



United Auto Workers LOCAL 598 EYE OPENER



Home of the Original
Fisher 2 Sit-Downers

VOLUME 43 ISSUE 9

www.uawlocal598.org

SEPTEMBER 2024


LABOR DAY 2024



America Agrees...

THE UNION MAKES US STRONG!

Union membership grew to 16.2 million members in 2023, BUT 60 million workers wanted to join a union and couldn't. In Gallup's annual report, a record high of 61% of respondents said unions "help rather than hurt" the economy.


See **PAGE 12** for
 **UAW ENDORSEMENTS**

2024

See **BACK PAGE** for Notice of
ELECTION
to fill vacant position of
RECORDING SECRETARY

TUESDAY, OCT. 15 thru WEDNESDAY, OCT. 16

YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE



Building A Strong/Unified Membership



Union meetings are more than just routine gatherings; they are pivotal to the health and effectiveness of any labor union.

STEPHANIE RILEY

from the **PRESIDENT'S DESK**

Attend Your Union Meetings

Regular attendance at these meetings is crucial for several reasons, each underscoring the collective power and influence that members can wield through active participation.

Strengthening Collective Voice

Union meetings provide a platform for members to voice their concerns, propose solutions, and influence decisions that affect their working conditions. By attending these meetings, members ensure their voices are heard and contribute to a more democratic decision-making process. When members actively participate, the union reflects a broader range of perspectives and needs, which enhances its bargaining power.

Staying Informed

Unions are involved in various activities, from negotiating contracts to addressing workplace issues. Meetings are an essential channel for disseminating information about these activities. Attending meetings helps members stay informed about upcoming negotiations, changes in labor laws and/or internal labor matters. This knowledge equips members to make informed decisions and engage effectively in union activities.

Building Solidarity

Union strength lies in its unity. Regular meetings foster a sense of solidarity among members by providing opportunities for networking and collaboration. When members come together, they build relationships that strengthen their collective resolve. This unity is crucial during negotiations or when addressing workplace disputes, as it creates a united front that is more likely to achieve a favorable outcome.

Ensuring Accountability

Union leaders and representatives are elected to serve the interests of

the membership. Regular attendance at meetings allows members to hold these leaders accountable by questioning decisions, providing feedback, and ensuring transparency in union activities. This accountability helps maintain trust and ensures that the union operates in the best interest of its members.

Enhancing Skills And Knowledge

Union meetings often include training sessions, workshops, or guest speakers that offer valuable skills and knowledge. By attending, members can gain insights into effective advocacy, learn about new developments of labor law, or understand better how to navigate workplace issues. This ongoing education benefits both individual members and the union as a whole.

Influencing Policy And Strategy

Decisions about union policies and strategies are made collectively. By participating in meetings, members have a direct role in shaping these policies and strategies. This involvement ensures that the union's actions align with the members' interests and priorities, leading to more effective and relevant advocacy.

Supporting Union Health

A well-attended meeting reflects a vibrant and engaged union. Low attendance can indicate disinterest or dissatisfaction, which might weaken the union's position. By showing up, members contribute to a dynamic and active organization, which enhances its ability to negotiate better terms and advocate effectively on behalf of its members.

In conclusion, attending union meetings is vital for ensuring that the collective voice of the membership is heard, maintaining accountability, building solidarity, and staying informed. Active participation not only empowers individual members but also strengthens the union, leading to more effective representation and better outcomes for all.

I hope to see you at our UAW Local 598 union meetings which are regularly held on the third Sunday of the month (subject to change, please check union calendar/and or website for details).

Stephanie Riley

UAW Local 598 Recreation Committee presents...

Trick or Treat on the Trail

Saturday, October 26, 2024
4 pm – 6 pm

Union City Fields
4151 Torrey Rd
Flint, MI

Spooky Trail

Apple Cider & Donuts

Face Painting

Lil boos and ghouls are invited to wind their way through our trick or treat trail

Mark Your Calendars!

WAGE INCREASES

"The improvement in wages from the end of the 2019 NA amounts to \$850 a month for a first shift employee with no overtime."



by **ERIC WELTER**

SHOP CHAIRMAN

I would like to thank our Recording Secretary Judy Mosier for her service to this local union. Judy has been Recording Secretary for 13 years, through 3 presidents and 3 chairmen. Judy's experience and counsel will be greatly missed, but we will continue to enjoy many benefits that stemmed from her time as an officer.

Dependent Scholarship has returned in the 2023 NA. If you have filled out the forms for winter semester, the money has begun to be added to members' checks. If your children are continuing their education, unlike the back pay for winter semester, you have to be preapproved prior to the semester beginning. There is \$1,600 a year available for reimbursement, our UAW JTR Chris Timbs can assist.

Saturday, November 9th, was published as a scheduled Saturday. Although it was the intention of the company to run that day, we have a local Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that does not allow them to run a Saturday attached to a Friday or Monday holidays and Monday, November 11th is Veterans Day.

