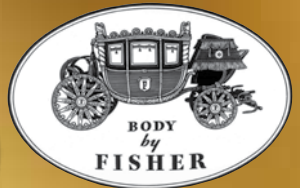




United Auto Workers

LOCAL
598

EYE OPENER

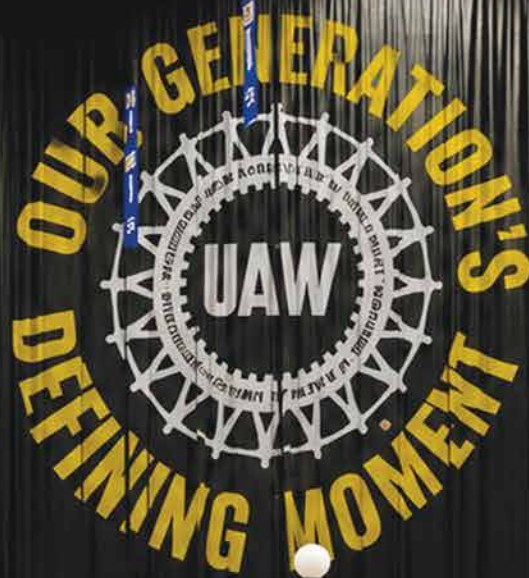


Home of the Original
Fisher 2 Sit-Downers

VOLUME 45 ISSUE 6

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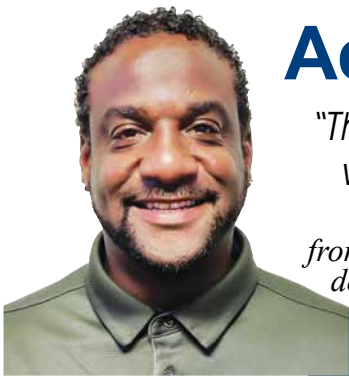
JUNE 2026



OUR GENERATION'S DEFINING MOMENT

UNITED. STRONG. DETERMINED.
TOGETHER, WE BUILD OUR FUTURE.





Accomplishing Great Things Together

"Thank you for all your hard work and dedication to Local 598."

from the desk of... **JOHN JACKSON III**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Brothers and Sisters of UAW Local 598,

I would like to congratulate our newly elected Vice President, Corissa Carter, and Trustee Chrissy Jones. I am looking forward to working alongside them both. Our Executive Board is now complete, and I know we'll do great

things together. I would also like to congratulate D'Andre Jackson on being asked to be on the Resolution Committee for the 39th Constitution Convention. He did an outstanding job representing Local 598. *We all should be proud of him!*

The M.O.S.T. Group will be holding their 32nd Annual Soberfest on Sunday, July 19th at the Union City Fields from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. *I hope to see everyone out there!*

We will be having a Local 598 Solidarity Sunday on July 26th from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Union City Fields. Please come out to meet our newly elected officers, it will be fun for the whole family!

As we enter the summer and enjoy the outdoors with your family, please be safe.

SOLIDARITY SUNDAY

★ MEET THE NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS ★



FOOD



MUSIC



GAMES

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

3 ON 3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

★ 11AM SIGN UP ★

— SUNDAY —
JULY 26

★ 11AM - 4PM ★



LINE DANCING/HUSTLE



SPADES TOURNAMENT



EUCHRE TOURNAMENT



KICKBALL



CORNHOLE

UNION CITY FIELDS • 4151 TORREY RD. • FLINT, MI

Addressing Safety, Focus Groups & Communications

"...Work Jam could become very helpful, but that will depend on content. We have been using the same communication tools for 30 years...with little success."

ERIC WELTER

SHOP CHAIRMAN



I would like to thank everyone who participated in the safety culture survey and the focus groups. Although we have a good safety culture, we can definitely improve, and this is the opportunity to reduce injuries. The hourly score was 63% to a goal of 80% of answers showing a favorable safety culture, which is significantly better than any other assembly plant they have completed.

One of the interesting data points is that management scored a 95% favorable safety culture. This disparity in perception of safety is not surprising and is one of the things that has to be worked on. Many of the verbatims will be immediately dealt with, but the culture change takes time and effort to change people's experience.

We are still bringing people in to support the Every Saturday Agreement; we are certainly behind. The GM Talent Acquisitions department failed multiple times to meet their commitments. In addition, there is a 30% fallout rate between quitting and getting fired. We were fairly successful on June 13th, with almost all being approved.

We ran into a few problems, like Chassis 1st shift and Trim 2nd shift, but will continue to staff. Another issue is getting everyone who has not worked under this agreement to understand the process requirements. The Shop Committee is working continuously with Business Managers and Committee Reps to ensure results.

The additional vacation approvals are also a tough transition for managers to move from an approved percentage to "get everyone off you can," and they are not used to that.

The Work Jam rollout is at about 30% signed up right now. Work Jam is a communication app for the company. It allows news and notifications to be posted. You can view business news – corporate, Flint Assembly, and your department specifically. There are also some community pages, and you

can shut-off notifications, so you don't have to engage in those if you don't want to. It is designed to become a front door to all of your employment needs. ADP, HCC, Work Day, GM Family First, and NEPC will all connect to this app at one point. There is no requirement to get the app.

Personally, I believe Work Jam could become very helpful, but that will depend on content. We have been using the same communication tools for 30 years – Truck News, Team Meeting packets, and TV screens – with little success in the modern era. Many times, we have an event on 5th Avenue and everyone says they didn't know about it, even though it was communicated for weeks using those older methods.

I have received some operating system and security questions. I am trying to get answers for those and set up a process for people to connect directly with a GM representative.

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

<i>President</i> John Jackson III	DISTRICT COMMITTEE / ALTERNATES
<i>Vice President</i> Corissa Carter	Alex Perry / Lindsay Brooks
<i>Recording Secretary</i> D'Andre Jackson	Dana Waider / Stanley Dulaney, