilton98@ualocal98.org

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

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

Jeff Kavalar, Business Agent (313)938-1554 jkavalar@ualo-

cal98.org Rob Moses, Organizer (248)763-2187 rmoses98@ualocal98.org

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

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

_The Apprenticeship Application process is currently open. The application deadline for the next class is Friday, Jan. 24, 2025. The next application deadline is scheduled for Friday, July 18, 2025. Applications are submitted online. Go to our website and read all requirements for the application process.

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

PLUMBING CODE UP-DATE (required to renew the State of Michigan Journey or Master License) Classes are available at the Training Center. Call the Training Center to get signed up for the next available class.

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

Monthly Code Class – Next class is PENDING at 4:30 pm. This is **not** a code update class. Open to any member looking to have discussions about the interpretation of the Michigan Plumbing Code. Great refresher for anyone wanting to take a state plumbing exam. Please call Paul Baker at the Training Center at 248-585-1435 ext. 123 to register.

If you are a member that has the practical portion of the state test scheduled for Feb. 6, 2025, we have 2 available evenings to come in and practice for it. The 2 dates are Wednesday, Jan. 22, and Wednesday, Jan. 29. Call the Training Center if you are interested in attending either of these sessions, or both. You will be required to bring all your supplies as you would for going to the actual test.

OPEN WELDING - is available on Wednesday evenings. Please call Chris Opalka 248-585-1435 ext.146 for any welding related inquiries and to check on booth availability. For those that can't find time to get in during the weekdays, open welding will be available on the first Saturday of the month, call to get a booth.

**2024 brazing and welding sessions will be scheduled on the 1st Saturday of the month. If your brazing or welding certs are ready to expire, call to schedule an appointment. The next Welding and Brazing sessions will be Feb. 1, 2025. You must call to schedule your brazing OR welding tests at least 3 days prior to

be in the shop area. CALL THE TRAINING CENTER TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING **CLASSES OFFERED IN 2025.** All classes are register and prepay by check or money order only. Deadlines for registration and prices are listed with each class.

the test. Please note: All members

must be dressed appropriately to

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

4 hour recert class April 15

& 16. Deadline is March 14 4 hour recert class July 29 & 30. Deadline is June 27

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

ASSE Backflow Tester (Full 40 hour):

Spring: March 3 – May 12 Deadline is Feb. 14 - \$200 Fall: Sept. 8 – Nov. 17 Dead-

line is Aug. 22 - \$200 ASSE Repairer: Prerequisite: Must hold a current 5110

Tester Certification **Spring**: March 5 – April 9,

Deadline is Feb. 14 - \$100 Fall: Sept. 10 - Oct. 15, Deadline is Aug. 22 - \$100

BIM I - 40 hour class Spring: March 5 – May 14

Deadline is Feb. 14 - \$100 Fall: Sept. 10 – Nov. 17 Deadline to register Aug. 22 - \$100

ICRA and Water Quality:

Prerequisite: Must Have OSHA 10 or 30 - \$200 Spring: Week of March 3

to week of May 12. Deadline to register Feb. 14

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

termined Medical Gas Installer (Full

40 hour): Spring: March 5 – May 14 Deadline is Feb. 14 - \$200

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

6010 Medical Gas Installer Recertification- *All current Med Gas certification. MUST CONTACT the Training Center for the next available class.

Hydronic Heating and Cooling – 40 hour class - \$100 fee Spring: Week of March 3 to week of May 12. Deadline to

register Feb. 14 Fall: Week of Sept. 8 to week of Nov. 17. Deadline to register Aug. 22. Day of week to be determined

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

Spring: Week of March 3 to week of May 12. Deadline to register Feb. 14

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

OSHA Training - OSHA 10, available as an online class for \$59 at www.careersafeonline. com This OSHA 10 class is not affiliated with the UA or our Training Center. OSHA 10 and 30 Hour Training is also offered online through the MUST website. Go to <u>www.mustonline.org.</u> **Be sure to take the Construction Safety courses; not the General Industry courses.

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

January 24, 2025

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN



UA Local 333

LANSING - February's union meeting will be held Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at 6:30pm at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 49811.

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

Rigging Re-Certification classes will be at the Lansing Training Center from 5:00-8:00. Bub will be the instructor. Class dates will be: Jan 14, 2025; Jan 21, 2025; Jan 28, 2025; Jan 30, 2025; Test Feb 6, 2025

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

Training Week 1, 3/18/25 & 3/20/25,

Hours of training, 6

Week 2, 3/25/25 & 3/27/25, Hours of training, 6

Week 3, 4/01/25 & 4/03/25, Hours of training, 6

Week 4, 4/08/25 & 4/10/25, Hours of training, 6

Week 5, 4/15/25 & 4/17/25, Hours of training, 6 Week 6, 4/22/25 & 4/24/25,

Hours of training, 6 Week 7, 4/29/25 & 5/01/25,

Hours of training, 6 Week 8, 5/06/25, Hours of training, 3

5/08/25 Exam Practical Exam 5/09/24 Winter Weld Classes:

Lansing: Starting January 6, Advanced Weld Class: Mon-

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

pm (10 weeks) Jackson: Starting January

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

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

Tuesday's & Thursday's 4:30 -8:30 pm (10 weeks) Battle Creek: January 13, 2025 Monday's & Thursday's

4:30 - 8:30 pm (10 weeks)**Lansing Orbital Welding** MIG CLASS: Must have UA21 - Class will begin when 6 mem-

bers have signed-up. **CPR and First Aid:** Class will begin when 10 members sign

CSD-1, Saturday, Jan. 25, 2025, and Feb. 1, 2025. Class will be from 8am to 4pm. Anyone enrolled should plan to attend both days. George Nevejans will teach the class; he will review the CF tables and cover what should be inspected per boiler rating. Please call Diana at the Training Center to register. (517) 323-0333 ext.1

Lansing Orbital Welding: 40 hours. You must have your UA21 and UA41 – Class will begin when 6 members have signed-up.

PLEASE NOTE FOR ALL **CERTIFICATIONS:** Per the UA as of January 1, 2019, all Braze and Weld certifications must be updated within 120 days of their expiration date, or you will lose your certification. Check the dates on your certifications and if they have expired call Diana at the Lansing Training Center 517-323-0333. Even though the Training Center sends everyone's continuities to be renewed, between changes of addresses and the Post Office,

there is plenty of room for error. Ultimately it is the member's responsibility to make sure their certifications are current.

Medical Gas Certification will begin January 13, 2025 5:00 - 8:00 pm

Backflow Recertification will begin February 24, 2025 5:00 - 8:00pm

Medical Gas Recertification will begin February 26, 2025 5:00 - 8:00 pm

Fundamental of Gas Heating & Combustion Class begins January 9, 2025, through March 6, 2025 from 5:00pm-8:00pm. Classes will be held at the Jackson Training Center, 3101 Allied Industrial Dr. Jackson, MI.

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

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

Retirees' Breakfast in Jackson: Retirees meet the third Tuesday of every month at 10:00am at the Alpha Coney Island at 1188 Jackson Crossing, Jackson, MI. PLEASE NOTE: The restaurant is located at the west end of the Jackson Crossing Shopping Center.

The Diversity Committee meeting will be held Tuesday, February 11th, 2025, at 6pm, at Hooked Coffee, 3142 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing, MI. 48912. Discussion topic Workplace Violence, Please RSVP by February 8, 2025, by calling the Lansing

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

DUES: Please check your dues receipts to make sure your dues are paid. Dues can be paid with debit, or credit card, a check or money order.

Congratulations to the following members who retired in January. Edwin Secor, Robert Klon, Jason Buckner. We wish you the best of luck with all your new adventures.

"It is certainly desirable to be well descended, but the glory belongs to our ancestors. -Plutarch (46 AD - 120 AD),

Even on the most exalted

throne in the world we are only sitting on our own bottom." -Michel de Montaigne (1533

young fools is how many survive to become old fools.'

-Doug Larson "Never think that you're not good enough yourself. A man should never think that. People will take you very much at your

"The surprising thing about

own reckoning." -Anthony Trollope (1815 -

"Patriotism is often an arbitrary veneration of real estate above principles. -George Jean Nathan (1882

"Many people despise

wealth, but few know how to give it away. -Francois de La Rochefou-

cauld (1613 - 1680) 'What a blessing it would be if we could open and shut our ears as easily as we open and shut

-Georg Christoph Lichtenberg (1742 - 1799)





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Local 636

Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters, Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Service

UA Local 636

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

Office Hours are 8:30 am – 4:30 pm Monday – Friday. For any member who couldn't make the Annual Awards & Christmas Banquet, the Years of Service Awards and pins are available to pick up at the Union Hall until March 1, 2025. The remaining will then be mailed.