The company challenged this agreement stating... "The sun set on the MOU with the end of every Saturday Agreement." I successfully fought off that challenge and they are rescheduling. It does take some time to reschedule, as the plant had to work through the corporate scheduling people and our suppliers. There are very few options to fit 2 shifts in another way so it's a bit complex, but they will publish the revised November schedule soon.

September is a good month, we have a couple increases in our wages. First, the annual General wage increase of 3% that was negotiated in the 2023 NA will begin being paid on hours Monday, September 16th. Member's wages will increase by \$1.07 from \$35.88 to \$36.96. In addition, COLA, which was

returned in the 2023 National Agreement, on September 2nd increased by .11 cents to .66 cents. This in total results in a new wage of \$37.62 per hour. The improvement in wages from the end of the 2019 NA amounts to \$850 a month for a first shift employee with no overtime.

I recommend putting the 3% into your PSP or 401(k). It's a great way to increase your voluntary contributions without missing it from your paycheck, and over the course of the agreement can result in significantly more savings for your future success in retirement.

Although slightly improved over August, we continue to deal with the company not asking for overtime to cover people who are absent. We have 10% on approved vacation, 10% on sick leave, and 10% causal absences; therefore, we have about 30% of the workers unavailable every day. We have 42 FTT,

See **SHOP CHAIRMAN** on page 15

United Auto Workers
LOCAL 598 **EYE OPENER**
Home of the Original Fisher 2 Sit-Downers

UNION HALL • G-3293 VAN SLYKE ROAD, FLINT, MI 48507 • (810) 238-4605

<i>President</i>	Stephanie Riley	DISTRICT COMMITTEE / ALTERNATES
<i>Vice President</i>	John Jackson III	Ben Dunlop / Alex Perry
<i>Recording Secretary</i>	Judy Mosier	Sean Meachem / Chad Boyce
<i>Financial Secretary</i>	Chad Fabbro	Shane Herriman / Bo Browning
<i>Guide</i>	Twanna Q. Coleman	D'Andre Jackson / Stan Cherwinski
<i>Trustee</i>	Melissa Bowen	Brian Shick / JoAnna Batson-Escamilla
<i>Trustee</i>	Corissa Carter	Dana Waider / Joe Berriman
<i>Trustee</i>	David V. Garcia	Bryan Ventrone / Stan Dulaney
<i>Sergeant-At-Arms</i>	Randy Frost	Jon Galant / Wendy Ignash
<i>Retiree Chapter Chair</i>	Janet Woodson	DeWayne Tippit / Mike Bukovchik
SHOP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN		
Eric Welter		
SHOP COMMITTEE-AT-LARGE		
Leroy Shinabarger, Nick Dekalita, Joe Dontje		
SHOP COMMITTEE (DISTRICT)		
Shane Herriman, D'Andre Jackson, Sean Meachem		
Mike Kocsis / Shane Balcer		

ARAMARK BARGAINING COMMITTEE – DISTRICT COMMITTEE
JaShanti Walker, Sr. and Orlandis McNeal Alternate Edward Menzel

GM SUBSYSTEMS MANUFACTURING, LLC UNIT
Bargaining Committee Chair Takeisha Hillard..... Alternate Phillip Pruitt

BEACON O&M BARGAINING COMMITTEE
District Committeeperson Mark Leineke..... Alternate Mike Harrell

M.P.S. BARGAINING COMMITTEE – DISTRICT COMMITTEE
Tasha Wynne..... Alternate Kristine Momany
Adan Donias
John Wineland Alternate Damon Harrison

ADAPT REPRESENTATIVE..... Denise Denam, Rick Hager

CIVIL RIGHTS COMMITTEE..... Rosalyn Morse

LOCAL 598 BENEFIT REPRESENTATIVES..... Cindy McLean, Chris Dungerow,
Adam Prieur, Archie McGrath, Hans Smith

HEALTH & SAFETY REPRESENTATIVES..... Mike Dankert, Mark Turner, Doug Culhane

WORK & FAMILY REPRESENTATIVES..... Jayne Atwell, Cheryl Dawson, George Washington

EYE OPENER EDITOR..... Debi Kirchner

POLICY OF THE EYE OPENER

TO OUR READERS: The **EYE OPENER** is the voice of our Local and International Union. This is our vehicle for bringing to you, on a regular basis, the views and actions of the leaders you elected, so you can evaluate them. Through the paper, we explain Union policies and show how your dues are spent. The paper is also the voice of the members. We welcome articles from UAW members and stories about members. While we welcome your contributions, we ask that they be constructive. At no time will the editorial staff tolerate any defamatory remarks regarding any person or persons. We reserve the right to reply to those who seem to reflect a misunderstanding of the Union and its policies and to edit any article for clarity and length.

Opinions reflected in signed articles in the **EYE OPENER** do not necessarily represent the position or opinions of Local 598. Published monthly by UAW Local 598, G-3293 Van Slyke Road, Flint, MI 48507. Phone: 810-238-4605.

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FLINT'S LABOR DAY PARADE



Local 598 represented at the **Flint Labor Day Parade** on September 7th, organized by Genesee County Sheriff Chris Swanson. The Parade started at the Bristol Road Church of Christ and ended at Region 1D.



