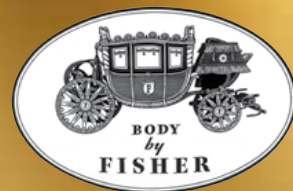




United Auto Workers

LOCAL
598

EYE OPENER



Home of the Original
Fisher 2 Sit-Downers

VOLUME 44 ISSUE 06

www.uawlocal598.org

JUNE 2025

THE BEST WAY TO SUPPORT AMERICA this 4th of July?

July 2, 2025 is... Made in the USA Day!

Made in the USA Day was started by Joel Joseph of the *Made in the USA Foundation* and the day was first celebrated

in the year 1989. But what exactly makes a product eligible for the 'Made in the USA' stamp?

Well, when "all or virtually all" of the product is made in the United States, the brand can ask for a 'Made in the USA' label and the product becomes 'American-made'.

Identifying *Made in the USA* products can be tricky, but here are some tips to help you make informed purchases:

- **Look for the "Made in USA" Label**
– The Federal Trade Commission

(FTC) requires that products labeled as 'Made in USA' be 'all or virtually all' manufactured in the U.S.

- **Check the Fine Print** – Some products may say 'Made in USA with global materials,' meaning parts are sourced internationally but assembled domestically.

- **Research the Brand** – Many American companies proudly highlight their domestic manufacturing on their websites and marketing materials.

- **Use Online Directories** – Websites like AllAmerican.org and madeintheusa.com provide curated lists of verified American-made goods.

- **Avoid Misleading Claims** – Some brands use patriotic imagery or phrases like 'Designed in the USA', which does not guarantee domestic production.



UNION MADE SHOPPING GUIDE

HOT DOGS

- Ball Park
- Butterball
- Hebrew National
- Hormel
- Oscar Mayer

CONDIMENTS

- French's Mustard
- Gulden's Mustard
- Grey Poupon
- Heinz Ketchup
- Vlasic Relish

BEER

- Budweiser
- Coors
- Goose Island
- Miller
- Sam Adams

ICE CREAM

- Ben & Jerry's
- Good Humor
- Prairie Farms

SNACKS

- Cheez-It
- Fritos
- Mission
- Ruffles
- Sun Chips

SOFT DRINKS

- Coca-Cola
- 7 Up
- Pepsi
- Sprite
- Dr. Pepper

SUPPORT AMERICAN WORKERS & PRODUCTS MADE IN AMERICA!

Every dollar spent on American manufacturing generates an estimated \$3.60 in economic activity, making it one of the most productive sectors in the country.

Beyond job creation, buying American-made products ensures higher quality and safety standards, supports local economies, and reduces reliance on foreign supply chains.





Why the UAW Constitutional Convention Matters, and... **WHY PREPARATION STARTS NOW**

"The future of the UAW is written by members who care enough to get involved early."

STEPHANIE RILEY

from the PRESIDENT'S DESK

Every four years, the United Auto Workers (UAW) holds its Constitutional Convention – a pivotal event where the Union's core policies, leadership structure, and long-term strategies are debated and decided. For rank-and-file members, this isn't just a formality. It's one of the most powerful opportunities to shape the direction of the UAW and ensure the Union continues to fight effectively for workers' rights in a rapidly changing economic and political landscape.

With the upcoming convention in June, 2026, it is important for members to begin preparing by writing and submitting resolutions and considering delegate choices. This explains the importance of early engagement and how members can participate effectively.

What Is the UAW Constitutional Convention?

The UAW Constitutional Convention is where key decisions about how the Union is governed are made. Delegates from Locals across the country come together to:

- Nominate candidates for Regional Directors and the IEB elections
- Elect International Executive Board Trustees
- Propose and vote on constitutional amendments
- Debate and adopt resolutions on bargaining strategy, political action, organizing priorities, and more

In short, the convention determines how the Union operates and what it fights for. It's democracy in action, but only if members actively participate.

Why Preparing Resolutions Matters

Resolutions are how ideas from the shop floor make their way to the top levels of Union decision-making. Whether it's a proposal to strengthen strike benefits, push for greater transparency in Union finances, or expand organizing efforts into new sectors, resolutions give members a formal mechanism



Members of the Region 1D Women's Council attended a Sisterhood-New Membership Round-up Drive for Genesee County CLUW Chapter, a fundraiser for hygiene products for local students.

to propose change.

The earlier members start drafting and discussing these resolutions at their Local Unions, the more time they have to:

- Build support among other members
- Refine language and strategy
- Ensure the resolution is submitted on time and in proper form

Waiting until the last minute limits the power of rank-and-file voices. Starting early opens the door to real influence.

