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Itinerary

5:30PM - Silent Auction and Bocce Courts Open

6:00PM - Dinner Begins

6:45PM - Live Vocal Performances

7:30PM - Live Auction

9:00PM - Silent Auction Closes and Checkout Begins
Raffle and Door Prize Winners Announced
Afterglow Opens

12:00AM - Event Closes



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Joseph Recchia

Piano by Noelle
Noelle Morabito Borgia

Singer
Aaron Caruso

Singer
Lia Lucci

Singer
Isaac Murray

The Capuchin Soup Kitchen Choir

The Gary Greenfelder Orchestra

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On the Rise Café and Bakery and ROPE Program



Our On the Rise Café and Bakery began in 2009 in response to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen's ROPE baking program formed by Br. Ray Stadmeyer in 2006. Through the use of the On the Rise bakery, the ROPE Program employs men who have recently been released from prison and/or have completed a Substance Use Disorder program and want to make a fresh start. It is a resource for them to receive on-the-job training and helps them get back on their feet by rebuilding their résumé. The bakery sells their goods at weekend church bake sales and through the café at the Solanus Casey Center. Visit the Capuchin Soup Kitchen website for hours and our church bake sale schedule.

David Balla, Manager of On the Rise Café and Bakery

(313) 579-2100 ext. 7101 | dballa@cskdetroit.org
1780 Mt. Elliott Street, Detroit, MI 48207

Pastoral Care at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen



The Pastoral Care ministry of the Capuchin Soup Kitchen seeks to identify and meet the spiritual needs of our community. We tend to guests who come to our sites seeking help, staff who have committed to serve, and our volunteers who desire to help. Every meal at our Conner and Meldrum Soup Kitchens begins with prayer and thanksgiving and we invite all in attendance to read from the Word of God or share what is on their heart either during prayer or at any time throughout the day. The Capuchin Soup Kitchen Choir, which is also directed of the Pastoral Care office, is a visible sign of the our commitment to joyful service, inclusion, and the calling forth the gifts.

Robert Wotypka, OFM Cap, Director of Pastoral Care

(313) 579-2100 ext. 4212 | rwotypka@cskdetroit.org
4390 Conner Street, Detroit, MI 48215

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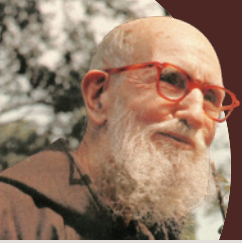
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Getting to Know Blessed Solanus Casey

Blessed Solanus Casey spoke in a soft and quiet voice to all who came to him for help. And he prayed. Some say his prayers cured illness. All say his serenity and counsel gave them peace.

He was born into a family with simple faith and he maintained that simple faith all his years. In everything, Bl. Solanus took God's word to heart, believing every prayer is answered in God's own way.

He had faithfully served the people of Detroit, MI, Huntington, IN, New York City and Yonkers, NY by providing soup for the hungry, kind words for the troubled, and a healing touch for the ill. Wherever he served, people would line up for blocks to see him.

The Fr. Solanus Guild, a Capuchin ministry dedicated to sharing the holiness of Bl. Solanus, reports that many have asked Bl. Solanus for his prayers as an intercessor to God and that those prayers have been answered, often in dramatic ways. Because of Bl. Solanus' holiness, Pope John Paul II declared him Venerable in 1995. On May 4, 2017, Pope Francis announced that Venerable Solanus would be beatified. A miraculous cure was approved; and indeed he was beatified on November 18, 2017 at Ford Field, Detroit. Another approved miracle will advance the Cause finally to sainthood.

Bl. Solanus spent his life in the service of people. As porter of the Detroit monastery door, he met thousands of people from every age and walk of life. He earned recognition as "The Doorkeeper." He was always ready to listen to anyone at any time, day or night....and to encourage everyone to "thank God ahead of time."

Bl. Solanus' holiness is inspiring. He had incredible faith and he was a holy man. Often, people think that holiness is unattainable. But Bl. Solanus demonstrated that an ordinary person can live an extraordinarily faithful life. Pilgrimages to the Solanus Casey Center lead the pilgrim to discover that we are all capable of living a faith-filled life.

Solanus Casey so believed in God that he could not believe that some people questioned God. Such a conviction about the existence of God and God's love is critical for our age. Solanus Casey's understanding of faith speaks to the hearts of people. His faith was steadfast. He demonstrates to us that faith is the cornerstone to our existence. A pilgrimage to the Solanus Casey Center is a trek to rediscover our faith and love for God.