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

Calling all retirees! The next meeting will be held Feb. 20.

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

PLDF. For those still owing on PLDF we are only able to take checks or money orders for payment.

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

Deceased Members – Lifetime Member William W. Kurtzhals father of William Kurtzhals Jr. and nephew Rusty Kurtzhals, Jan. 9, 2025; Lifetime Member Peter Nowakowski Dec. 30, 2024 father of member David Nowakowski; Lifetime Member Billy J. Towle Dec. 24, 2024 Father of member John Towle; 28-year member Steven Usher Dec. 4, 2024; 28-year member William Bricks Dec. 3, 2024.

Our deepest condolences to member Frank Lisecki on the passing of his wife Audrey, sister-in-law of members John and Alisa Lisecki, and cousin to Larry Krisniski Sr. & Jr. Jan. 8, 2025; to member David Schavey on the passing of his stepson Derrick Sieting Jan. 2, 2025; to member Frank Tilton on the passing of his wife April Dec. 24, 2024; to Kim Bolling on the passing of her mother Diane McDonald Dec. 8, 2024. Condolences to Bill Towle on the passing of his wife Altha Dec. 7, 2024. Our condolences to the family of David Tracy, service applicant, who passed away Dec. 6, 2024.

Get Well Wishes to; Don Bagozzi, Terry Gilligan, Chris Fye, David Hochstein, Thomas L. Williams Jr, Justin Morgan, Ron Sarata, Joshua Allen, Alex Block, Theresa Danko, Michael Downey, Brian Dyer, Ryan Girard, Tanya Holland, Jason Howe, Michael Kovak III, Earl Marshall Jr., Jason McNamara, Robert Miller, Nasser Mubaraz, John Nemecek, Branden Rodzik, Ryan Seitz, Jeff Selph, Joseph Siniarski, John Taylor, Buddy Woods, and David Yuhn.

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!

December 2024: Larry Crawley, Mark Surowiec, Kenneth Wilson, Weslee Winn.

January 2025: Greg Curlee, Jeffrey Gillies, Mark Hammons, Leonard Koskodan, Richard Mortz, James Tayor.

DUES - 1st Quarter Dues are due now. Your dues receipt will now be emailed to you; this will help us save on the cost of mailing receipts. Please call the Local to update your email and phone numbers. Local 636 has set up an auto-pay system for your dues so you will never miss a payment. Please contact Kim Kavanaugh at the union hall, she will be more than happy to help you with payment made by credit or debit card.

The Ulliance Member Assistance Program is available to all

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

New 988 crisis helpline. The UA and the MCAA have made a joint investment to spread awareness on the way we approach mental health and suicide prevention. With the implementation of the Department of Health and Human Services 988 Lifeline, new resources are now available. When people call or text 988, they will be connected to trained counselors who will listen, understand how their problems are affecting them, provide support, and connect them to resources.

S.U.B. -NEW- Direct Deposit is NOW AVAILABLE for SUB-PAY. Participants should continue to send all applications and weekly proof to the SUB Fund office for review and processing by emailing subpay@pipefitters636.org.

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

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

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

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

Direct Deposit Authorization Agreement forms for SUBPAY were mailed by BeneSys and can be found on our website or you can call the Local for one.

BeneSys has set up a dedicated phone line for Pipefitters 636 needs and questions, when calling BeneSys, please call #248-641-

4936 or #888-646-8920. Financial Advisor Jason May with Merrill Lynch Wealth Man-

agement has a **new contact number 248-540-2091** or email him at jason.may@ml.com

Defined Contribution Pension Plan. For those members who use the Voice Response Unit, VRU to obtain balance information and transfers funds in your Defined Contribution Pension, the number has changed. The NEW NUMBER for the VRU is 877-410-9984. Plan provider number is 7526. You can now login to your Defined Contribution account on the Local's Website. Just click on the "Defined Contribution login here tab" and it will take you to the BeneSys login page. The Defined Contribution corrected website is www. accountplanaccess.net/benesys. Your initial login information is as follows: Username – Social Security number, without the dashes. Password – Full birth date, without the slashes, (mmddyyyy). You will be prompted to update your username and password after initial login. Upon login, the site will take you to the "My Dashboard" page. Here you will be able to review a snapshot of your account balance, investments, and recent transactional activity.

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 248-641-4936 at BeneSys for your retirement paperwork. Please allow a 60-90-day notice that is necessary to adequately process the requests for paperwork, getting the forms sent to the participant, the member completing it and returning it to the Fund Office for final processing.

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

(Continued next column) Training Center to sign up.



Plumbers, Pipe Fitters

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

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

Retiree Breakfast: will be held Thursday, Feb. 6, 2025 at 9am at New Beginnings Restaurant in Coopersville.

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

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

Aetna/Trinity settle contract: On behalf of the Local #174 Board of Trustees we are happy to report that the contract between Aetna and Trinity has been settled. Trinity will remain an in-network provider for Aetna and Local #174 participants.

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

Organizing Update: I've been getting calls and texts regarding workers at non-union shops, thank you! We will be having an open house Feb. 20 from 8AM- 7PM at the hall, please let everyone know. We are going to be giving tours showing everyone how and why we train. The next day, Feb. 21, we are opening our apprenticeship application process for two weeks. This open house/application process is for those with no experience, vast experience, or very little.

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 OF-FICE as soon as possible so we

Local 636, con't

Training Center News. Regular night welding runs through the Winter: Monday and Thursday nights from 4pm till

Certified Brazing class Monday and Thursday Night 4 till 8 Night classes starting Feb 17th:

UA-Water Quality Program ASSE 12000 class: Monday nights from 5-8 with Jason for 5

Basic HVAC class with Jason: Thurs. night from 5-8 for 5

A2L class with Kevin: Thur. nights from 4-8 for 5 weeks.

Hydronic piping design and size with Kevin: Thurs. from 5-8

Chiller Service class with Dan: starting Wed nights from 5-8 for 5 weeks.

Power Burners class with Todd Wed. from 5-8 for 5 weeks Cert. Rigging and Signalperson class with Doug: Mon and

Thus nights from 5-8 Trimble 2 class: Thus nights for 10 weeks from 5-8.

Revit class 2: Thurs. nights for 10 weeks from 5-8. 120-hour MES 1 class con-

tinues: Mon. and Thurs. nights Please call Kim at the 636



can keep our system up to date. FRINGE PLAN THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR: (SOLXSYS). West Michigan

Plumbers, Fitters and Service Trades Local No. 174 Fringe Benefit Funds, 5600 New King St, Suite 330, Troy, MI 48098 (855) 407-5862 Toll Free

Health Insurance Contact Info: Active and NON Medicare Retirees

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

Active Member/Working Retiree \$1,110.33 Non-working Pre-Medicare Retiree\$791.10 Medicare Single \$123.63 Medicare Couple \$247.26 Medicare with Pre-Medicare Spouse \$497.13 Medicare Surviving Spouse

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

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

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

Dispatch: We have split up the dispatch responsibilities between the Business Agent and the Assistant Business Manager positions. Each person will be on dispatch for 2 weeks. There is a dispatch email of: dispatch@ ual74.org which both offices have access to. The dispatch phone extension will switch between the two offices depending on who is on dispatch.

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

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

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

Training News:

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

WELD TEST: Test Events will be the second week of every month. Capabilities will be Tuesday nights with weld tests on Thursday nights. In the event of a union meeting being that Tuesday, we will move capabilities to a Wednesday. Next capabilities will be Tuesday February 11th, 8th and the test to follow Thursday, February 13th at 5pm

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

WELDER CONTINUITY:

If you have weld certs and have turned in a continuity, the welder certification status cards are now being emailed, rather than sent via USPS mail. If you have turned in continuity and have NOT received an updated status card, please contact the Training office to verify we have your current email.

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.



Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service

Local 111

UA Local 111

UPPER PENINSULA -

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

The next Union Meeting will be held in Escanaba on Jan. 30, 2025, at 7:30 PM. This will be a special called meeting to review the Local's Financial Report. Please make plans to attend.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Feel the Power **Local 1191**

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 M-F 8am – 4 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.

Monthly General Membership Meetings: All General Membership Meetings are held on the first Fridays of each month at 7pm at the Local Union hall, unless the Membership receives notice of a meeting cancellation, rescheduling and/or a venue change. February's General Membership Meeting will be held on Feb. 7, 2025 at 7:00pm. March's General Membership Meeting will be held on March 7, 2025 at 7:00pm.