Choosing Delegates: A Strategic Decision

Delegates are the members who represent each Local at the convention, and they hold real power. They will vote on proposed constitutional changes, leadership elections, and key resolutions. Choosing delegates who will genuinely represent the will of the membership is vital.

That's why now is the time to:

- Identify and encourage trusted, committed members to run as delegates
- Hold open discussions in your Local about what priorities delegates should advocate
- Push for accountability and transparency from potential delegates about their positions

Electing delegates without these conversations' risks sending people to the convention who may not advocate for the changes you believe in. The more informed and intentional members are during the delegate election process, the stronger the democratic voice of the rank and file will be at the convention.

What's at Stake?

The labor movement is in a moment of both opportunity and challenge. From the historic *Stand-Up Strike* to the growing interest in unionization across new industries, the UAW is in a stronger position than it has been in years. But that momentum

Professional Hearing Clinic

Ringing in the ears? WE CAN HELP!

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/CW Insurance! Other Insurances Accepted. SPOUSES INCLUDED

BATTERIES \$1.00
per package (limit 5) EXPIRES 7-31-26

Rechargeable HEARING AIDS available

AMERICAN MADE HEARING AIDS

WE ACCEPT HAP & BCN

1063 S. State Rd. (M-15) Davison, MI 48423 810-653-HEAR(4327) <small>Next to Little Caesars</small>	1235 Center Rd. Burton, MI 48509 810-744-9000 <small>I-69 and Center Rd.</small>	1213 Corunna Ave. Owosso, MI 48867 989-472-1335 <small>Call for a FREE hearing screening</small>	2545 Silver Lake Rd. Fenton, MI 48430 810-433-4575 <small>Between US-23 & Poplar St.</small>	20 W. Clarkston Rd. Lake Orion, MI 48362 248-845-4714 <small>Corner M24 & Clarkston Rd.</small>
---	--	--	--	---

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

professionalhearingclinic.com

See **PRESIDENT'S REPORT** on page 3

UAW Workers Win in Announced GM Investment

"GM is investing \$4 billion dollars to add production to U.S. factories represented by the UAW."

ERIC WELTER

SHOP CHAIRMAN



Huge News! GM is investing **\$4 billion dollars** to add production to U.S. factories represented by the UAW. First, Lake Orion, which was slated to be an EV plant, will now become a Large SUV and gas Light-Duty pickup truck plant. This is great for the members of Local 5960 and its leadership. There is still a lot of planning on the manpower side, but when this plant launches there will be an increase in jobs in Michigan. All the workers who were laid off will be recalled, transfers will be taken, temps converted and potentially people hired off the street.

This will shift the EV Silverado/Sierra volume to Factory Zero, Local 22.

The next announcement is the Blazer is going to be added to the current models at the Springhill, Tennessee Assembly plant, staffed by the workers of Local 1853. This product in particular is very personal to the UAW, since they put it in Mexico at the same time as they closed Lordstown Assembly.

Last is the Equinox being built in Fairfax by the members of Local 31. This is an incredibly popular vehicle with the redesign

increasing sales 30%. This will be in addition to the Bolt and will put them closer to the production numbers and staffing that they previously had before the EV transition. The Equinox and Blazer are currently built in Mexico. The announcement did not discuss the impact to those locations.

We were able to make apprentice offers this week, continuing the journey to complete the 650 apprentices owed to us in the 2023 National Agreement. The company is putting on a total of 82 apprentices, 64 were internal candidates and 18 were external.

Here at Flint Assembly, we put 3 electrical, 1 pipefitter, and 1 toolmaker apprentice on. This is a very exciting change for those members lives, be sure to congratulate them.

As we already knew, a nonunion contractor got the bid to ship all of GM's vehicles. There were no union vendors that could handle that big of a contract, so no union carriers bid.

GM separated from Jack Cooper after Ford did, due to their financial situation. They were headed towards bankruptcy. The Teamsters are currently trying to organize the drivers. Any way we can support them will be communicated to us through the regional office.

As summer kicks off, there are great events ahead of us. June 25th is the plant *Family Day* for active members' families to tour the plant. There is also the American Muscle Cruise and Car Show on July 12th, and Soberfest at our Union City Fields on July 20th. Please get out and enjoy some of these great events.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT continued from Page 2

must be matched with clear vision, member engagement, and democratic accountability.

Preparing resolutions and carefully selecting delegates are not just procedural steps, they're acts of leadership and commitment. If we want a stronger, more democratic UAW, it starts now, at the local level, with members taking initiative.