Bl. Solanus was known for his wonderful ministry of healing and compassion toward people of faith, Catholic and Non-Catholic, Non-Christians and even Atheists. But, like Jesus himself, Solanus' heart also went out to those who had given up the practice of their faith or had no affiliation with any church community. He saw each person as loved by God and called to share in God's life. A pilgrimage to the Solanus Casey Center will reflect how we might embody some of his attitudes in our own relationships.

The Solanus Casey Center is a spiritual oasis where souls are nourished. It is a place of peace and the presence of God's healing grace experienced through the intercession of Blessed Solanus. It is an anchor of authentic Catholic values and spirituality for generations past, present and future.

Conner Meal Program Site



The Capuchin Soup Kitchen's Conner location was opened in early 1998 in part as a response to Michigan's welfare-to-work initiative. Located in one of the initiative's pilot areas, the Conner kitchen serves working families and seniors and provides three meals a day. The location also houses the Rosa Parks Children and Youth Program and many of the children and families from this program will attend the evening meal after their sessions.

Hours of Operation:

Monday - Saturday

Breakfast: 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. | Lunch: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Dinner: 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. (except Saturday)

Meldrum Meal Program Site



The Capuchin Soup Kitchen's Meldrum location is just one block from the original soup kitchen location on Mt. Elliott and serves the chronically poor. Meldrum guests are typically male, homeless or poorly housed, often diagnosed with a mental illness and/or Substance Use Disorder. This facility is currently being renovated to include shower facilities and an updated dining area in order to give those in need a fresh focus and a more dignified and comfortable dining experience.

Hours of Operation:

Monday - Friday

Breakfast: 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. | Lunch: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Best Wishes



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Aaron Caruso

Aaron Caruso has been performing on stage since the age of six, and attended the world-renowned Interlochen Arts Academy for high school. He earned his bachelor degree in Vocal Performance with an Italian Minor from the University of Michigan. He is fluent in four languages and can sing in seven including German, Latin, and Russian. He studied Opera abroad in Italy, and in New York City, with Maestro Luigi Veccia, a student of Marcello and Mario Del Monaco, for eight years. Aaron also specializes in Classic Neapolitan music.

Aaron is a member of The Sicilian Tenors, who take their audiences on a romantic journey from Hollywood to Broadway to Italy with beautiful tenor voices singing a wide variety of marvelous songs that America loves. Combined with light-hearted fun, they always provide a great show for everyone. The Tenors perform across the United States and their music is available on all major outlets worldwide.



Lia Lucci

11-year-old singer Lia May Lucci has touched many hearts with her spiritual gift of music. Her dream is that whoever hears her voice experiences feelings of peace, joy, and the presence of God. Lia is a two-year first place recipient of the Italian Idol contest and has performed at venues like Jimmy John's field, the St. Isidore Strawberry Festival, and several charity events.

Lia is a participant of her church choir and uses her voice to express her faith and comfort others. She dedicates much of her time and hard work to her passion, and was awarded a scholarship through the Italian American Cultural Society for her excellent character and talent. She is proud to represent her Italian heritage and is honored to hold the title of "Little Miss Columbus."



Isaac Murray

Isaac Murray is a multi-award-winning 16-year-old vocalist, pianist, songwriter, and producer. Since Isaac was 6 years old, he has been playing the piano and has competed and won multiple competitions. He began singing in 2017, performing at his school, funerals, and special events. In December of 2019, he heard the voice of God telling him to begin writing songs, so that is what he did – using His voice to help write the lyrics. He has released one album titled “Beautiful,” which he made to inspire young people to pursue their dreams regardless of their age. It also encourages people of all races, ages, and backgrounds that they are fearfully and wonderfully made in God’s holy image.

Issac has accumulated close to 100k streams in total worldwide. He was ranked top 10 at the Fine Arts Nationals 2022 competition, is the youngest member of Oakland Worship, and is the Chief Visionary for “AWAKEN Worship Night”. In 2022, he also founded his first original merchandise business called Isaac Murray Merch, which exists to bring a new Christian wave of clothing.



