

UA Local 636

Detroit - The next Union Meeting will be a **Special Called Meeting** for the reading of the Annual Financial Report. It will take place on Nov. 21, 2023 at 7pm at **St. George Romanian Cultural Center, 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd., Southfield MI 48075.**

Representatives from Ulliance Life Advisor will hold an informational discussion on our new assistance program prior to the meeting on Nov. 21, 2023, at 6:15pm. Ulliance will have confidential no cost assistance for you & immediate family members concerning personal challenges including: Family, marital, alcohol, drugs, emotional, legal, financial, elder/child care etc. with crisis intervention 24/7. You may connect with a Life Advisor by phone 800-448-8326 or LifeAdvisor.com.

Special Nominations Meeting for the offices of Business Manager, Financial Secretary-Treasurer Assistant Business Manager, two (2) Business Agents, one (1) Executive Board Member, one (1) Financial Trustee, one (1) Examining Board Member, and two (2) Michigan Pipe Trades Delegates, will be held on **Tuesday December 5, 2023 at 7 pm** at St. George Romanian Cultural Center (See address above). Nominations may be made in person at the Nominations Meeting including self-nominations or in writing. Written nominations should include the address, phone number and UA Card number of the nominee and must specify the office for which the nomination is made and should be signed by the nominee. Written Nominations must be received by President Bill Helwig by email – bhelwig@pipefitters636.org and please cc Kim Kavanaugh email – kkavanaugh@pipefitters636.org at Local 636 no later than 4:30pm December 1, 2023.

A **Candidates Meeting** will be held following the nominations meeting. It is very important that candidates make every effort to attend this meeting. The rules for candidates running for election will be discussed.

The **Special Election** will be held **Monday January 8, 2024** at St. George Cultural Center (See address above). Polls will open at 11am and close at 7pm with a meeting immediately after for the reading of the results. All members must be in good standing for 1 year to vote and 2 years to run for any open position. Members should be prepared to present a membership card; drivers license or other form of identification at the polls.

A **Runoff Election** will be held **Tuesday January 16, 2024 from 3-7pm** in the event of a tie vote for any office, before the Regular Union Meeting, 7pm at St. Georges Romanian Cultural Center (See address above).

Office Hours have changed back to 8:30 am – 4:30 pm Monday – Friday. The Office will be closed Thursday November 23 & Friday November 24 in observance of Thanksgiving, Monday December 25 for Christmas and Monday January 1, 2024 for the New Year.

CALLING ALL RETIREES! 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 the 3rd Thursday of every month at 11am at Local 636 Union Hall. **The next meeting will be held November 16, 2023.**

December 19, 2023 Awards Banquet celebrating the years of service of our members will be at **Burton Manor Banquet & Event Center** 27777 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 at 7pm. Please join us to celebrate your Brothers/Sisters of Local 636.

NMA updates. For those members working under an NMA, the following procedure applies as to the requirements when an Owner/Client's in-plant employees are on strike. The Owner/Client must provide NMA contractors and their crafts with a designated neutral gate that provides safe ingress and egress both to and from plant property should there be the potential of picket lines being established by the in-plant employees. Furthermore, when properly provided and designated, it shall be the responsibility of the Owner/Client to maintain the integrity of the neutral gate and if necessary, seek and obtain injunctive relief from any secondary or illegal picketing.

The NMA contractors and their crafts shall instruct their employees (members) to use only the neutral gate to ingress and egress their work sites.

It is further required and understood that NMA signatory employers and Union crafts will only continue to perform their normal work and will not perform or be assigned work that would otherwise be performed by in-plant employees.

For any further questions, please contact your Business Agents or Business Manager.

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.

Our deepest condolences go out to the members, families and friends of the following, who have passed from our ranks: Retired Lifetime Member Thomas Osebold passed on Oct. 11, 2023 and Retired Lifetime Member Donald Komraus passed Oct. 22, 2023. May they Rest in Peace.

Congratulations to Paul Sholly and his wife Jenna on the Birth of their son Noah, and Jack & Alyssa Muirhead on the Birth of their daughter Emma, and Molly & Jacob Brown on the birth of their daughter Josie.

Following is a list of our 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!**

February 2023 – Alexander Hall

May 2023 – Daniel Steenbergh; Phillip Turkiela

August 2023 – Michael Dykes; Grady Corder; Kevin McAndrew; Jerome Welsing

September 2023 – William Baldridge

October 2023 – Michael Kress

Dues. 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.

S.U.B. -NEW- SUB checks for Local 636 will be printed and mailed from BeneSys.

- ☐ 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.
- ☐ Once direct deposit begins, members choosing direct deposit will have the payments deposited into their accounts on Fridays. That is the reason for processing being done on Wednesdays.

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

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

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, YOU WILL QUALIFY FOR FUTURE CERTIFICATION PAYMENTS.**

Training Center News.