How to Get Involved

- **Start Talking:** Have discussions at Union meetings and on the shop floor about what issues matter most.
- **Form a Resolutions Committee:** Work with others in your Local to draft strong, well-argued proposals.
- **Learn the Deadlines:** Find out when resolutions and delegate nominations are due in your Local.
- **Encourage Strong Delegates:** Support and vote for members who will fight for democratic reform, fairness, and progress at the convention.

The future of the UAW is not written at the convention. It's written in the months leading up to it, by members who care enough to get involved early.

***Be one of those members. Start preparing now.
The Union's direction is in your hands.***

President Riley

DO YOU HAVE A FINANCIAL PLAN?

Your UNION-FRIENDLY office can help!

- ✓ Personalized Retirement Income Plan for UAW Members
- ✓ Discounted Financial Planning for UAW Members
- ✓ Professional Review of Your PSP Account



ALEX LEBRON, CFP®
5405 Gateway Centre Dr.
Suite A
Flint, MI 48507



BRIDGE
WEALTH MANAGEMENT

810.695.1882
www.bwealthmngt.com

Advisory Services are offered through Creative Financial Designs, Inc., a Registered Investment Adviser, and Securities are offered through CFD Investments, Inc., a Registered Broker/Dealer, Member FINRA & SIPC. Bridge Wealth Management is independent of and not controlled by the CFD Companies.

America's Second Independence Day

"...if we don't stand together for one, then there can't be freedom for anybody. Today it may not affect you, but you could be next on the list."

D'ANDRE JACKSON

RECORDING SECRETARY



Happy Juneteenth! The June 19th holiday, considered the longest-running African American holiday, marks the end of slavery in the U.S. and viewed as America's second Independence Day. Early Juneteenth celebrations date as far back as 1866, with the day becoming a federal holiday in 2021 and a UAW-negotiated paid holiday in 2023.



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

President Stephanie Riley
Vice President..... John Jackson III
Recording Secretary..... D'Andre Jackson
Financial Secretary..... Chad Fabbro
Guide..... Twanna Q. Coleman
Trustee..... Melissa Bowen
Trustee..... Corissa Carter
Trustee..... David V. Garcia
Sergeant-at-Arms..... Randy Frost
Retiree Chapter Chair..... Janet Woodson

SHOP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
 Eric Welter

SHOP COMMITTEE-AT-LARGE
 Nick Dekalita, Joe Dontje

SHOP COMMITTEE (DISTRICT)
 Shane Herriman, Sean Meachem

DISTRICT COMMITTEE / ALTERNATES

Ben Dunlop / Alex Perry
 Sean Meachem / Chad Boyce
 Shane Herriman / Bo Browning
 Stan Cherwinski / Todd Bieber
 Brian Shick / JoAnna Batson-Escamilla
 Dana Waider / Joe Berriman
 Bryan Ventrone / Stan Dulaney
 Jon Galant / Wendy Ignash
 DeWayne Tippit / Mike Bukovchik
 Aaron McAlister / Jim Hazell
 Jeremy Switzer / Antonio Pritchett
 Kevin Smiley / Marcus Hunt
 Bob Scott / Maurice Purches
 William McIntosh / Jacob Kohn
 Mike Kocsis / Shane Balcer

ARAMARK BARGAINING COMMITTEE – DISTRICT COMMITTEE

JaShanti Walker, Sr. and Orlandis McNeal Alternate Edward Menzel

BEACON O&M BARGAINING COMMITTEE

District Committeeperson Mark Leineke.....Alternate Rodney Haggard

M.P.S. BARGAINING COMMITTEE – DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Tasha Wynne.....Alternate Kristine Momany
 John WinelandAlternate Damon Harrison

ADAPT REPRESENTATIVE..... Rick Hager

CIVIL RIGHTS COMMITTEE.....Rosalyn Morse

LOCAL 598 BENEFIT REPS..... Chris Dungerow, Adam Prieur, Archie McGrath, Hans Smith

HEALTH & SAFETY REPS.....Mike Dankert, Doug Culhane, Jeff Wier

WORK & FAMILY REPS..... Cheryl Dawson, George Washington, Dave Yanta

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.

POSTMASTER: All Form 3579's for the EYE OPENER, are to be forwarded to the EYE OPENER, UAW Local 598, G-3293 Van Slyke Rd., Flint, MI 48507. Periodicals Postage Paid at Flint, Michigan. **Annual subscription \$1.70 for members only; retirees \$1.00.**

I would also like to wish you a **Happy 4th of July!** The Independence Day holiday celebrates the declaration of the American colonies' independence from Great Britain July 4, 1776. As we celebrate these very important holidays, let's keep in mind the true meaning of the "American Dream."

The Declaration of Independence states that "all men are created equal and have an inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." As a post-civil rights era child, I never thought that I would live in an America where those ideals would feel to be under attack or even have the slightest impression that they were under attack.

Remember, if we don't stand together for one, then there can't be freedom for anybody. Today it may not affect you, but you could be next on the list. The world is looking to America to set an example. *United We Stand, Divided We Fall!* Enjoy your summer and be safe!



Due to the GM shutdown, UAW Local 598 will be CLOSED from JUNE 30 thru JULY 6 and will RESUME BUSINESS on July 7, 2025.

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



810.232.0300

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 7-31-25

OFFER EXPIRES 7-31-25

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

Beyond the BBQ: How Politics Shapes Your Union's Future (and Your Family's Summer)

"This precious time off, these moments of pure family enjoyment, are what we work for."

CHAD FABBRO

FINANCIAL SECRETARY



Ah, summer in Flint! The smell of charcoal grills firing up, the laughter of kids finally out of school, the dream of a long-awaited vacation "Up North," or a quiet day fishing on the lake. For Union families, summer isn't just a season; it's a well-deserved reward. It's the culmination of countless hours of hard work, the product of the good wages, strong benefits, and fair working conditions that our Union has fought so hard to secure. This precious time off, these moments of pure family enjoyment, are what we work for.

But while we're soaking up the sun and savoring these well-earned moments, there's another kind of heat building – not from the grill, but in the legislative chambers and political arenas across our state and nation. It's easy to get caught up in the rhythm of summer, and to put politics on the back burner. Yet, the truth is, the very foundations of our Union's strength, and by extension our ability to enjoy summers like this, are constantly being debated, challenged, and even threatened by political decisions. This isn't just about "labor issues" in some abstract sense. It's about how every political choice, every vote, every law directly shapes the future of our jobs, our rights, and yes, even our family's summer.

The Direct Link: How Politics Shapes Our Working Lives

While we're enjoying our hard-earned time off, it's vital to understand that the battles fought in state capitols and in Washington, D.C. directly determine the strength of our Union and the security of our jobs. These aren't distant issues. They're the laws that dictate our wages, our safety, and our very right to organize.

Consider this:

- **"Right-to-Work" (for Less) Laws:** These politically driven laws, pushed by anti-union forces, aim to weaken unions financially and organizationally. They make it harder to bargain for good contracts and protect our members. When politicians friendly to these laws are elected, our ability to secure better pay and benefits is directly threatened.
- **Worker Safety and Health (OSHA) Regulations:** Remember how important safety is on the job? The rules and enforcement of worker safety are constantly under attack. Legislators can vote to weaken these protections, cut funding for inspections, or appoint officials who are less committed to worker well-being. A political decision can literally put your safety at risk.
- **Minimum Wage and Overtime Rules:** Even if your Union contract puts you above the minimum wage, these laws set the baseline for all workers. When politicians block increases to the minimum wage or try to roll back overtime pay, it drags down the standard of living for everyone and puts

downward pressure on all wages.

- **Our Right to Collective Bargaining:** The very existence of our Union and our ability to negotiate for fair contracts is protected (or attacked) by law. Legislation can expand or restrict our right to organize, strike, and collectively bargain.
- **Appointments to Labor Boards and Courts:** Presidents and governors appoint individuals to powerful positions, like the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) or judicial benches. These appointees make critical decisions on union elections, unfair labor practice charges, and appeals that can swing heavily in favor of or against workers. Their political leanings directly impact the outcomes that affect our livelihoods.

Every legislative session, every election, and every political appointment is a moment when decisions are made that can either uplift working families or chip away at the rights and protections we've fought for generations to achieve. Our opponents in corporate boardrooms and anti-worker think tanks never stop lobbying and spending money to influence these outcomes. We can't afford to, either.

The "Why Now?" Don't Wait Until It's Too Late

It's tempting to think of politics as something that only flares up every two or four years, around election time. We mark our calendars, cast our votes, and then often put it out of our minds until the next cycle. But that's a dangerous misconception, especially for working families and our unions.

The truth is, political battles are fought every single day, not just in November. While we're making summer memories, legislative committees are drafting bills, powerful lobbies are pushing their agendas, and critical decisions are being made that could impact our jobs, our benefits, and our future.

Our opponents – the corporate interests and anti-worker groups that seek to undermine unions – never take a vacation from influencing politics. They are constantly strategizing, funding campaigns, and pressuring elected officials to pass laws that benefit them, often at our expense.