The Gary Greenfelder Orchestra

Performing the songs of your life – that is what the Gary Greenfelder Orchestra promises to deliver to any event. The Gary Greenfelder Orchestra is a 20-piece Big Band that performs throughout the Greater Detroit Area and beyond. They present songs from the twentieth century and on, allowing audiences to reminisce, become acquainted with, and appreciate the music from the Great America Songbook and much more. Built on close to 30 years of performing and developing a large music library of over 1,500 charts, this orchestra will transform your evening into a musical experience that will be enjoyed and remembered for a long time to come – building memories driven by delivering excellent performances.

Gary has been performing for audiences for as long as he can remember. In 1991, Gary became involved with a big band and not long after became its leader. Gary now leads three of his own groups – the Gary Greenfelder Orchestra, the GQ Ensemble, and the Dynamic Resonance Brass Quintet. Gary has studied with many great trumpet teachers and performers, including Bobby Shew, Adam Rapa, Howie Shear, Claude Gordan and James Stamp to name a few.

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The Capuchin Soup Kitchen Choir



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Earthworks Urban Farm



Our Earthworks Urban Farm began in 1998. Originally founded by Capuchin friar Br. Rick Samyn to teach the youth of the neighborhood about the origins of healthy food, it is one of the first certified organic farms in the city of Detroit. We grow a wide variety of vegetables on a two-and-a-half-acre plot, utilizing no chemical herbicides or pesticides. Earthworks promotes sustainable agricultural practices, good nutrition and care for the Earth as we become more connected to the food we eat. The farm also provides fresh produce for our meal sites and our neighbors and works with community partners such as Keep Growing Detroit to provide seeds for other gardens.

Wendy Casey, Director of Earthworks Urban Farm
(313) 579-2100 ext. 2204 | earthworks@cskdetroit.org
1264 Meldrum Street, Detroit, MI 48207

Jefferson House



Jefferson House is a twelve-bed, residential treatment facility for indigent males seeking to reclaim their lives from Substance Use Disorder. Residents are usually rehabilitated in six to nine months. During their stay, they participate in twelve-step recovery meetings and learn to practice virtues essential to recovery and to the development of a sober, healthy and happy life. Friars also provide sessions on spirituality and offer elective spiritual direction for those that are interested. As part of their treatment, the men are also given jobs at our soup kitchen sites serving our guests, and paid a modest stipend. Jefferson House is accredited by CARF International.

Amy Kinner, Director of Residential Services
(313) 331-8900 | akinner@cskdetroit.org
8311 E. Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, MI



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Who Founded the Capuchin Soup Kitchen?

Who is the Founder of the Capuchin Soup Kitchen? Most would say Blessed Solanus Casey, but the early history of the soup kitchen is more complex! Br. Francis Spruck worked with Bl. Solanus as the porter (or doorkeeper) of St. Bonaventure Monastery. They both were accustomed to passing out sandwiches to men who came to the monastery door. When the number of men seeking food from the friars overwhelmed them, Br. Francis and Bl. Solanus went to Fr. Ulrich Danner, the guardian (superior) of the monastery and asked for help. Recognizing the urgent need to serve those seeking help, Fr. Ulrich asked Fr. Herman Buss to do something.



Ray McDonough (L) speaks with Br. Bernard Burke as he exits a car.

Fr. Herman was a good organizer. He was also the chaplain to the Third Order of St. Francis (Secular Franciscans). This was a group made up of lay men and women who tried to live as the friars and nuns did, in the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi, outside of the monastery or convent. The Third Order members accepted the challenge to meet the growing need. With Fr. Herman, they set about getting the Soup Kitchen off the ground.

Without the support of these lay Franciscans and a willingness to utilize their Third Order Hall to house the soup kitchen it would have been difficult to move so quickly to meet the ever-growing need. Their efforts and generosity led to the opening of the soup kitchen's doors on November 2, 1929, only four days after the stock market crashed on October 29, 1929. By then, the long line of hungry men circling the Monastery had grown into the hundreds.

Descendants of a man by the name of Ray McDonough will point out the key role he played in the early days of the soup kitchen as well. Ray would take a truck and beg the merchants at Eastern Market for food. He gathered these and other donations and brought them to the soup kitchen, sometimes just in the nick of time. He organized the work of the kitchen and would keep at it for thirty years. It is not an exaggeration to say that Ray had a hand in the founding as well.

So, who is the founder of the Capuchin Soup Kitchen? Bl. Solanus, Br. Francis, Fr. Ulrich, Fr. Herman, the Third Order Franciscans or Ray McDonough? They all contributed to our founding. Their vision and spirit have endured. Today, the friars, staff, donors and volunteers continue to serve those who come to our door.