Monthly Retiree Council **Meetings:** are the last Friday of each month. The meetings are held at 11 am at the Local Union, 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208. January's Retiree Council Meeting will be held on Jan. 31, 2025 at 11 am. February's Retiree Council Meeting will be held on February 28, 2025 at 11:00am."

Union Dues For 2024: Regular monthly dues are \$35.00 for Active Members. Retiree monthly dues will remain the same \$8.00. Members can now Pay Dues online 24/7 on our website at www.laborerslocal1191. org! To make online dues payments, click the "Pay Dues" tab in upper right-hand corner and follow the instructions.

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

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

New Projects: Members are urged to report the start of any/all new projects to the Local Union. Members working for a contractor who may be looking to hire additional laborers are urged to call the Union Hall and help a brother or sister get referred out to work. . ships at www.unionplus.org/ benefits/education/union-plusscholarships.

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

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

*Telephone: (877) 645-2267

*Fax: (517) 689-6016 *Website: www.michiganlabor-

ers.org *Delta Dental: (800) 524-0149 Metropolitan Detroit Laborers'

(Pension) *Telephone: (248) 641-4942 *Fax: (248) 813-9898 Metropolitan Detroit Laborers'

(Healthcare) *Telephone: (800) 228 0048 Metropolitan Detroit Labo-

rers' AND Michigan Laborers' Vacation Funds

WPAS. Telephone: (833) 389-0025 EXT. 3359



Local 36 **Elevator** Constructors

Elevator Constructors Local 36 DETROIT - ALL MEM-BERS ARE INFORMED; Our next regular membership meeting will be January 27, 2025, 5:30pm at 1640 Porter Street, Detroit, MI 48216. Any changes to this schedule or venue will be in the Building Trades Article or sent via email.

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

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

I sent out an email about the Schindler Rise program concerning taxes on the points accumulated. Employees who receive RISE points will see a posting on the paycheck at the end of the year that reflects the total dollar amount associated with the points they received. The posting of these dollars is entered in the payroll system so that the taxes can be accounted for. These taxes are paid by Schindler. Any questions contact the hall.

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

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

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

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

IUEC Local 36 has started a Veteran Assistance Committee. Scott Erison has volunteered to chair the committee and will be working directly with Jason Gray, IUEC VAP National Chair. Once we get a schedule figured out, we will have monthly meetings to get information out to our veterans.

You don't have to be a veteran to be part of this committee, like me, my father is a Vietnam Vet, and I have witnessed firsthand what the veteran's benefits has done for him and I'm a big supporter of these programs and our veterans. Contact Scott Erison (586)482-0768 or email him at sanosire1973@gmail.com if you would like to get involved or have questions.

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

If you are going to be off with an injury (work related or non-work related), surgery or illness for a prolonged length of time, call the fund office (800)523-4702 and inform the

hall. When you are off and go back to work. The weekly Income Benefit through the international has increased to \$715 weekly after the one week waiting period.

If you would like to sign up for Safety alerts, text (855) 957-1801 and sign up to receive Safety alerts via text and email.

If you start a new job in MOD/construction, you MUST report those jobs to the hall!! If you are going to be working a 4/10 job in construction or MOD. it MUST be submitted in writing to the Local Business Representative per Article VII Par. 2A. and Article VIII(A) Par. 2A.

When starting a new job please email the hall @ Local36@iuec36.org with job name, address, names of mechanics and apprentices on job, mechanic's phone numbers, how many teams, type of equipment installing, how many stops and jobsite hours. This will help us keep track of jobs easier than just calling the hall.

Attention All Mechanics, just a reminder to Mechanic's that passed the Mechanic's Exam on or after July 9, 2022, starting January 1, 2023, and each calendar year thereafter, each mechanic shall be required to successfully complete at least eight hours of online continuing education from the curriculum published annually by NEIEP.

NEIEP will monitor compliance for all participants and upon successful completion will pay the participants' Mechanic rate for their home local (excluding benefit contributions). Required Mechanics (including assistant mechanics) that do not comply with the continuing education requirements shall not receive the wage rate increase until completion of the required continuing education curriculum.

Attention All Apprentices, NEIEP classes will start the week of January 20th, your instructor should have reached out to you via email or text with class times and days. Contact the hall if you have any questions We are planning on having a Mechanic's review class in February, Jeff Patti will contact vou with details when dates are available..

If you are scheduled to sit for the Mechanic's exam, you must fill out your OJTs till you get your passing results. Kenny and I would like to thank all of you for keeping up on your OJTs, schooling, and commitment to your future. Check your **NEIEP** emails frequently. OJT forms need to be filled out COMPLETELY by the 9th day of the following month. There is NO excuse for these to be late!!!

Attention All Temporary Mechanics, your Temporary Mechanic's Agreement MUST be signed by the end of each month at the Union meeting. If you can't make the Union meeting (for good reasons) to sign your agreement, then come down to the hall the **NEXT MORNING**. If we continue to have problems getting these signed, you will be called down in front of the Executive board. If you are put back to Apprentice status, your personal tools MUST be taken off the job, out of your vehicle and notify the hall.

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

Be safe and stay healthy!

"The important work of moving the world forward does not wait to be done by perfect men.'

- George Eliot (1819 - 1880)

"You can't say that civilization don't advance, however, for in every war they kill you in a new way.'

-Will Rogers (1879 - 1935)

"It is not easy to find happiness in ourselves, and it is not possible to find it elsewhere."

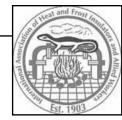
-Agnes Repplier (1855 -

"It is our responsibilities, not ourselves, that we should take

seriously. -Peter Ustinov (1921 - 2004)

"Happiness: a good bank account, a good cook and a good digestion.

- Jean Jacques Rousseau



Heat and Frost Insulators Local 47

Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 47

LANSING - The next Regular Meeting will be held on Friday, February 14, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., and will be held at the J.A.T.C. Training Center located at 16475 Ingersoll Rd., Lansing, MI 48906.

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

Please notify the Local Union Office with any phone and home address changes. We need the most current member information throughout our system, TIC's, and the with the International.

If you are Non-Active retiree or Surviving Spouse and would like to continue receiving the Building Tradesman please contact the Union Office to let us

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

Members must notify the office before ANY overtime is worked.

Pension and Health Welfare: Joshua Kroell (989) 385-2671 Allied Workers' Local 47

Fringe Benefit Funds 6525 Centurion Drive Lansing, MI 48917-9275 Toll Free: (800) 323-8079 Telephone: (517) 321-7502 Fax: (517) 321-7508

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

1498, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804. To all active members, if you have not sent in your Coordination of Benefits Form, your Spousal Form, or your Birth Certificates for your Children, no one will be covered on our insurance until these items are sent to TIC. Please call TIC immediately at (800) 323-8079 and get the above-mentioned forms into the fund ASAP and you will be reinstated retroactively

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

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

Please complete and return the working spousal forms to

JATC Coordinator Phil Wilson (616-466-8736)

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

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

Good and Welfare:

Congratulations to Ollie and Brandy Hull on the birth of their daughter Millie!

Local 47 would like to send our condolences to the Family and Friends of Doug Shoffner. Doug passed away on Friday, December 13, 2024.



MOVING A CRATE during the Detroit Auto Show set up is Chris Klinck of Iron Workers Local 25. He's employed by Convention Show Services.



Heat and **Frost Insulators** Local 25

Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25

SOUTHFIELD - The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, February 13, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge Street, Southfield, MI 48033.

CONDOLENCES to the family of retired member Randy Victory on his September 14, 2024 passing. Please keep Brother Victory's family in your thoughts and prayers.

MEMBERSHIP MEET-**ING:** This month's Membership Meeting will focus on the Health and Welfare Fund. During each meeting, a plan summary related to the specific fund will be provided to the membership.

SUB FUND BENEFIT: Per the Plan Document: Each time a participant receives a State Unemployment check, he/she must mail or deliver the receipt, check stub, or a copy of the check to the Administrator's office within 30 days of receipt of said State Unemployment check. Any request for a benefit payment past the 30 days will be denied per the Plan Document. Documentation for SUB Fund benefits must be received by 2:00 p.m. Thursday to receive a benefit check on Friday. Any documentation submitted after the deadline will be issued the following Friday.

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

EMPLOYMENT CHANG-ES: All employment changes; hire, lay off, fire, shop change, disability, etc. must be called into the Union Hall within 48 hours. This is the only way to guarantee you are on the out of work list and your employment records remain current and correct. Failure to report will result in an automatic fifty dollar fine.

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

"If you are pained by external things, it is not they that disturb you, but your own judgment of them. And it is in your power to wipe out that judgment now.'