Remember...

Plan Now To Attend Next Year's Labor Day Parade!



UPDATES TO STRIKE FUND AND COLA

"You can find the list of endorsed candidates at uawendorsements.org. Please do your research and find out why these candidates were endorsed."

by **CHAD FABRO**



FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Football season is here, along with lots of other fall activities for us to enjoy. Fall during an election year is a crazy-busy time of the year, especially for the UAW. Our V-CAP Committee has been busy vetting and interviewing candidates who seek our endorsement. You can find the list of endorsed candidates at uawendorsements.org. Please do your research and find out why these candidates were endorsed.

Make sure to enjoy this time of year, as hunting and the holiday season are quickly approaching!

Thanks to our UAW/GM National Bargaining Team, we had our COLA reinstated last year, and as you may have noticed, we recently had an increase. The following is a breakdown of how the Cost-of-Living Adjustments are formulated:

COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENTS FORMULA

The Consumer Price Index three-month average for February 2024, March 2024 and April 2024 was 295.866. The three-month average index for Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) for the periods of May 2024, June 2024 and July 2024 is 297.781 computed as follows:

CPI-W, ALL ITEMS LESS MEDICAL CARE (1982-84 = 100)

Applicable Consumer Price Index

Three-month Average	297.781
May 2024	297.710
June 2024	297.556
July 2024	298.076

Cost-of-Living Adjustment

Previous COLA Float	\$0.55
Formula Adjustment	\$0.21
Minus Diversion	\$0.10
Actual Adjustment	\$0.11

New COLA Float **\$0.66**

As always, In solidarity,

Mike Booth
Vice President and Director
UAW General Motors Department

Below is the latest Strike and Defense Fund as reported by the International Union.

Solidarity House
8000 EAST JEFFERSON AVE.
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48214
PHONE (313) 926-9000

INTERNATIONAL UNION, UNITED AUTOMOBILE, AEROSPACE & AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA - UAW

SHAWN FAIN, PRESIDENT • MARGARET MOCK, SECRETARY-TREASURER
VICE-PRESIDENTS: CHUCK BROWNING • MIKE BOOTH • RICH BOYER

July 29, 2024

Greetings:
RE: International Union Strike and Defense Fund Report June

The following is a summary of Strike Fund Income and Expenditures for the month of June 2024.

NET WORTH MAY 31, 2024	\$751,204,456.91
INCOME FOR JUNE 2024	
Dues Per Capita Taxes	7,649,248.44
DISBURSEMENTS FOR JUNE 2024	3,481,291.16
NET WORTH, JUNE 30, 2024	\$755,372,414.19

During the month of June, there were two strikes.

Fraternally,

Margaret Mock
Secretary-Treasurer, International Union, UAW

DO YOU HAVE A FINANCIAL PLAN?

Your UNION-FRIENDLY office can help!

- ✓ Financial planning fee waived for UAW members.
- ✓ Professional investment management of your PSP for \$25.00 per month.

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Women's Conference Brought Many Opportunities To Learn

by Melissa Bowen,
Women's Committee Chair

Thank you to the UAW Local 598 membership for allowing us the privilege to attend the *UAW International Women's and TOP (Technical, Office, and Professional workers) Conference* in Chicago, IL, the week of August 25th. We experienced a fantastic week of classes, guest speakers, solidarity, and a black-tie gala and awards ceremony.

I know that I had a wonderful time and really enjoyed the *Power Moves: Women Redefining Leadership* mini workshop. It included Region 1 Director and Int'l Women's Department Director LaShawn English, Region 1A Director and Int'l TOP Director Laura Dickerson, Int'l Top Administrative Assistant for GM and Gaming Departments Nicole Current, and Region 9A Assistant Director Vail Kohnert-Yount.

Ashely Lewis, the Int'l Women's Department Head, was the moderator.

My main takeaway was that, even though we have come so far as women, we all often still face the same challenges. Learning to balance careers, family, and our personal wellness, is something that many still struggle with.

At times, women often feel the effects of imposter syndrome, because of gender stereotypes. At one point, an audience member asked the question, "How do you go about receiving compliments?" While



Region 1D Women show their support for Kamala Harris and encourage everyone to Vote while attending a rally at the Women's Conference.

many of the answers included being humble about your accomplishments and returning the compliment, my favorite response came from Nicole Current. She replied, "I just say 'thank you.'"

I've always felt it's important to acknowledge your own accomplishments and to be your own cheerleader, because we are just as worthy of success as men. It was refreshing to hear that kind of response from another female leader.

I was not the only one that enjoyed the workshops. I asked the other delegates what their favorite event of the UAW Women's Conference was. Letitia Thigpen said, "My favorite part was the mini workshop that I went to where the young lady, [Janet Gerhard, Director of Public Affairs, FHE Health], talked about her testimony of losing weight, taking care of herself, and her weight loss journey.

She also talked about her mental health. She said she had to empower and encourage herself because she didn't have a lot of support from her family, at the time. When they saw that she lost weight, and her mental health was healthy again, they joined and started going down the same path as she was.