“Where there is charity and wisdom, there is neither fear nor ignorance.”

St. Francis of Assisi who inspired the Capuchin Soup Kitchen

Congratulations on a successful 12th Annual Bocce with the Brothers. Thank you to all those who continue to support such a worthy cause.

Volunteering at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen

The Capuchin Soup Kitchen depends on the time and efforts of those who share our concern for and commitment to people in need. Essential to our mission is the service of the many volunteers that donate their time on a weekly, monthly or occasional basis.

Volunteers provide the extra pair of hands, the warm smile and the caring attitude that make the Capuchin Soup Kitchen a welcoming place for all. The hours of service given by these generous men and women translate into over 30 additional full-time staff that we would have to employ in order to serve those who come to our door.

To volunteer in one of the programs at our Capuchin Soup Kitchen, we ask you to have a willingness to work hard, an open and positive attitude, and a smile. By joyfully serving others in need, you will learn a great deal about yourself and others!

Maxwell Morrison,
Director of Volunteers
(313) 822-8606 ext. 1146
mmorrison@thecapuchins.org
4390 Conner Street, Detroit, MI 48215

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Meal Programs at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen

At the heart of the Capuchin Soup Kitchen's ministry are its two meal programs located at 4390 Conner Street and 1264 Meldrum Street in Detroit.

Both kitchens serve full-course, nutritious meals purchased sourced from Michigan producers to hundreds of Capuchin Soup Kitchen guests each day. We have on-site social workers, client advocates and chaplains that can help people on a walk-in basis with a variety of goals and needs. On-site legal clinics, eye clinics, and AA programs also provide an environment of care and kindness. Both locations strive to be mindful of environmental concerns by composting organic food waste, and utilizing recyclable consumables and "earth friendly" cleaning products.

Alison Costello Director of Food Services & Hospitality

(313) 579-2100 ext. 2205
acostello@cskdetroit.org
1264 Meldrum Street, Detroit, MI 48207

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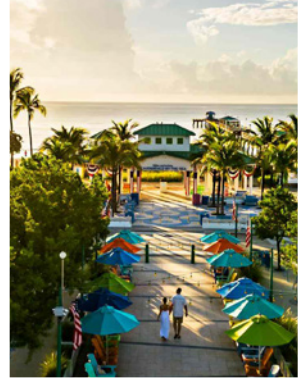
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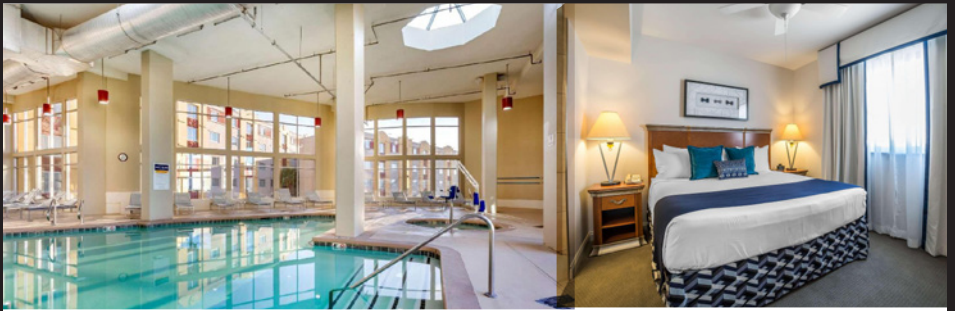


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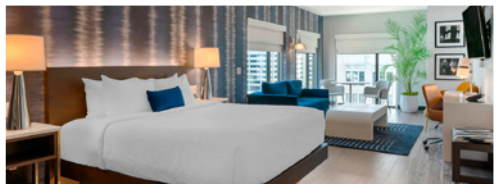


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EZ ERECTORS

Harry Heilmann

Tiger Hall of Famer - Soup Kitchen Volunteer

In 1942, several hundred men gathered for the first Capuchin Charity Guild Baseball Dinner, held in the spring of 1942 at the Soup Kitchen on Mt. Elliott. Tickets for the event were \$5.00 and it was for men only! The Guest of Honor at that first Baseball Dinner was Philadelphia Athletics manager and Hall of Famer, Connie Mack.