If we wait until the next election to get engaged, it might already be too late to influence key legislation that's already

See [**FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT**](#) on page 6

Find the look you've been looking for.
Come in, choose your perfect glasses and we'll do the rest.



SVS VISION
OPTICAL CENTERS 800.SVS.4600

\$15 off when you bring in this ad

Cannot be used on prior orders or combined with other discounts, promotions, offers, coupons, Groupings, Refer-a-Friend coupons, or some insurance plans/programs. Not valid for Maui Jim, Oakley Sun, Chopard, Tag Heuer, or FRED brands. Other exclusions may apply. See office for details. CPN#1014



FINANCIAL SEC'Y REPORT *continued from Page 5*

passed, or to challenge appointments that have cemented anti-worker policies. The foundations for those future elections are laid long before a single ballot is cast.

Our collective voice is most powerful when it's consistent, when we're informed, and when we're actively participating year-round, not just when the campaign ads flood our screens. This summer, let's not let our much-needed relaxation become a surrender of our political power.

The Call to Organize: What Union Members Can Do

Understanding the stakes is the first step; taking action is the crucial next

one. Our strength as a union has always come from our collective power – not just on the shop floor or at the bargaining table, but in the political arena as well. Organizing our membership for political action isn't a side project; it's central to protecting everything we've built and securing our future.

So, while you're enjoying your summer, here's how you can make a real difference, starting now:

- **Stay Informed and Inform Others:**

Knowledge is power. Make it a point to understand the key legislative issues affecting labor in Michigan and across the country. Don't just rely on

headlines; read up on the details. More importantly, share what you learn with your coworkers, friends, and family. A simple conversation at the BBQ about a pending bill can spark crucial awareness.

- **Engage with Your Union Leadership:**

Your local and international union leadership is constantly monitoring political developments. Ask them what the union is doing on the political front and how you can lend your support. Attend Union meetings and Political Action Committee (PAC) meetings to stay in the loop and contribute your ideas.

- **Get Involved with Legislative Action:**

You don't have to be an expert to make your voice heard. Contact your elected

officials – state representatives, senators, and members of Congress – about issues that matter to working families.

A quick phone call or email from a constituent holds more weight than you might think.

- **Support Labor's Political Voice:**

Our union's ability to support pro-worker candidates and lobby for our interests depends on collective contributions. Consider supporting your union's VCAP, which stands for Voluntary Community Action Program. These resources ensure that labor has a seat at the table where decisions are made.

- **Vote, and Vote Smart:** The most fundamental act of political engagement is casting an informed ballot. Research candidates' stances on labor issues, worker rights, and economic justice, not just their party affiliation. Your vote is your voice, and it's essential that it speaks for working families.

Most importantly, to truly amplify our collective power, we need every member to get involved. A great starting point to help our fight and find more ways to take action is to visit the official UAW "Action" website: <https://uaw.org/action/>. There you'll find resources, updates, and calls to action that empower you to make a difference.

Let's make sure our Union's political strength matches the dedication we show on the job.



**UAW LOCAL 598
Golf Outing 2025**

AUGUST 17TH
LAPEER COUNTRY CLUB
3786 HUNT RD.
LAPEER, MI 48446

\$300 Foursome

Deadline: July 18th
(or until first 36 teams register)

Register at the Local 598 Union Hall to reserve your spot.

Team Captain
MUST BE
a 598 Member

Cash/Checks only accepted at the Local 598 Union Hall during
ball hours. Please make checks payable to 'UAW Local 598.'

RED WHITE and BLUE THEME

Prize For
Best Dressed Team



START

Registration: 7am
Shotgun Start: 8am



INCLUDES

18 Holes of Golf
(with cart)
Lunch at the Turn
Refreshments
Swag
Dinner Following



PRIZES

Longest Drive
Mulligans
Skins
and More

SUNDAY, JULY 20th



Union City Ball Fields

4151 Torrey Road Flint, MI

**Box lunches, raffles, dancing
and much, much more!**

- M.O.S.T. Softball Tournament
- Open Talk - 8:00AM - 4:00PM
- Union City Duck Pond - 11:00AM
- Horseshoes - 12:00PM



RAIN OR SHINE

8AM TO 5PM

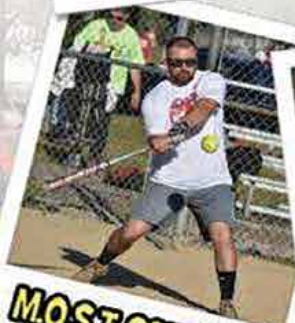
**CLEAN
SOBER FUN!**



BALLOON SCULPTURES



DUCK POND



M.O.S.T. SOFTBALL



ENTERTAINMENT

JULY 20th



FREE BIKE RAFFLES

For more info please contact:
(810) 236-6834





JUNE 19TH JUNETEENTH *freedom day*

Wearing their Juneteenth 2025 shirts proudly, UAW Local 598 members from Flint Assembly gather to celebrate our nation's other Independence Day Holiday.