- Marcus Aurelius Antoninus (121 AD - 180 AD)

"Don't be too timid and squeamish about your actions. All life is an experiment. The more experiments you make the better."

-Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 - 1882)

"I was always looking outside myself for strength and confidence, but it comes from within. It is there all the time.'

Anna Freud (1895 - 1982) "Experience is that marvel-

ous thing that enables you to recognize a mistake when you make it again.

-Franklin P. Jones

"It is when power is wedded to chronic fear that it becomes formidable.

-Eric Hoffer (1902 - 1983)



Abatement Workers Regional Local 207

Abatement Workers Local 207 TAYLOR - There are a lot of upcoming projects slated for early Spring so be prepared for work. Remember to call in if you are unemployed for help with future placement. Updated, working telephone numbers are necessary to help you with work place-

> ment. Do not get caught without the necessary current job site credentials.

> > Work in

other areas of the region will KEVIN be picking up MEAGHER in Tennessee's

and OHIO as well as Virginia and Kentucky. Winter outages in all areas in the region are on the horizon so make sure if you can travel that you make sure to get licensed as soon as possible.

With most state agencies

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

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

Next Union Meeting: March 26th, 2025 7pm at the union hall.

UPCOMING ASBESTOS TRAINING CLASS

Asbestos Supervisor Refresher Saturday, January 25th at the Taylor office

New Initial 40-hour Supervisor Class should be in March at the hall. We do have spots open for the new class so have people call the office if interested 1-800-

Check with the Office to ensure the classes will occur as scheduled.

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

--- Classes begin promptly at **8AM** and end at **4PM**. followed by a Lead Awareness Update.

If you are due to expire and need one of these refreshers now, please call the Taylor Office (1-800-207-5622) to register.

BE SAFE!



READY TO MOVE material at the Detroit Auto Show at Huntington Place are driver Tim Osborne of Teamsters Local 299 and Richard Finley of Iron Workers Local 25. They're employed by **Convention Show Services.**

"Do not anticipate trouble, or worry about what may never happen. Keep in the sunlight.

-Benjamin Franklin (1706 - 1790)

"How little of permanent happiness could belong to a couple who were only brought together because their passions were stronger than their virtue.

- Jane Austen (1775 - 1817),

"We cannot control the evil tongues of others; but a good life enables us to disregard them.

Cato the Elder (234 BC - 149 BC)

"To be without some of the things you want is an indispensable part of happiness.

-Bertrand Russell (1872 - 1970)

"Accomplishing the impossible means only that the boss will add it to your regular duties.'

-Doug Larson

"Take time to deliberate, but when the time for action has arrived, stop thinking and go in." -Napoleon Bonaparte (1769 - 1821)

"The hardest thing to learn in life is which bridge to cross and -David Russell

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INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

BAY CITY – Union Meeting. The February monthly membership meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. on **Monday, Feb. 3, 2025.**

Executive Board Meeting. The February Executive Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m.on Monday, Feb. 17, 2025.

Message from the Business Manager. 2025 is off to a great start. Man hours continue to be up with lots of work continuing within the jurisdiction. Many calls have been quite difficult to fill. With the open calls both Brian and Brendon have continued to organize new members. Our local has seen unprecedented growth which has also contributed to provide financial security.

Our Health and Pension plans continue to operate at record highs. I will not sugarcoat things, on the work front we may have never seen things so good. It is my hope that life is good for all of you as well. I also hope 2025 continues to be very prosperous for all of you. We will do everything in our power at the Local Union level to make sure that occurs. Lastly, thank you all for your continued support!

2025 IBEW International Annual Golf Tournament is being held in Elmira, NY, Akron Ohio in 2026 and Columbus Ohio in 2027. This year's 3-day tournament will be held July 30- Aug. 1. Included is 3 rounds of golf and a banquet on the last day with awards and prizes. Additionally, open bar daily with food and snacks, all for \$275. Interested members can contact Terry Brandenburg (586-854-3447). Registration deadline is Tuesday, April 15.

Work Report. Ongoing projects in our jurisdiction continues to be very, very strong. Many calls have been very difficult to find the amount of help needed. Calls that may require additional manpower include:

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

Master Electric is wrapping up work on the new Isabella County Jail. Master is also completing projects at the Midland Armory and Midland ESA. Master has recently secured Phase 2 and began work at Bangor

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

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

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

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

Superior Electric has a new line out to Bay City Powertrain along with a cooling tower project. Additional job calls for this project came in the last week.

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

John's Electric has secured nice projects in Luzerne, Rogers, and a considerable amount of work in Alpena schools. Work on the CMU Tower building in Atlanta will begin next month.

Hardie's Electric has ongoing work in Cheboygan and

Northern Valley has completed construction of their new

"There must be more to life than having everything.

-Maurice Sendak (1928 -"The future is here. It's just

–William Gibson (1948 -)

not widely distributed yet.'

BAY CITY MICHIGAN

shop near the cement plant. Pierce Powerline has secured work at Oscoda schools.

Rest assured both organizers and myself are working very diligently to secure whatever work is being bid in our jurisdiction for our membership.

All locals in the State of Michigan are currently having many calls getting into Book II if you are looking for work.

Saginaw has kicked off work at Project Phoenix in Hemlock. Please contact the hall if you would like to sign any books.

Please remember when calling the job line to use extension

In Solidarity, Ryan Charney Business Manager / Financial

Organizers Report. Organizers continue to visit non-union job sites to speak with unrepresented electricians. If any current members know non-union electricians who may be interested in joining our Local, please do not hesitate to reach out. Immediate onboarding opportunities are currently available around the state, in addition to expected open calls in 692 and nearby 557 in early

The organizers' involvement in school presentations and apprenticeship recruitment events has ramped up considerably over the past two months. JATC personnel are also helping with this effort. Apprenticeship classes have grown nearly 300% over the past few years to keep up with demands from local contractors. JATC has also indentured at record levels to combat attrition due to so many of our existing JIWs reaching retirement age. Apprenticeship application information is available by calling or emailing either organizers or the Bay City Electrical JATC.

Brian Klele <u>bklele@</u> ibew692.org 989.252.9225 Brendon Baranek bbaranek@ ibew692.org 989.327.4131

Ice Fishing Tournament. 692 Renew Committee is hosting their fourth annual Battle on the Bay ice fishing tournament on Saturday, Feb. 22. All IBEW members are welcome to participate. A trophy will be awarded to the Local Union whose anglers catch the heaviest three fish. Individual prizes awarded for heaviest perch and walleye. The fishing must take place anywhere on the Saginaw Bay watershed. Cost is \$15 to preregister, \$20 day of tournament, fee includes a walleve dinner to follow tournament at the Union Hall. Walleye dinner is also available to non-fishing members for \$10. For more information or to pre-register, contact Garrett at 989.600.5555.

Union Dues.

Effective Jan. 1, 2025, dues increased to \$48.20 per month. This \$2 Pension Fund increase was approved by the delegates of the 40th IBEW International Convention held in May of 2022.

Additionally, effective July 1, 2025, dues will increase to \$49.20 per month.

If you have automatic bill pay from your bank or credit union, please make sure to notify them of the increase.

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

will be a 2% charge applied. To avoid a reinstatement fee, please remember to keep your dues current.

Retirees Lunch. The February retiree lunch is scheduled for 1 P.M. on Thursday, Feb. 20 at The Wil-Lew Lounge, 3005 E. Midland Road in Bay City.

Fringe Benefits. REMIND-ER: 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 & num-

Health Plan & Pension Fund. 855.633.4584 – ASK FOR ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE www.michiganelectrical.org

NEBF/NEAP: 301.556.4300 IO Pension: 202.833.7000



Local 665

IBEW 665

LANSING - LANSING **HALL RENOVATIONS:** Local 665 will be renovating the union hall spaces and referral window over the next couple of months. Please be patient while we finish this project to its completion.

RETIREE DINNER: IBEW Local 665 Retiree dinner will be held Sunday May, 18 2025, at the Crowne Plaza Lansing. 925 S Creyts Rd. Lansing, MI 48917. Please RSVP to the hall by phone: 517-393-5530 or by email: contactus@ibew665. org. We look forward to seeing you there

WORK OUTLOOK: Local 665 has OPEN CALLS and will need help from our travelling brothers and sisters. Call the hall for the most up to date information. 665 will be experiencing unfilled calls for all of 2024.

CODE UPDATE: Code update classes have passed. If you still require code update class to renew your state license. Feel free to contact Flint JATC (810) 720-0583 or fsejatc.com. Flint has an online version of the code update class.