Baseball is a team sport. Nevertheless, few teams win the World Series without a few All-Stars on the roster. The same could be said for the Capuchin Charity Guild Baseball Dinner. No doubt there were many hands involved in planning, organizing, and carrying out those early dinners. But there is one man who stands out among all the rest – Harry Heilmann. Without his support and presence, it is unlikely the Baseball Dinners would have been nearly as successful.



Harry Heilmann attends the Capuchin Charity Guild Baseball Dinner

Harry Heilmann is one of the all-time great players for the Detroit Tigers, one of only a few players to ever bat over 400 in a season. His playing days began in 1914. Sent down to the minor leagues, Heilmann returned to the majors, playing for the Tigers from 1916-1929. His baseball career was briefly interrupted in 1917 when he enlisted in the U.S. Navy during World War I. Ending his career in Cincinnati, Harry Heilmann returned to Detroit where he served from 1934-1950 as the Voice of the Tigers on WXYZ. Harry Heilmann was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame at Cooperstown in 1952, the year after he died.

In his early days as a Tiger, Heilmann was nicknamed “Slug” because of his slow gait running the bases. Off the field, Harry Heilmann was quick to serve. In the latter days of the Great Depression, Heilmann was a volunteer at the Soup Kitchen. From 1943 to 1950, Harry Heilmann served as the Toastmaster and Chairman of the Capuchin Charity Guild Baseball Dinner.

The dinners were held in the spring, so most of the Detroit Tigers and many of the players on the opposing team that was in town would show up for the Baseball Dinner. A popular figure in baseball, Harry Heilmann, according to the Detroit Catholic, was able to “persuade future Hall of Famers such as Ted Williams, Al Kaline and Charlie Gehringer to attend fundraisers and share their treasure to help the Capuchin brothers serve the working poor in Detroit.” In later years, players such as Casey Stengel, Joe Garagiola, Mickey Mantle and Satchel Paige came to the dinner, talking baseball and telling stories until the final Baseball Dinner in 1974.

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Meldrum Soup Kitchen Renovations Underway



A Capuchin Soup Kitchen employee helps a guest with paperwork

allow us to use some of the present space to create a new shower area for our guests. When finished, it will be more private and I believe will provide a more dignified experience. We are also renovating the Community Room where groups such as AA meet.

The Dining Room will have softer lighting and better windows, etc. The parking lot is being resurfaced and the exterior of the building changed. We are also doing some landscaping along the side of the building. Finally, we hope to add solar panels after the roof is redone. We hope project will be completed by the beginning of the summer of 2024. Thank you to all who have supported the Soup Kitchen and our mission.

Thanks to the generosity of our benefactors and those who have given to the Soup Kitchen at events such as the Bocce with the Brothers, we have the means to improve our services through major renovations at both the Meldrum and Conner Kitchens.

At the Meldrum Kitchen, we are building a separate building with storage, work space and offices for Earthworks Urban Farm. A partial second floor is also being added for offices, an employee break room, and conference room. These additions



A guest enjoys lunch at the soup kitchen's Meldrum location



Earthworks also operates out of the current space at the Meldrum site

Capuchin Services Center



The Capuchin Services Center serves as the distribution site for emergency food and clothing and provides appliances for families reestablishing households after a fire or a stay in a shelter. Our food pantry is set-up to resemble a small grocery store with freezers and coolers, vegetable and fruit islands, and bread and pastry racks. Each guest is invited to shop for an amount of food based on their family size. Our clothing distribution area is also set up to establish a retail feel to our guests' shopping experience. There are no geographic eligibility criteria for our guests; however, all recipients of service are interviewed by a case worker.

Rob Roemer, OFM Cap, Director of Capuchin Services Center

(313) 925-1370 ext. 3100 | brrob@cskdetroit.org
6333 Medbury Street, Detroit, MI 48211

Rosa Parks Children and Youth Program



The Rosa Parks Children and Youth Program seeks to broaden minds, stimulate creativity, and explore alternatives to violence with our youth. The program provides after school tutoring and art therapy sessions for children ages 6-13, a lending library of over 5,000 books, numerous seasonal family activities and more. Teen boys' and girls' groups focus on the development of youth leadership and our summer peace camp for elementary and middle school children features art, drama, music, dance, peacemaking classes and field trips. Other summer activities include a leadership camp and a garden program that meets 4 times a week throughout the spring and summer.