Claudette Pittman said, "What really stood out to me was the Women in Skilled Trades panel. How they hung in there, with the guys, and now [they're] in high positions. I'm taking it on myself to talk to female temps and low seniority to let them know that they can be leaders."

For other sisters, the classes were the best. Tara Johnson-Claxton said, "My favorite part of the women's conference was my class, 'bargaining for beginners'

continued on next page



The UAW Local 598 Women's Committee held our third *Painting with a Twist* on Saturday, August 17th. We had an excellent group of women register for this event, with familiar and new faces, which we always love to see.

from previous page

because it gave our class a chance to see how it felt to go back and forth between management and employees on bargaining for a better contract. [During this exercise,] I was the recording secretary for the employees' side, and we found out that negotiating for a new contract

is not an easy thing to do. It's a lot of work, hours, and consideration that they put into doing this, but it was a great experience. And, of course, meeting Erik Estrada at the airport was awesome too."

Meeting the C.H.I.P.S. star wasn't the only encounter worth mentioning. Jessica Berezny also thought the classes and sisterhood were important aspects of this conference.

"The leadership class I was put in, I questioned why I was in that class but went anyway. I learned so much and met sisters that will be lifelong friends."

"My favorite part had to be my classrooms mock bargaining session. We were able to put our negotiation skills to use and it was a great way to experience negotiating a contract," said Joanna Escamilla.

Malinda Nelson liked the morning plenaries. "They had different speakers to touch on so many things that we needed and didn't know we needed; from how far women have come in the workplace, mental health, separating work from home, being involved in your Union, life planning, voting, and standing together as women to be stronger. This was my first conference, and the women were so nice and encouraging. I met a few ladies that I have talked to since I've been home. It was a great experience."

On Wednesday, we attended a **Mobilize to Empower Rally** at the Chicago Women's Park and Gardens. Terrica Aldridge-Willis said, "It showed what sisterhood and solidarity looks like. To see all these union siblings, together from all over the United States, was awesome. Meeting new people forging



UAW Local 598 ladies shine at the Black Tie dinner event held during the Women's Conference in Chicago.

new friendships and bonds is truly an awesome feeling."

Lisa Townsend also enjoyed our mobilizing activity. "My favorite part of the conference was the march. My daughter loved it! It made her day! We had some great speakers and the vibe from the whole room was just full of energy. One comment I'll take home with me is, 'Don't be a hater, be a motivator!' Word got back to that man that said that and he came over at the black-tie event and introduced himself. His name was Rory. We chatted briefly, a very positive person, indeed."

At the rally, UAW International President Shawn Fain spoke of standing up and speaking out in favor of

candidates like Vice President Kamala Harris. We need leaders who can relate to the middle class and will support organized labor.

We also heard from Region 8 Director Tim Smith, and our very own Region 1D Assistant Director Scott Zuckschwerdt. The speeches were fantastic and empowering, but the highlight of the rally was Lisa and Jon Townsend's daughter, Tara. She was jumping up and down, cheering, and singing *Solidarity Forever*.

Her enthusiasm was contagious, and she was pulled up on stage with President Fain. It was so heartwarming to see the next generation being involved and included to understand the importance of unions.



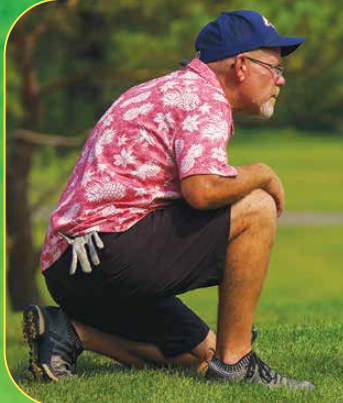
UAW Local 598 was honored to receive a 2nd place in fundraising award for **MAKING STRIDES AGAINST BREAST CANCER.**

Our UAW Local 598/ Flint Assembly Team raised **\$10,573.75** in 2023!

The UAW Local 598 Women's Committee is looking forward to our **Bowling for Breast Cancer Awareness** fundraiser. Join us on Saturday, October 5, 2024 at 8:00 p.m. at B's Bowling Center, located at 750 S. Center Rd. in Flint. It's \$25 per person and five to six people per team. The cost covers 2 games of bowling, shoe rental, a pizza and a pitcher of pop per lane. We will also have door prizes and raffles, with all of our proceeds going to our *Making Strides Against Breast Cancer* team.

We also encourage you to join us for the **Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk** on Saturday, October 12, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in Downtown Flint at the Flat Lot. We hope to see you there!





UAW Local 598 GOLF Tournament





LAPEER COUNTRY CLUB

AUG. 25th

To see more images, visit: uawlocal598.org or our official FB page: [UAW Local 598](#)



PHOTOS TAKEN BY BRITTA RUSAW



FUN-RAISING

TEAM UAW 598
WOMEN'S COMMITTEE 

Bowling for Breast Cancer Awareness

Saturday, October 5, 2024

8:00 pm Check In (8:45 pm bowling starts)

\$25
per Ticket!