*Flint Assembly
Juneteenth 2025 1st Shift*



*Flint Assembly
Juneteenth 2025 3rd Shift*

Burnout Contest

UAW REGION 1-D
AMERICAN MUSCLE CRUISE Presented by
Motorcycle & Auto Show

Birch Run SPEEDWAY
An EVENT CENTER

Saturday, July 12th

- 90 Second Runs
- Two Runs Per Contestant (Time Permitting)
- Winner chosen by crowd reaction
- Trophy and \$100 cash to the winner
- Fully Contained Burnout pit for 2025
- Burnout cars not registered for the show will have parking available in the pits for \$5. All Burnout car parking fees will be added to the winner's prize money.

Follow us on
Facebook



SCAN ME

**Fire It Up &
Lay It Down!**





Our Fundraising Is More Important Than Ever

by Melissa Bowen, Local 598 Trustee and Women's Committee Chair

I am so tired. I'm tired of yelling "*But that's illegal! That's unconstitutional!*" at the nightly news. I'm tired of seeing the pages of *The Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank coming to life in 2025. The characters are different this time, but the story is the same. I'm tired of protesting and contacting our elected representatives.

Among all the chaos in the news, the proposed budget for the United States has the potential to significantly cut funding to the National Institute of Health. They have played an instrumental role in cancer research. Even though October is still some time away, the UAW Local 598 Women's Committee continues its fundraising efforts for *Making Strides Against Breast Cancer*.

We are wrapping up receiving submissions for our 'Design our Breast Cancer Awareness T-shirt Contest.' For voting on the shirt designs, we will post the contest website's QR code (below) to Facebook and in the in-plant communications during the first week of July. The voting will end on Friday, July 18, 2025. We will announce our winner the following day.

On June 25th, Flint Assembly is hosting a Family Fun Day. The Women's Committee will have gift basket raffles with all our proceeds going to *Making Strides Against Breast Cancer*.

We have also decided to try something new this year. Rather than hosting our typical *Painting with a Twist* in August, the Women's Committee will be focusing on our fundraising efforts with a *Designer Purse Bingo* for *Making Strides*. Join us on August 3rd at UAW Local 598, 2:00-4:00 p.m. for a fun afternoon with some amazing prizes! Tickets are \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door. You can

reserve your spot by sending \$25 to our Women's Committee cash app \$UAWLocal598WC or scan the QR code on the flyer.

We're also looking forward to our *Bowling for Breast Cancer Awareness* in October, so keep an eye out for more details in the coming months.

Although staying informed has been taxing, it's so important that we don't turn a blind eye to the news. Our future as a country, our rights, and our health and safety are all on the line right now. As I was leaving a recent concert, *25 Miles*, by Edwin Starr, was playing over the speakers. I was reminded with his lyrics, "I'm so tired, but I just can't lose my stride," that we need to continue our efforts to push back and speak out when our fundamental values as a nation are on the line.

Save the Date for this year's UAW Local 598

MEMBER APPRECIATION PICNIC

Saturday, August 30th 11am-5pm

▶ **Cornhole**

▶ **Horseshoes**

▶ **Kickball**

▶ **Inflatable**

▶ **Obstacle Course**

Union City Fields

4193 Torrey Rd, Flint



▶ **Face Painting**

▶ **Music**

▶ **Petting Zoo**

▶ **Karaoke**

▶ **Great Food and More**



Volunteers Needed
Please Contact

Aubrie Main Trim 3rd Shift
Peggy Bond Quality 2nd Shift
Britta Rusaw Final 1st Shift
or call 810-240-6116



Starting on
JULY 1st thru JULY 18th,
you can **CAST YOUR VOTE**
for the design on this year's
Making Strides Against Breast Cancer shirt.

Scan the QR code,
select your favorite,
and hit 'submit' at the
bottom of the page.



Thank You and Good Luck to our Entrants.

Summer Break

"A heartfelt congratulations and best wishes go to our dear friend and Region 1D Servicing Rep, Scott Henry..."

JANET WOODSON



RETIRED WORKERS CHAIR

The June Retiree Chapter meeting was a success, as members gathered before the summer break.