MEMBERSHIP IN-FORMATION: Local 665 has reached a milestone. We have just surpassed 800 members in the local. Of which 180 are apprentices. With all the new faces around please remember it is a Journeymen's job to teach first and empower the next generation to learn and grow.

EVITP TRAINING PRO-GRAM: Electrical Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program. If you are interested in helping our local secure more work in the Lansing area, it is critical we sign up for this training. This program is looking to be required by the federal government to work on any large-scale electric vehicle charger stations. The program is online on your blended learning platform. Please email Dale@ lejatc.org or contact the apprenticeship office with questions or

how to sign up. HARASSMENT TRAIN-ING: Harassment training has been adopted as part of our contract. It is required for all our members to complete it. Please reach out to the JATC to sign up for it. You can email Dale@lejatc. org to receive instructions on how to complete it.

APPRENTICESHIP AP-PLICATIONS: We often get calls or emails on how and/or where to apply to Local 665's apprenticeship program. To apply, go to www.lejatc.org and navigate to the application page on the website. Applications are accepted on the first Monday of each month.

FIRST AID/CPR: If you require First Aid/CPR. Contact the JATC for the next available date to sign up.

DRUG TEST / MUST MODS: If you are planning on working any NMA or GM jobs this year, please make sure you are current on your MUST mods/ OSHA 30 and your MUST drug test. Contact the hall if you need your annual drug test or your 18 must mods.

GENERAL MEMBER-SHIP MEETING: Our general membership meeting is on the third Monday of each month and starts at 6:30 pm at the Hall.

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

DUES AND DEATH BEN-EFITS: Quarterly dues are due. We are on death benefit #353. Please look at your dues to ensure that you are current.

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

IN REMEMBRANCE: In remembrance of local 665 members who have passed away. May their memory be eternal.

Dale Battley 11/14/24, Stephen Bair 09/16/24, Jackie "Jack" Heart 04/21/24, Stanley McLellan 04/17/24, Arthur "Dave" Benzinger 03/28/24, James Mc-Donald 2/22/24, Roger Carroll 12/13/23, Harry Baker 11/26/23, Mark McCrackin 10/02/23, Howard Shooltz 08/14/23, Gerald Loughlin 08/19/23, Walter Keith Sr. 07/12/23, Joseph Fussman 06/16/23.



IBEW LOCAL 252

IBEW Local 252

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

TRAINING CLASSES 2025: ALL CLASSES START AT 5:00

Journeyman Prep- (Mondays) January 13, 20, 27 February 2 & 10

Masters Prep- (Mondays) March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 & April 7 Conduit Bending- (Wednesday's) January 15, 22, 29 February 5, 19

EPRI Part B- (Tuesdays) January 21, 28 February 4, 11, 18, 25 March 4, 11, 18 & 25 OHSA 30- (Tuesday and Thursdays) May 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27

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

December 2 & 9 All classes require a \$50 deposit. Call the school 734-475-1180 to add your name to the desired class ahead of time. All evening

classes are held from 5-9 PM. If there's interest in a class not listed, please call the school and request it. Once there's enough interest in the class, it will be sched-

2025 UNION 4 LIFE GUN CALENDAR: Purchase your 2025 USA Union Sportsmen Calendar and enter the USA's 2025 2-Guns-A-Week Sweepstakes for 104 chances to win a firearm in 2025! Beginning Monday, January 6, 2025, prize winners will be drawn each week for 52 weeks. Sweepstakes entrants are eligible to win multiple prizes! These calendars make great Christmas gifts for the hunters/gun enthusiasts in your life, or just treat yourself for a chance to win! Online calendar registration is available until April 15, 2025. Only mail-in registrations will be accepted after that date. Entries registered after Jan. 1 will only be included in drawings that occur after the registration date. Calendars are \$35.00 and can be purchased from an apprentice, the training center, or online at www. union4lifecharity.com.

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

SUPER BOWL PARTY: The Local's 4th Annual Super Bowl Party presented by EWMC will be on February 9th at 5:30 p.m. at the Union Hall. Bring your friends and family. There will be games for kids, 50/50 raffle and a raffle for a TV. Food and refreshments will be provided. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, contact Geoff Morning (734) 209-4542.

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

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

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

UNION 4 LIFE INDOOR GOLF OUTING: Join us 10 a.m. on March 29th at X Golf Ann Arbor, 333 N. Maple Rd., Ann Arbor for the first event of this kind. This will be a 4-person scramble playing the best ball, 9 holes. We have the simulators for 3 hours. The top 3 teams will receive prizes. X Golf has a full-service bar and kitchen that will be open and ready to serve. The cost is \$80 per participant and includes a Union 4 Life t-shirt and goodie bag. A deposit of \$20 per player, or \$80 per team is due by Monday, February 24th to reserve your spot. Checks payable to Union 4 Life or Joe Jarecki, or cash can be dropped off at the JATC or Union Hall, or you can pay by Venmo. Contact Joe Jarecki for more information, (734) 770-5114 or joejarecki4@gmail.com.

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

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

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

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

EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: Local 252 partners with Health Management Systems of America to provide Employee Assistance for a number of issues. For confidential 24/7 assistance, call toll-free 1-800-847-7240, or visit www.my-life-resource.com and

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

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

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

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

CONDOLENCES: The Local sends our sincere condolences to the family of Local 252 Brother Jerry Gould, who passed away on January 11, 2025.

DUES PAYMENTS – Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 12/2024, your dues are not current. The Union Hall accepts payment by cash, check or credit card. There is a 3% discount for paying by cash or check. Dues for "A" members are \$140.25 by cash or check, or \$144.46 by credit card for first quarter 2025. Dues for "BA" members are \$70.80 by cash or check, or \$72.92 by credit card for first quarter for 2025. Please mail your check to 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Your first quarter dues (January through March) are due now. Payments for first quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Monday, March 31, 2025. **Future Dues Increases:**

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



Local 275

IBEW 275

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

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

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

We have a list of over 100 members who have vacation fund money that has yet to be deposited because of lack of account info. If you have not set up your account info for vacation fund deposits, please call Nicole to get that taken care of.

As a reminder, the Local Union Hall offices have changed their hours. The offices will be open from 8am-12:30pm, 1pm-4.30nm

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

Monthly dues will be increasing by \$2 in January of 2025. Please adjust any automatic payments to reflect the new monthly dues amount of \$49.90.

At the time of this writing the following members are three months or more behind on dues: Earnest Cryer, Scott Erb, Kenneth Krawczak, Michael Nielsen, and Santino Winfrey. Please make every effort to become current with your dues as soon as you

"Any fool can tell the truth, but it requires a man of some sense to know how to lie well." Samuel Butler (1835 -

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

Stephen Leacock (1869 -

"How little a thing can make us happy when we feel that we have earned it.' -Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)

"When I pass, speak freely of

my shortcomings and my flaws. Learn from them, for I'll have no ego to injure.'

Aaron McGruder

"You can't connect the dots looking forward you can only connect them looking backwards. So you have to trust that the dots will somehow connect in your future. You have to trust in something: your gut, destiny, life, karma, whatever. Because believing that the dots will connect down the road will give you the confidence to follow your heart, even when it leads you off the well worn path.'

-Steve Jobs (1955 - 2011), Stanford Commencement Adress,

"Beware lest in your anxiety to avoid war you obtain a mas-

-Demosthenes (384 BC -322 BC)

"The problem is never how to get new, innovative thoughts into your mind, but how to get old ones out. Every mind is a building filled with archaic furniture. Clean out a corner of your mind and creativity will instantly fill

- Dee Hock

"The best doctor in the world is the veterinarian. He can't ask his patients what is the matterhe's got to just know.

Will Rogers (1879 - 1935)

"The greatest mystery is not that we have been flung at random between the profusion of matter and of the stars, but that within this prison we can draw from ourselves images powerful enough to deny our nothingness.'

"Those who can make you believe absurdities can make you

–Andre Malraux (1901 -

commit atrocities." -Voltaire (1694 - 1778)

IBEW Local 557's article-See Page 12



IBEW

IBEW Local 58

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

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

The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline (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. 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 I would like to thank all the members, for the last 12 years for allowing me to work in your Dues Department. I am retiring 2-1-2025. It has been an honor to help and serve the membership of IBEW Local 58. Thank you, Marsha.

Look at your Dues Receipt: if your paid-through date shows 6-30-2024 you have lapsed and will need to make an Executive Board appointment to be reinstated. If your paid date shows 9-30-2024 you will have the \$30.00 reinstatement fee. It is your responsibility to pay your dues on time - this could affect your retirement and death benefit.