WHAT YOU GET:

- 2 Games
 - Shoe Rental
 - 1 Pizza & 1 Pitcher of Pop Per Lane
- (based on a minimum of 5 bowlers per lane)



Melissa Bowen
Scan to pay \$24.99/seat/WC

You can now purchase your tickets digitally by emailing us at UawLocal598WC@gmail.com Send us names of the players on your team and send the ticket amount to our cash app. We will send you digital tickets via email.



CONTACTS:

Melissa, (810) 705-1366 Trim and Chassis
Malinda, (810) 493-3842 Body Shop

50/50 | Door prizes | Basket Raffles

Name _____ Phone _____ Cell Home

Address _____ City/Zip _____

E-Mail _____

2-6 Team Member Names

2	3	4	5	6
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Turn registration into Melissa by October 1, 2024

B's Bowling Center
750 S. Center Rd. • Flint, MI 48506
(810) 743-7570

*Call Frank
For More Info*

(810) 423-1648
www.bowlflint.com

RAMP IT UP!

The **Local 598 Ramp It Up Crew**, working with the **United Way of Genesee and Shiawassee Counties** and the **Genesee County Sheriff's Department**, stepped up once again to help a community member in need.

ABC Channel 12 news recently reported on a man named David, from Flint Township, who is a double amputee, totally dependent on the help of others for assistance on basic needs, like getting groceries. He shared that there were times he even had to crawl up a makeshift ramp dragging his electric scooter to get in the house.

The story was seen by many 598 members and reposted on social media. One thing was clear, something had to be done. **Ramp It Up** Local 598 coordinator, Shop Committee Representative Nick Dekalita, Dawn Dekalita, District Shop D'Andre Jackson and his son, along with Stan Cherwinski volunteered to spend their Sunday morning, joined by other volunteers, building a ramp for David.

GM unit Chair, Eric Welter acknowledged the crew, who were in attendance, later that afternoon at our Union Meeting, saying that they not only provided a practical solution to David, but had also given him the freedom and dignity he deserved.



UAW LOCAL 598 WOMEN'S COMMITTEE

MAKING STRIDES

Against Breast Cancer Walk this year!

October 12th, 2024

In Downtown Flint
(on the flat lot)

9:00am

**OCTOBER is
BREAST CANCER**

AWARENESS MONTH

SHIRT SALE

**SUBMIT ORDERS BY:
SEPTEMBER 27, 2024**



**PROCEEDS WILL GO TO MAKING STRIDES
AGAINST BREAST CANCER**



SCAN ME





ENDORSEMENTS

President - **Kamala HARRIS** Vice President - **Tim WALZ**

U.S. Senate..... Elissa Slotkin
 Michigan State Board of Education..... Dr. Theodore Jones
 Michigan State Board of Education..... Adam Zemke
 Michigan State University Board of Trustees.... Rebecca Bahar-Cook
 Michigan State University Board of Trustees..... Thomas Stallworth
 Wayne State University Board of Governors..... Rasha Demashkieh
 Wayne State University Board of Governors..... Mark Gaffney
 Michigan Supreme Court..... Kyra Harris Bolden
 Michigan Supreme Court..... Kimberly Ann Thomas

BAY and SAGINAW COUNTIES

Vanessa Guerra..... Saginaw County Clerk
 Michael Webster..... Saginaw County Board of Commissioners
 Tarsha Works..... Saginaw County Commissioner D3
 Kristen McDonald Rivet..... Congress D8
 Lisa Coney..... Saginaw County Commissioner D10
 Jack Tany..... Saginaw County Commissioner D2
 Brian Wendling..... Saginaw County Public Works Commissioner
 Weston Prince..... Bay County Treasurer
 Marnie Westphal..... Bay County Commissioner D7
 Brandon Krause..... Bay County Register of Deeds
 Rudy Howard..... 96th House
 Amos O'Neal..... 94th House
 Jim Barcia..... Bay County Executive
 Kathie Marchlewski..... Bay County Commission D2
 Carly Hammond..... Saginaw City Council
 Cynthia Winiecke..... Tittabawassee Township Trustee
 Colleen Maillette..... Bay County Board of Commissioners D4
 Kathleen "Katie" Zanotti..... Bay County Clerk
 Alexander Dewitt..... Bay City Commission D6
 Nancy Borushko..... Bay County Prosecutor
 Thomas Herek..... Bay County Commission D5
 Mark Zacharda..... 71st House

DON'T JEOPARDIZE YOUR VOTE!

**Look at your driver's license or ID.
 Check your expiration date! If it's
 time to get renewed DO IT NOW!
 DONT WAIT!**

November is close.