A heartfelt congratulations and best wishes go to our dear friend and Region 1D Servicing Rep, Scott Henry, on his retirement. Scott, your dedication and service

over the years have been deeply valued. Thank you for everything! We wish you and your family all the best in this new chapter of life.

This month's meeting welcomed many new faces, including first-time attendees and recent retirees.

Though we're on a break

until September 16, we encourage everyone to return and stay engaged with our growing community.

Our Benefits Rep, Kathy Elsner, joined the meeting to provide valuable insights on the new WEX card, outlining its benefits and answering key questions from members. Kathy's expertise is invaluable, and she remains available at the Union Hall daily to assist members.

The annual Retired Workers Department Conference at Black Lake took place from May 27-30, bringing important discussions and updates to the group. Notably, Region 1D's dues count for April 2025 – retirees 77,281 and a check-off total of \$42,255 – amounting to a 55% contribution rate.

Among the nine regions, Region 1D holds the highest dues participation, a fantastic achievement! However, there's still room for growth.

Looking ahead to 2026, we will focus on several key resolutions:

1. Increasing voluntary dues to \$5.00 per month.
2. Defining retiree status for employees hired after 2008.
3. Preparing for the direct election of the UAW Executive Board.
4. Ensuring accurate contract information for retirees.

As we take a well-deserved summer break, we encourage all retirees to stay informed and involved. We look forward to reconvening in September to continue building a strong and united chapter.

Do You Hear But Not Understand?



DON'T MISS OUT ...ON THE MOMENTS THAT MATTER MOST!

Now is the time to find out whether the difficulties you're experiencing with your hearing are due to hearing loss or maybe just earwax.

Some common difficulties include:
Asking people to repeat themselves, turning up TV volume to understand what is being said, ringing or buzzing in the ear, and more!

THIS MONTH ONLY

FREE Hearing Screenings with one of our hearing care professionals.

We will test your hearing to determine what degree of hearing loss you have, if any. This exam is FREE, and you are under no obligation.

As a matter of fact, after completing your exam, we're going to give you a **\$20 Amazon.com Gift Card*** just for coming in to see us.

WONDERING ... WHAT'S THE CATCH? *There is none!*

We're making this offer because it is our mission to support those in our community who are ready and willing to start their journey to better hearing.

Before fixing a problem, it needs to be evaluated.

HURRY! The \$20 Amazon.com Gift Card* offer expires 7/30/2025



**HEAR THE BELTONE
DIFFERENCE**

CALL NOW!

810.275.9665

WWW.BELTONEHEARINGAID.COM

FENTON	FLINT	OWOSSO	CLIO	DAVISON
2809 W. SILVER LK. RD. 810.344.8341	4080 MILLER RD. 810.275.9665	120 W. EXCHANGE ST. SUITE 1 989.541.3075	5105 W. VIENNA RD. SUITE C 989.541.3073	407 W. FLINT ST. SUITE A 810.208.2127

Beltone works side-by-side with all hearing aid insurance plans and providers.

*Must complete screening and have a valid email address to receive card, rules and restrictions apply, see amazon.com/go-legal. See office for details. Beltone 2025 TM

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, July 12th

Detroit Tigers Baseball Game

Friday, August 15th

Retiree Golf Outing

Fenton Farms, Fenton, MI

Thursday, Sept. 11th

Retiree Chapter Meeting, 12:00 noon

Ruben Burks Hall, Local 598



RETIREMENTS

The Officers, Staff and Members of Local 598 extend our sincerest thank you and congratulations for the many years of dedicated service by our recent retirees.

We encourage all newly retired members to join our Retiree Chapter.



Retiree Rodney Lloyd with wife Beth and kids Jack and Anna.

(07-01-2025)



Vern Barnaby

(09-01-2025)

Congratulations!

If you are retiring soon, stop by the Benefits Office or Union Hall to get your picture taken for an upcoming issue of the EYE OPENER.



CLASSIFIED ADS

Ads limited to Local 598 members' name only and must be submitted monthly. Ads run on a first-come, first-serve basis.

for sale

CEMETERY PLOTS

Two plots, includes 2 vaults, Fenton Memorial Park, \$2,257.

Call Ira at 810-965-3568 or Bonnie at 810-962-2140

MISCELLANEOUS

GM Rally Wheels, \$250 OBO.

Pontoon new cover, \$75.

Propane grill \$50.00.

love seat, bed, and much more.

Call Nate at 810-629-1243

or 248-303-8801

miscellaneous

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

FATHER & SON CONCRETE COATINGS

Residential & Commercial concrete coatings for Garage Floors, Basements, Patios.