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

Detroit Electrical Workers Benevolent Fund (DEWBF): Next Benevolent Fund meeting is Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2025. The 22nd Ken Fitzhenry Party on Super Bowl Sunday will be Sunday Feb. 9. Raffle tickets are \$20 and available at the Hall or you can Contact Michael Bellhorn 586-612-5964 for electronic payment options, Jim Mackey or Kelly Lynch at the Hall 313-963-2130. Party will start at 4pm and will be a \$10 fee for food and drink. Grand prize is a 75 inch TV with Home Theater Recliner as well as over 15 other prizes.

Also all electrical apprentice applications are now being accepted for the 2nd annual John Mayernik Memorial Scholarship. Information is available on the website and app or you can contact Michael Bellhorn or Kelly Lynch at the Union Hall. **Application** deadline is March 2, 2025.

Members of the Community Service Committee: The next committee meeting will be Tuesday, Feb. 11 at 5:30p.m. The Wobbly Kitchen (Sundays in the Park) will be the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, starting at the union hall and then traveling to Cass Park. We are asking volunteers to show up at the hall at 8:00a.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 more information.

Members of the Entertainment Committee: The next meeting will be Tuesday, Feb. 11, following the Community Service Committee meeting that

LOCAL 58

starts at 5:30 p.m.

EWMC of Southeastern MI – 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. We are always looking for volunteers.

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

The Veterans Committee - will be meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, 5:30

Local 58's Women's Committee - The next committee meeting will be Thursday, January 23, 2025, at 5:30p.m.at the Hall and on Zoom. If you have questions, please contact Committee Chair Angela Panicucci (586-291-8014) or Co-chair Liz Gorski (586-921-3087), Email at 58womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org

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

IBEW Local 58 Retirees Association: Our next board meeting is on Wednesday, February 12, 2025. The meeting starts at 10 a.m. in the main conference room at the Local Union Hall.

The next luncheon will be Wednesday, January 22, 2025, at Corsi's Banquet Center 27910 W. Seven Mile, Livonia. Doors open at 11, lunch is served at 12:30 pm. Lunch is \$25 per person, send your reservations and checks (payable to the Retirees Association) to IBEW #58, Attn. Retirees, P.O.Box 32756, Detroit 48232-0756.

For questions and/or reservations call Elaine Crawford at 313 408-5885. The 2025 Annual Florida Luncheon is happening on Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at Noon at Applebee's Grill and Bar in Venice, FL. Contact Syl Ludwic 352-250-11/8 to make a reservation or for questions. The September Bus Trip is heading to Washington DC this fall. The trip takes place Friday, September 12 through Tuesday September 16, 2025. Total cost for the trip per person, \$710, based on double occupancy. Call Dave Riley with questions, 586 206-8075

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings take place every Wednesday at the IBEW Local 58 Union Hall, (1358 Abbott St, Detroit, MI 48226), starting at 6:00 pm. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. All trades welcome.

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

Here are some tips to help make sure your account is up to date with us. Review your beneficiaries periodically, especially if a life change occurs. Be sure the wording is correct, especially if you name more than one beneficiary.

Give us a call and we can check who you have listed. State of Michigan Escheat Law: The law states that any deposit account with no activity for 3 years must be turned over to the State. What can you do? Contact us today to find out your account status. Conduct a transaction by either deposit or withdraw (any amount). Close account.

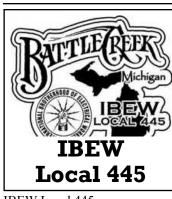
IBEW Pension: Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: Peter Olson.

Members that 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.

Daniel Goik, Journeyman Inside Wireman; William G. Johnson, Pension member, 38 year IBEW membership; Bonnie Roland, Wife to George Roland, Pension member, 47 year IBEW membership.



INSTALLING LIGHTS AND POWER to an annex at the set-up of Huntington Place for the Detroit Auto Show are electricians Nick Bonner and Ben Tremper. The IBEW Local 58 members are employed by Freeman Electric.



IBEW Local 445

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

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

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

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

Apprentices: Monthly: \$49.00 • Quarterly: \$147.00

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

JIWs: Monthly: \$61.00 • Quarterly: \$183.00

Apprentices: Monthly; \$50.00 • Quarterly: \$150.00

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

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

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

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

Retiree Breakfast: 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.

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

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

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

Executive Board E-Board meets the fourth Monday of each month starting at 4:30 p.m. Respectfully Submitted, Wanda Secrest **Recording Secretary**



Local 498 "Powering Northern Michigan Since 1949

IBEW Local 498

TRAVERSE CITY - Meet-

Regular E Board- The next regularly scheduled E-Board meeting is set for Monday, Feb 10, 2025, @ 5:30pm.

Regular Meeting - The next regularly scheduled membership meeting is scheduled for 7pm Monday, Feb 10, 2025.

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

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

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

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

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

Important numbers for you to write in your address

MEEHP (Health) 1-855-633-4584 Fax# 1-952-854-1632 Website: www.michiganelectrical.org

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

(New address Michigan Pension and Health Plan) 3001 Metro Drive Suite 500, **Bloomington, MN 55425** NEBF 1-301-556-4300

NEAP 1-301-556-4300 IO Pension 1-202-833-7000 **DUES RATES**

July 1, 2024 – Dues increase to \$155.10/Quarter. Jan 1, 2025 – Dues increase to

\$161.10/Quarter. July 1, 2025 – Dues increase to \$164.10/Quarter.

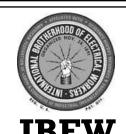
Info Updates – Any member with a new address, phone number, email address, etc. should contact Local 498 with these changes.

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

Remember to check the hall recorder at night after 4:00pm for any jobs that might be available. 231-943-4980 ext. 2#

"I went to a fight the other night, and a hockey game broke

-Rodney Dangerfield (1921 - 2004)



IBEW Local 131

Serving Southwest Michigan Since 1916

IBEW Local 131

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

will be held on Feb. 17, at 5 p.m. The Executive Board meeting will be held on Feb. 17, at 5 p.m.

Woman in the Trades Meeting will be held Feb. 18, at 6 p.m. The EWMC meeting will be

held Jan. 28, at Union Hall, at 5 p.m. The Veterans Group will be meeting on Feb. 6, at 5 p.m.

Brotherhood Night is on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at CJ's, 3:30-5:30p.m. Starting in February we will be meeting at RJ's Sports Bar, 8118 Portage Rd. Portage, MI. 49002

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

The Work Outlook continues to be steady. Today we continue to have open calls for Hi-Tech and Champion Services. We have crews working on the Pfizer, Zoetis, Gun Lake Casino, and Palisades. Lots of 40-hour calls. Give me a call if you want to go to work.

Monthly dues will be increasing by \$2.00 in January 2025. Monthly dues will be \$47.00 per month. If you know of any electricians interested in joining the IBEW please contact Ryan at (269) 366-0322 or rlewis@ibew131.com.

By-law Change: At the regular membership meeting on Jan. 6, 2025, there was a first reading of a proposed By-law change. At the next regular membership meeting on Monday Feb. 3, 2025, there will be a second reading followed by a vote on this proposed change.

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

Lunches are scheduled: Feb. 19, Red Lobster, 6535 South Westnedge Avenue, Portage, 49002 @11:00.

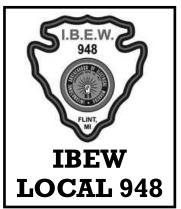
March 19, Julianna's, 2105 Lake St. Kalamazoo, 49001 @ 11

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

On the last Friday of each month, a group of retirees and others, meet at Jac's Cekola's Pizza, 3112 South Ninth Street,

Kalamazoo, MI. 49009 @11:30. **RETIREMENT: NEBF and** IBEW PBF applications take at least 3 months to process but can be filled out as early as 6 months before your planned retirement effective date. If you are nearing retirement, call the hall and set up an appointment with Christine. You will need to submit copies of your social security card, birth certificate, marriage certificates and divorce decrees for you and your spouse(s) with your applications. Important numbers: NEBF 301-556-4300 IO Pension 202-833-7000

(Continued next column)



IBEW Local 948

FLINT - Meetings. Membership Meeting - Our

next regularly scheduled membership meeting will be February 10th, 2025 at 6:00 PM.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Retirees - Congratulations to Gus Almasy & Blair Armstrong on your pension application. The membership would like to wish you a healthy and relaxing retirement.

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

IBEW 131, con't

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

Wilson-McShane, our new benefits administrator, has the website: michiganelectrical.org. up and running. Please log in and click on the "Member Portal" (on the left side of the screen) to begin the steps to register your account. Their phone no. is 855-633-4584.

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

Job listings can be tracked. A recorded message of calls for employment will be available after 5 p.m. by calling (269) 382-1762 and posted on the website under "Job Listings".