FLINT and GENESEE COUNTY

Mary Alyce Hood..... 7th District Court
 Jeff Wright..... Genesee County Drain Commissioner
 Chris Swanson..... Office of Sheriff
 David Leyton..... Genesee County Prosecutor
 Jeffrey Clothier..... 67-4 District Court Judge
 Domonique Clemons..... Genesee County Clerk/Register of Deeds
 Ellen Ellenburg..... Genesee County Commission D3
 Sam Muma..... Genesee County Treasurer
 Beverly Brown..... Genesee County Commission D4
 Dale Weighill..... Genesee County Commission D8
 Mike Yancho, Sr..... Grand Blanc Township Treasurer
 Cynthia Neely..... 70th House
 Jasper Martus..... 69th House
 Perci Whitmore..... Mott Community College Board of Trustees
 Anne Figueroa..... Mott Community College Board of Trustees
 Matthew Schlinker..... 68th House
 Charles Winfrey..... Genesee County Commission D2
 Mark Zacharda..... 71st House

LANSING AREA

Curtis Hertel..... Congress D7
 Penelope Tsernoglou..... 75th House
 Angela Witwer..... 76th House
 Tanya Pratt..... Ingham County Board of Commissioners D13
 Elissa Slotkin..... D7 U.S. Senate/Congress
 Julie Brixie..... 73rd House
 Chris Trubac..... Ingham County Board of Commissioners D3
 Jacob Toomey..... Eaton County Commissioner
 Jason Peek..... Eaton County Commissioner
 Andy Schor..... Lansing Mayor
 Fonda Brewer..... Delta Township Trustee
 Irene Cahill..... Ingham County Commission
 Myles Johnson..... Ingham County Commission
 Kara Hope..... 74th House
 Landon Myers..... Eaton County Commission D2
 Terrance Augustine..... Eaton County Treasurer
 Dennis Fedewa..... Delta Township Treasurer
 Beth Bowen..... Delta Township Trustee
 January Whitacre..... Eaton County Commission D6
 Michelle Rosa..... Ingham County Commission D15
 Brandon Haskell..... Eaton County Commission D4
 Scott Hendrickson..... Meridian Township Supervisor
 Robert Pena..... Ingham County Commissioner D8
 Branden Dyer..... Eaton County Commissioner D12
 Emily Dievendorff..... 77th House
 Barb Byrum..... Ingham County Clerk
 Derrick Quinney..... Ingham County Register of Deeds
 Ryan Sebolt..... Ingham County Commission D9
 Jeanne Pearl-Wright..... Eaton County Commissioner D5
 Alan Fox..... Ingham County Treasurer
 Danene Shumaker..... 43rd House

Retiree Board Election Results

"Congrats to Judy Mosier on her retirement. It has been an honor to work with her over the years, and even better being her friend!"

by Janet Woodson



RETIRED WORKERS CHAIR

It was time for our Retiree Board Elections. Your Retiree Board Officers for UAW Local 598 are as follows:

- Janet Woodson Chair
- Mary Sue Young Vice-Chair
- Curtis Freeman..... Financial Secretary
- Debi Kirchner Recording Secretary
- James Rueda Sergeant-at-arms
- Maria Rueda..... Guide
- Herman Nealy Member-at-large

My good friend and long time Retiree Board Member, Thurman Ross, Jr. decided to pass on some of his knowledge and his blessings to Curtis Freeman. Thurman will still be with us, just not as our Financial Secretary. Thurman, words could never express my gratitude to you for the unwavering support that you've given me over the years as well as your loyalty. We, the members of Local 598 Retiree Chapter, thank you for your years of service.

Our Fall Casino Trip is scheduled for October 16-17, 2024. This trip will be like the others, we will double up with Local 699 from Saginaw. If we have enough for a bus, I will have our own bus. Some of you signed up at our September's meeting. The cost is \$75 for members and \$85 for non-members. The deadline to sign up is September 27, 2024.

If myself or Curtis aren't at the Local when you come to pay, either the secretary or bookkeeper in the front office will gladly help you.



Rechargeable HEARING AIDS available

WE ACCEPT HAP & BCN

Professional Hearing Clinic

Ringling in the ears? WE CAN HELP!

BATTERIES \$100 per package (limit 5) EXPIRES 11-30-24

We are a provider for your new benefits.

Dr. Jennifer McGowen
Doctor of Audiology

2 Digital Hearing Aids 100% PAID
by your Blue Cross UAW/CM Insurance. Some Insurances Accepted. SPOUSES INCLUDED

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810-653-HEAR (4327)
Next to Little Caesars

1235 S. Center Rd. Burton, MI 48509
810-744-9000
I-69 & Center Rd.

2545 W. Silver Lake Rd. Fenton, MI 48430
810-433-4575
Between US23 & Poplar St.

20 W. Clarkston Rd. Lake Orion, MI 48362
248-845-4714
Corner M24 & Clarkston Rd.

professionalhearingclinic.com

Other insurance programs are accepted as well. *BCBS only, others may require co-payment, excludes HAP



Retired Workers Chapter

Chapter Meetings held at 12:00 p.m. in the **LOCAL 598 UNION HALL**

October 16

FALL CASINO TRIP

7:15 AM – Gate Opens – Union City Fields, 4151 Torrey Rd., 8:00 AM – The bus arrives
8:45 AM – Pickup Local 699 members, Saginaw, MI
Rest stop in West Branch for meal and restroom break
4:30 PM – Kewadin Shores Casino & Hotel, St. Ignace, MI
Receive \$10.00 on the first day, and a \$10.00 food coupon on the second.