Davon Mann, Manager of Rosa Parks Children and Youth Program

(313) 822-8606 ext. 4220 | dmann@cskdetroit.org
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Social Services of the Capuchin Soup Kitchen

The Capuchin Soup Kitchen has social workers at both our Conner and Meldrum meal program sites and our guest support specialists provide direct care services for our guests. The social services department is made up of the director of social services, case managers, a client advocate, emergency assistance workers and two intake coordinators. We usually have several student interns from Wayne State University and the University of Detroit Mercy who work with us as well.

We work with guests who require direct services that may include food, clothing, or furniture but also guests who are looking for employment, housing, Substance Use Disorder treatment, and mental health services. We also partner with Street Outreach Court Detroit which offers individuals who are homeless the opportunity to resolve certain civil infractions and misdemeanors by crediting their personal efforts to improve their lives toward outstanding fines, costs, and jail time.

Fred Cabras, OFM Cap, Director of Social Services

313-925-1370 ext. 3103

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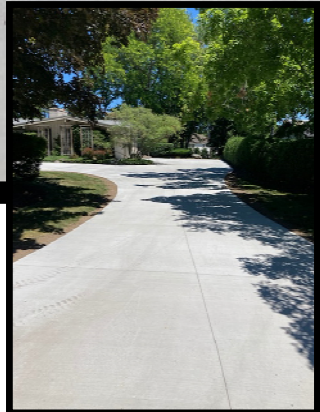
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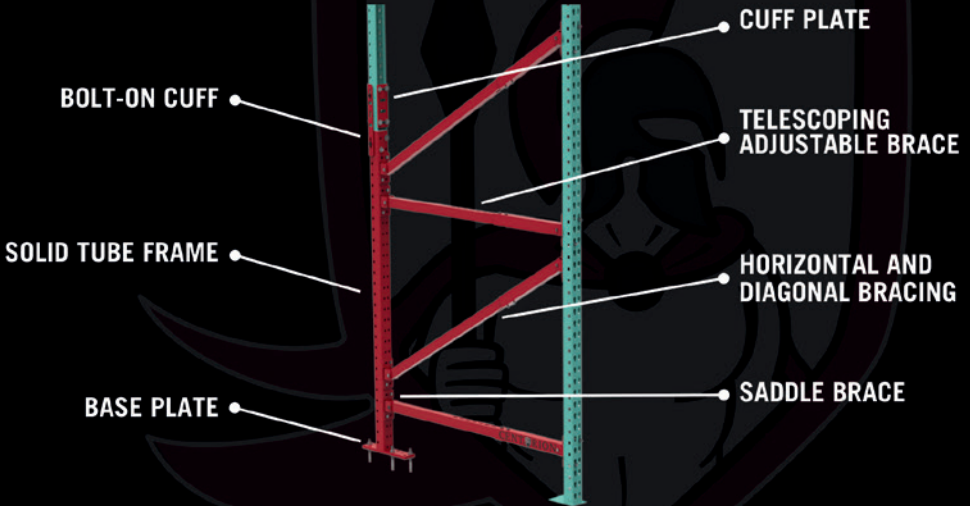
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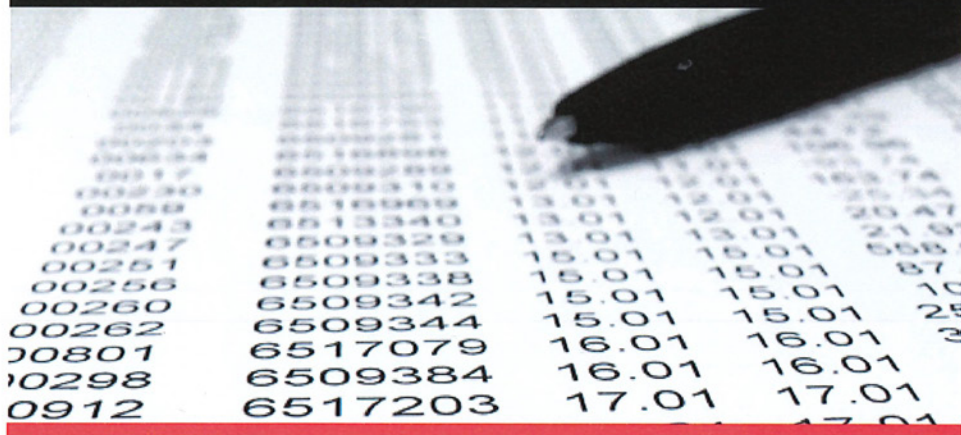
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