The job call will list the name of the employer and the number of employees needed. The Union business office will offer all the work calls available at the time of the job offer. Any registrants that are interested in a call may either apply in person at the union business office between 8AM and 8:30AM OR leave a message on the recorder, stating they wish to apply for a job call.

Three Months or more behind in counter dues payments are the following suspended members: Joshua Cook, Joseph Zirkelbach. -Morris Applebey,

Business Manager





DURING A WORK BREAK we asked electricians (l-r) Glenn Polt, Doug Christie and Eric Cata to stand in front of the Jeep display they were helping to power at the Detroit Auto Show. The IBEW Local 58 electricians are employed by Freeman Electric.



IBEW LOCAL 557

IBEW Local 557

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

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION- This year's new member orientation will be held on February 12^{th} , at 6:00pm. If you are new member from this year, please plan on attending. Each year in February Local 557 holds a new member orientation for anyone that has come into the Local in the past year. This year there will be many people in attendance as the Local has grown quite a bit in the last year.

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

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

PROJECT PHOENIX'S dynamic has changed recently. In order to get manpower moving onto the job site a new incentive package had been put in place. This has instantly been a big help towards manning the project and we can expect calls to continue on the Mega Project in Hemlock. Thank you to all that helped man this project and look for more calls in the future.

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS- The next membership meeting is February 4th and will start at 6:00pm. Please note the change to a 6:00pm start time due to Overtime being worked in the area.

UNION HALL OPERATIONS- Normal Business Hours are Monday-Friday 7-4:30pm.

BOOK SIGNING- If you are a Local 557 member and receive a lay-off while working on a 557 referral, you must come to the hall and sign Book 1 in-person. Many Locals throughout the State of Michigan will continue to accept fax/email initial book signings. If you are interested in this reciprocated benefit and would like to be on some out-of-town Books, please call the hall to arrange this.

WORK OUTLOOK- Members of other Locals can sign Book 2 by contacting their Hall for a simple email to be sent on your behalf, if in good standing. At the time of this writing most calls have been filled at Project Phoenix but more calls are expected for J. Ranck, Conti and Nooter in the near future. Van Ert Electric from Wisconsin continues to work on the Wheeler Dairy Farms. Weinstein Electric from Local 948 continues work on the new Bavarian Inn Waterpark in Frankenmuth. Overtime is available for all three of these big projects. Master Electric has begun a job at SVSU. Local contractors continue to work on various projects at schools, hospitals, some auto plants, and other various jobs. More solar projects are slated to begin in early 2025.

HEALTH CARE- Don't forget to schedule your annual physical with your doctor. By completing your annual physical, 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 EOB's, a virtual ID card on your phone, information on deductibles, explanations of coverage and other helpful tips related to your Health Care coverage. EOB's can be downloaded to smart phones or computers and used to substantiate WEX receipt request.

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

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

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

CONTACT NUMBERS-Michigan Electrical Employee Pension fund and Michigan Health Plan (855)633-4584. Website is: www. michiganelectrical.org

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– In Solidarity, Evan Allardyce, Business Manager



Waterproofers

Roofers Local 149 DETROIT - Attention. This

Roofers &

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

Happy New Year! Happy New Year, from the Officers and Members of the United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers, and Allied Workers Local 149. May 2025 be a great, safe, and prosperous year for you and your

General Membership Meeting. The general membership meeting is scheduled for Tues., Feb. 4, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

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

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

Thank you to the members who have paid their Union Dues a year in advance. By paying your Union Dues a year in advance, you are saving our union money. To pass these saving along to our members, we will be giving a "I paid my Dues" t-shirt to anyone who's dues are paid up to 12/31/2025 and beyond. In order to be eligible, members must pay their 2025 dues in full by January 31, 2025. To receive your 2025 "I paid my Dues" tshirt, please contact the Union Hall (313.961.6093 ext. 0).

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

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

Clearance Cards. Are you scheduled to go out of town for work in another Local's territory? Clearance cards are needed when you are sent out of town to work. Get a clearance card from the Hall and call the Local in that area to avoid fines against you.

Vacation and Holiday **Check Direct Deposit.** Members have the option to have their Vacation and Holiday check direct deposited in their bank account. This includes all contracted areas.

(Continued next column)



Huntington Place-Detroit Auto Show are (l-r) Connor Donovan and Mike Decker. The Iron Workers Local 25 members are employed by Convention Show Services.

To get your Vacation check direct deposited, members will need to complete a direct deposit agreement. The form will be available at the Detroit and Mid-Michigan Union Hall. Member will need to know the following Financial Institution information, Routing No., Account No., and name of Financial Institution.

Journeyworkers upgrade classes to improve your skills, vour worth, and our Brotherhood/ Sisterhood is available at no cost

to all Detroit LU 149 members. Dues must be current in order to enter the Training Center.

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

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

Every Thursday from 6:00pm - 8:00pm until further

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

Dues must be current in order to enter the Training Center. If you are interested in any of these classes, contact the Union Hall/Training Center, 810-687-1368 to make arrangements.

Are you moving? If you

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

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

The publication above is as 1/21/2025, 8 a.m.

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



ELECTRICIAN Jeff Trimble sets temporary wiring in an annex at Huntington Place in Detroit while helping to set up the Detroit Auto Show. The IBEW Local 58 member is employed by Freeman Electric.

"The art of leadership is saying no, not yes. It is very easy to say yes.

-Tony Blair (1953 -)

"There is no passion like that of a functionary for his function.' -Georges Clemenceau (1841

"Nothing is particularly hard if you divide it into small

-Henry Ford (1863 - 1947)

"I do nothing but go about persuading you all, old and voung alike, not to take thought for your persons or your properties, but and chiefly to care about the greatest improvement of the soul. I tell you that virtue is not given by money, but that from virtue comes money and every other good of man, public as well as private. This is my teaching, and if this is the doctrine which corrupts the youth, I am a mis-

chievous person. -Socrates (469 BC - 399 BC)

"There are two kinds of men who never amount to much: those who cannot do what they are told and those who can do nothing else."

-Cyrus H. Curtis (1850 -

"Good breeding consists of concealing how much we think of ourselves and how little we think of the other person.

-Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)

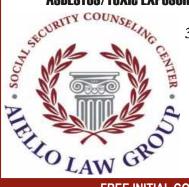
"The thing that impresses me the most about America is the way parents obey their children." King Edward VIII (1894 -

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2025 LOGBOOKS ARE HERE

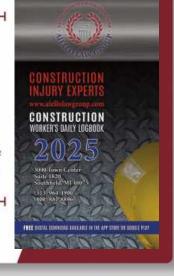
HARD COPY & MOBILE APP VERSIONS

2025 Construction Worker's Daily Logbook in both a print and digital version! We have provided logbooks to Michigan's building trades for over 30 years.

The traditional paper version can be picked up in our office, your union hall, the Building Trades office at 1640 Porter in Detroit, or can be mailed directly to you by giving us a call at (313) 964-4900. The digital version can be found in the App Store for Apple or Google Play for Android. Simply search for "Aiello Daily Logbook."









Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

will be held on Saturday, February 08, 2025 at 10:00 am at BAC Local #2, 21031 Ryan Road, Warren, MI 48091.

ALL CHAPTER MEET-INGS ARE CANCELLED (EXCEPT FOR THE MAR-**OUETTE CHAPTER &** HOUGHTON MEETINGS LISTED BELOW) FOR THE **MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2025** DUE TO THE SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING.

HOUGHTON: Thursday, February 20, 2025 at 7:00 PM, 37737

Highway 26, Toivola, MI 49965 MAR-QUETTE

CHAPTER:

PAUL Monday, Feb-

DUNFORD ruary 17, 2025 at 7:00 PM, 119 S Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

DEATHS REPORTED. Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother** Chester Latty (Bricklayer) who passed away on January 08, 2025. Brother Latty had been a member for 70 years.

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

TEXTING PROGRAM: Local #2 wants to use every means possible to communicate with you. Sometimes we have

'The one thing more difficult than following a regimen is not imposing it on others."

-Marcel Proust (1871 -1922)

time sensitive information (such BAC Local 2 as job openings, picket lines, WARREN - The SEMI-ANNUAL UNION MEETING

funeral arrangements and other such communications) that would be most efficiently done via text message. You must be signed up to receive these messages. You can sign up via the following: Text **2MI** to **50607**

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

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

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

CRAFTWORKERS **NEEDED:** We need Skilled Bricklavers, 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-

A SPEEDY RECOVERY: A speedy recovery is wished to all those who have been sick or injured. Let's keep them all in our

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

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

MEMBERSHIP ASSIS-TANCE: The IUBAC Member Assistance Program has a number of services available for free or at a discounted rate to BAC members and their families. These confidential services can be seen at https://bacweb.org/ member-service/member-assistance-program-map and are also available via telephone at 1-833-MAP TALK (1-833-627-8255) Monday – Friday 8 am – 7 pm. These services were established and are intended to help get us through difficult life situations.