October 17

Breakfast provided at Hotel/Casino
8:00-8:30 AM – Check-out
9:00 AM – Leave for Kewadin Casino in Hessel
9:30-11:30 AM – Receive package
12:00 PM – Arrival at St. Ignace, MI (noon-3:30 PM)
Receive \$10.00 credit
3:30 PM – Leave for home – Rest stop in West Branch, MI
6:30 PM Arrival at Saginaw, MI
7:30 PM – Arrival at Union City Fields, Flint, MI

Tickets for the THANKSGIVING and CHRISTMAS DINNERS will be available at our October 10, 2024 meeting.

Union-Made Beer Guide

Lagers

- Beck's
- Budweiser
- Boston Lager by Sam Adams
- Coors Light
- Iron City
- Killian's
- Landshark
- Michelob
- MGD
- Miller Lite
- Pabst Blue Ribbon
- Red Stripe
- Rolling Rock
- Stella Artois

Ales

- Bass
- Breakaway Blonde by Sam Adams
- Jamaica Red Ale
- Pumpkin Ale by Sam Adams

Wheat

- Blue Moon
- Cherry Wheat by Sam Adams
- Cold Snap by Sam Adams
- Shock Top

Oktoberfest

- Genesee
- Sam Adams

IPAs

- Contact Haze
- Goose Island
- Humboldt Haze
- Wicked Hazy by Sam Adams

Be an Ethical Consumer

BUY UNION

Labor 411

EYE OPENER • SEPTEMBER 2024 PAGE 13

There is Always...

HOPE

Cheryl Dawson, Work & Family Representative

September is Suicide Prevention Month

An opportunity to raise awareness of this important crisis.

If you know of someone who may be experiencing any warning signs, please encourage them to seek help.

- Call, text, or chat 988 to speak to a trained crisis counselor offering support 24/7/365.
- Encourage them to speak to a Work/Family Rep. We are available all 3 shifts and are here to help at (810)236-6834.

Suicide is not the answer. THERE IS HOPE.

SOME WARNING SIGNS OF SUICIDE

- Talks about dying by suicide
- Has trouble eating or sleeping
- Exhibits drastic changes in behavior
- Withdraws from friends or social activities
- Loses interest in school, work, or hobbies
- Prepares for death by writing a will and making final arrangements
- Gives away prized possessions
- Has attempted suicide before
- Takes unnecessary risks
- Has recently experienced serious losses
- Seems preoccupied with death and dying
- Loses interest in his or her personal appearance
- Increases alcohol or drug use

SOME IMPORTANT SUICIDE FACTS...

- More than 700,000 people die by suicide every year. For each suicide, there are an estimated 20 suicide attempts.
- 79% of all people who die by suicide are male. Although more women than men attempt suicide, men are 4x more likely to die by suicide
- The 2nd leading cause of death among people aged 10-14, the 3rd leading cause of death among those aged 15-24 and the 12th leading cause of death overall in the U.S.



Sources: Suicide Prevention Month-NAMI, CDC Suicide Prevention

Mid Michigan Dental Group

Ask about our **FREE WHITENING FOR LIFE** Program!

FULL-SERVICE DENTISTRY...

- ✓ Bonding & Sealants
- ✓ Implant Restorations
- ✓ Cosmetic Contouring
- ✓ Crowns and Bridges
- ✓ Veneers
- ✓ Whitening
- ✓ Braces
- ✓ Root Canal Therapy
- ✓ Extractions
- ✓ Dentures
- ✓ Cosmetic Dentistry
- ✓ Scaling and Root Planing
- ✓ Fillings



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DR. TERRY A. POTTER & STAFF
dentistry with a personal touch

NEW PATIENT SPECIALS

Comprehensive Exam, X-Rays and Cleaning	\$129	\$100 SAVINGS on ANY SERVICE over \$500
GM Insurance Accepted	OFFER EXPIRES 11-30-24	OFFER EXPIRES 11-30-24

1111 W. Hill Rd. • Suite B • Flint, MI 48507 • midmichigandentalgroup.com

ATTORNEYS' SCHEDULE for the Union Hall

LEGAL SERVICES FOR LOCAL 598 MEMBERS

▶ MONDAY

Richard Wagner 810.820.9111
Doud, Smith & Wagner, Attorneys & Counselors
1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

▶ THURSDAY

John Chowning 810.695.2110
Chowning & Edgard, P.C.
12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

▶ TUESDAY

Robert MacDonald 810.234-2204
MacDonald & MacDonald, PLLC
2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

▶ FRIDAY

Neal Wilensky 810.606.0410
Kaechele & Wilensky, P.C.
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.



SHOP CHAIRMAN *continued from page 3*

8% ARs, and 15% PTT. This leaves a gap in population that required overtime be worked to cover.

As you know, recently the corporation mandated to reduce the amount of overtime. This resulted in our team leaders being put on jobs to cover absenteeism. The committee body has been writing Par. 215 grievances when management has TL on line and do their work. We had a productive meeting last week over the grievances and gained commitment to comply and resolve the issue. I don't expect that they will instantly stop violating, but I expect that it will continue to improve.