Call 810-449-6111

Fatherandsoncoatings.com

SKINNER RESIDENTIAL CHAIN LINK FENCE

Installation and repair.

Free estimates.

46 years of experience.

Call 810-845-7211

JJ's TREE SERVICE and PREMIUM LANDSCAPING

Tree and shrub removal planting, irrigation services, mulch removal and spreading. Free estimates.

Call 810-931-5194

WALKER ELECTRIC, INC.

2410 Kansas Ave., Flint, MI 48506

810-233-5111

269-209-1791

www.walkerelectric.biz



James Larowe
Ronald Jakubcak
Jeffery Koop

Cheryl Green

Gita Segur

Thomas Phillips

Deborah Fisher

Gary Woods

James Stack

Rodney Hensley

Clifton Symonds

Beverly Limmer

Thomas Thalhammer

Our UAW Local 598 family extend their deepest sympathy to the family and friends of these deceased members.



*Big enough to serve all your needs.
Small enough to care.*

SPECIAL DISCOUNTS

to all
**UAW
MEMBERS**
and their
IMMEDIATE
FAMILY

also available
with the
**Pink Lady's
Slipper Florist**
in downtown
Swartz Creek

6063 Fenton Road, Grand Blanc, 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



RETIREE CHAPTER

Golf Outing

Friday, August 15th

Fenton Farms Golf Club

12312 Torrey, Fenton

\$140
per team

8:30 AM
Shotgun Start
1st, 2nd, 3rd
Place Prizes

4-Person Team
(includes Cart)

18-Hole Format

PLAYER REGISTRATION

Registration ends July 31, 2025

(Limited to 36 Teams)

Must be a retired member of
UAW Local 598 to participate.

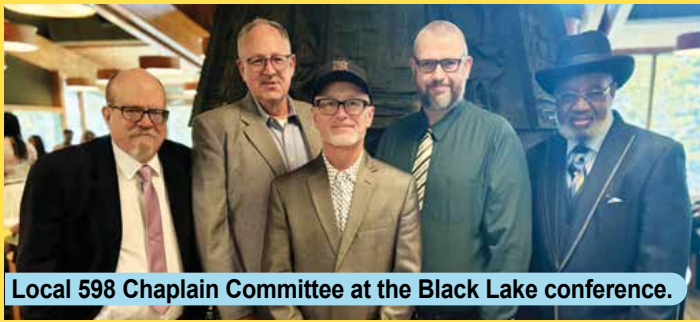
Player 1 _____ T-shirt Size _____

Player 2 _____ T-shirt Size _____

Player 3 _____ T-shirt Size _____

Player 4 _____ T-shirt Size _____

Cash or Check Only | Make payable to UAW Local 598



Local 598 Chaplain Committee at the Black Lake conference.

LOCAL 598 EYE OPENER
G-3293 VAN SLYKE RD., FLINT, MI 48507



Home of the Original
Fisher 2 Sit-Downers

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

38th Annual International UAW Chaplaincy Conference

by Tim Clements, Chaplaincy Committee Chair

On behalf of the Chaplains who attended the 38th Annual Chaplaincy Conference, I want to thank the Executive Board and the membership of Local 598 for sending us to Black Lake this year. It was the first time attending for 3 of the Chaplains and I believe their experience was valuable to their understanding of what it means to be a UAW Chaplain, and we left the conference being both enlightened and encouraged.

The theme of the conference was “Together, We Are Stronger” and the emphasis was on getting to know the International Leadership and making connections with Chaplains from our own region as well as other regions throughout the country.

We were encouraged by an opening presentation from UAW International President Shawn Fain and remarks from International UAW Chaplaincy Chair Elder Herb Taylor, and International UAW Chaplaincy Assistant Director Cynthia Harris.

The conference was filled with intense training segments on topics like Wholeness, Servanthood, Matters of the Heart and a super-intense, 3-day optional Chaplaincy Certification class taught by Pastor Margie Maddox and Senior Chaplain John Maddox.



Chaplain Kevin Novess took the Chaplaincy course and was certified and ordained.

We are all so thankful for the opportunity to attend this conference as it is our desire to meet the physical and spiritual needs of the membership in cases of illness, death or distress. We can be reached by calling the Union Hall at 810-238-4605, ext. 111.

Back to the BRICKS
America's Classic Car Events
GENERAL MOTORS

ROAD RALLY

July 12th, 2025

UAW REGION 1-D

AMERICAN MUSCLE CRUISE & Car Show
Presented by gm
FLINT ASSEMBLY

Shea Automotive Group

UAW 598

UAW REGION 1-D

Fundraiser for:

LIVE UNITED
United Way