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

PENSION AND HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMA-TION. BAC of Michigan Health & Welfare Fund – (248) 828-6000

CALL-A-DOC - (800) 835-2362

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

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

Pension – (248) 641-4954 Michigan BAC Pension

Fund (Outstate) – (800) 531-2244 Michigan BAC Vacation Fund – (248) 828-6000



Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' Local 514

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

The Patrick Finley Scholarship applications are now available.

Membership gold cards-Congratulations! January 2025 Christopher Clutts-25

Sherman Smith-25 Years Thomas Wright-25Years

Thomas Lovejoy, a 55-year member, passed away on Dec. 18, 2024 Please keep his family in your prayers.

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

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

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

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

Local 514

Cement Masons & Plasterers

may be taxable. Each individual benefit needs to have a designated beneficiary.

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

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

Attention all Apprentices, now you will need to go to the website: www.micementplasterertraining.com to enter your work hours. When you get to the website click the link "About" and then click on "Apprentice."

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

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

Please refer to website for updated information.

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

Members working for nonsignatory commercial contractors are having a negative impact on our market share. The work forecast this year looks better than last. Members working non-union will be brought up on charges and fines will be enforced. Let's work together to secure our future!!

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

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

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

Important Notice For Plasterers and Detroit Commercial Cement Masons: You are able to find out more about Fund investments, change your investments, 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 two easy ways:

Go online: Principal.com Feel free to call 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

As always, if you have any questions or need help on any matter relating to the Fund, you can contact the Fund Office for assistance at (248) 645-6550 or 30700 Telegraph Rd., Ste 2400 Bingham Farms, MI 48025-4524.

ALL BUILDING TRADESMEN

Notice of Asbestos Health Hazards in Michigan

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SHEET METAL WORKERS

- Mesothelioma
- Lung Cancer
- Asbestosis
- Pulmonary Fibrosis

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The Building Tradesman

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Union members with address changes are asked to contact their local union.

The harvest limit for the 2025 season on Black Lake is six lake sturgeon. Officials will close the season when one of two scenarios

• The sixth fish is harvested. • Five fish have been harvested at the end of any fishing



Outdoors

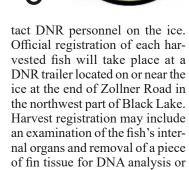
Black Lake sturgeon fishing

Fishing hours are 8 a.m. to 2 lake sturgeon. p.m. each day of the season. The season will end either at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 5, or when one of the above scenarios is met, at which point anglers will be notified via text message and on the ice by DNR personnel that they must immediately stop fishing for

Anyone who wants to participate this year must register online by Jan. 31. Get more registration and season information at Michigan.gov/Sturgeon.

Participating anglers must bring their own bright red flags (1-foot diameter or larger) to hang on their fishing shanties. Season officials emphasize that anglers are required to hang one or more flags in highly visible locations on their shanties so DNR personnel can readily identify which anglers are sturgeon fishing.

Anyone harvesting a lake sturgeon must immediately con-



Lake sturgeon rehabilitation efforts in Black Lake over the last two decades have been a successful collaboration between the DNR, Sturgeon for Tomorrow,

tribal agencies, Michigan State University and Tower-Kleber Limited Partnership. This population has increased in the past 20 years due to lake sturgeon rearing and stocking efforts and research and protection of spawning adults, and this trend is expected to continue.

Ice conditions may vary greatly, and anglers should always use extreme caution when ice fishing. The Black Lake sturgeon season start date will not be postponed due to weather or other conditions. The season may be canceled up to 48 hours prior to the start of the season if circumstances pose a significant safety risk to anglers and staff (per Fisheries Order 240).

The DNR will post any updated information to the department website and notify anglers via text message and email if any changes occur.

The 2025 LAKE STURGEON fishing season on Black Lake in Cheboygan Co. will begin at 8 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 1. The shortlived season will end on Feb. 5, or when the harvest of limit of six has been reached.

Today's fingerlings, tomorrow's big catches

The Department of Natural their success. Resources worked hard this past fall to stock fish in waters across Michigan – fish that will provide anglers with more opportunities in seasons to come. The fall 2024 effort saw DNR crews stock seven different species at 78 locations throughout the state; in all, 590,504 fish, weighing in at 10.7 tons, were added to Michigan waters.

"It was another exceptional fall fish stocking season, enhancing fishing opportunities throughout Michigan," said DNR Fish Production Program manager Aaron Switzer. "Combined with our successful spring and summer stocking efforts, that brings the total for 2024 to more than 9.7 million fish stocked in Michigan's waters."

The number and type of fish stocked vary by hatchery, as each facility's ability to rear fish differs due to water supply and temperature. In Michigan, there are six state and three cooperative hatcheries that work together to produce the species, strain and size of fish needed by fisheries managers. These fish must then be delivered at a specific time and location for stocking to ensure

Michigan's state fish hatcheries anywhere from 1-18 months before they are stocked. Most fish in Michigan are stocked in the spring, but some fish are stocked in the fall because they require less time and fewer resources to rear in hatcheries, and may adjust better to new environments as they are younger and more adaptable to change.

Seven species were stocked this fall: Atlantic salmon, brook trout, brown trout, lake trout, rainbow trout (Eagle Lake and steelhead strains), walleye and muskellunge.

Participating fisheriers around the state included:

 Marquette State Fish Hatchery (near Marquette); Platte River State Fish Hatchery (near Traverse City); Oden State Fish Hatchery (near Petoskey); Thompson State Fish Hatchery (near Manistique), and the Wolf Lake State Fish Hatchery (west of Kalamazoo).

DNR fisheries management units also stocked fall fingerling walleye this year: the Southern Lake Michigan Management Unit. the Central Lake Michigan Man-

agement Unit, the Northern Lake waters. For more information or In general, fish are reared in Michigan Management Unit, and the Lake Erie Management Unit.

The DNR welcomes visitors to its state fish hatcheries and interpretive centers to witness firsthand the fish rearing process and to learn about Michigan's to plan your trip, visit Michigan. gov/Hatcheries.

To find out if any fish were stocked in your favorite fishing spot, visit the DNR's fish stocking database at michigandnr.com/ fishstock/.



THE MICHIGAN DNR stocked 590,504 fish, weighing 10.7 tons, in Michigan waters in fall 2024. Here a DNR fish stocking truck is shown at Roland Lake in Baraga County.

Safety first on the ice

With cold temperatures consistent throughout the state, more people are enjoying ice fishing, skating, hockey and other outdoor adventures. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources urges everyone to have fun but always use caution when venturing onto or near ice.

Even during consistent cold stretches, pressure cracks in the ice can develop within hours," said Lt. Skip Hagy, DNR law enforcement supervisor in Newberry. "There is no such thing as 'safe' ice. Always check conditions for yourself; don't rely on what you see others doing or what they tell you."

River mouths and other places where river or lake currents may be located are often places of unstable ice. Reservoirs with changing water levels also require great caution.

Frozen bodies of water should be checked very carefully before braving the ice. While there is no perfectly reliable method to determine if ice is safe, you can use a spud, needle bar or auger to test the thickness and quality of ice.

'Keep in mind that warm spells as brief as one day may weaken the ice," Hagy said. "Melting ice during the day only partially refreezes at night, creating a thin layer of unstable ice."

The DNR suggests wearing a buoyant fishing jacket or snowmobile suit. Additionally, wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket as the outermost layer of clothing, and have a pair of ice picks and a whistle clipped to your chest.

"Nobody plans to fall through the ice, but you should be prepared in case it happens," Hagy said. "If you fall through the ice, the most important thing is to remain calm and return in the direction you came from. Return to the ice where you broke through, and pull yourself out of the water, rolling onto the ice. Don't try to stand. Instead, crawl to help distribute your weight until you feel you're safely away from the weak spot. Seek help immediately to prevent hypothermia.'

Additional ice safety tips include: wear a pair of ice-cleats to help with traction, wear bright colors to increase your visibility, and use the buddy system.

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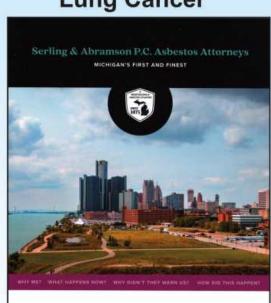
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