Please continue to place committee calls when managers do bargaining unit work. Paragraph 28 of the National Agreement states you must first take your protest to your GL, so protest and ask for committee. This removes their argument that we are soliciting calls.

The satellite gyms in paint and body shop are now open for your use 24 hours a day. They are located in what was a portion of the cafeteria. I think you will find them very well equipped for a smaller location. Health is a critical component to our members' quality of life both in and out of the plant, so please use the gym and continue your health and fitness journey.

On a recent news broadcast, many of us saw a Flint Township man who had partial amputations of both legs. Sadly, the only way he could leave his house was to crawl down a piece of plywood covering his steps. Before a scheduled Union meeting, members Nick Dekalita, D'Andre Jackson, Stan Cherwinski and Randy Hamilton, in conjunction with the United Way and the Sheriff's department, built a ramp for this man, giving him freedom with dignity.

Photos and article on this project can be found on page 11 of this issue of the *Eye Opener*.



CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified ads must be submitted monthly and will be run on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Limited to ads/services submitted in a Local 598 member's name only.

miscellaneous

APARTMENT FOR RENT.

512 Chase Street

2 bedroom; 1 queen, 1 twin.

Dishwasher, washer and dryer included. Electricity, gas, and water included. \$950.00 per month with \$500 security deposit.

Call 810-577-0712

COME VISIT

"CAROL'S CAT HOUSE"

813 Main St., Daytona Beach, FL
UAW Sister owner and operator.

Call 586-322-3464

or write: P.O. Box 263086
Daytona Beach, FL 32126
Feline Friendly Gift Shop.

services

ACTUAL GOLD 598 SERVICE RING

Like new, very rare, size 11,
blue stone, \$1,200.

Call Mike at 810-516-7463

SKINNER RESIDENTIAL CHAIN LINK FENCE

Installation and repair. Free estimates.
46 year's experience.

Call 810-845-7211

WALKER ELECTRIC, INC.

2410 Kansas Ave., Flint, MI 48506
www.walkerelectric.biz

810-233-5111 269-209-1791



Concepcion Portillo

The Officers, Committeepersons, Representatives and Members of UAW Local 598 extend their deepest sympathy to the family and friends of the above listed deceased retired member of our Union family.



BIG ENOUGH
to serve all your needs,
SMALL ENOUGH TO CARE

**SPECIAL
DISCOUNTS**
TO
**UAW MEMBERS
AND THEIR
IMMEDIATE FAMILY**

6063 FENTON ROAD, FLINT, MI 48507
JENNIFER SHARP SCULLY, MANAGER

810-694-4900

sharpfuneralhomes.com

ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS

FENTON CHAPEL
810-629-9321

LINDEN CHAPEL
810-735-7833

MILLER ROAD CHAPEL
810-635-4411



UAW PROPERTY - ILLEGAL TO DUPLICATE
USPS Publication # 110-770

NOTICE of NOMINATIONS & ELECTION

to fill vacant position of **RECORDING SECRETARY**

NOMINATIONS will be accepted:

DATE: Tuesday, October 1 and Wednesday, October 2, 2024

TIME: 6:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Local 598 Union Hall, G-3293 Van Slyke Rd, Flint, MI 48507

To accept nomination by mail, you must send a registered letter to: Election Committee, UAW Local 598, P.O. Box 7800, Flint, MI 48507. It must be received no earlier than Tuesday, October 1, 2024, and no later than Wednesday, October 2, 2024 by 4:00 p.m. This registered letter must specify the office for which nomination is being accepted. Your name must be PRINTED as you wish it to appear on the ballot, your signature, along with complete address and GMIN or Employee Number.

RULES:

1. All members of Local 598, UAW, who have been in continuous good standing with Local 598 for one (1) year immediately prior to nomination, are nominated with exception to paragraph 96 moves. (Per Article 38, Section 3 & 4, UAW Constitution; and Article 12, Section 3, Local 598 Bylaws).
2. Those desiring to accept nomination must do so by completing and submitting the acceptance form at the Local 598 Union Hall, G-3293 Van Slyke Rd, Flint, MI 48507.

ELECTION for office of **RECORDING SECRETARY** will be held:

DATE: Tuesday, October 15 and Wednesday, October 16, 2024

TIMES: Polls OPEN at 6:00 a.m. (the 15th) and CLOSE at 6:00 a.m. (the 16th)

LOCATIONS: North Unit Gym Area (Main Plant), Trim Shop, Paint Shop Cafeteria, Body Shop Cafeteria, and Local 598 Union Hall



Election Committee
Local 598, UAW

For any **RUNOFF ELECTIONS...**
Polls open at 6:00 a.m. on **Tuesday, October 22**
and close at 6:00 a.m. on **Wednesday, October 23**
Election locations will be the same as listed above.

Note: Only Members in Good Standing will be eligible to vote. Voting will be by secret ballot. You must have a picture I.D. and provide your GMIN or Employee Number. Retirees and Members on Leaves of Absence may vote at the Local 598 Union Hall.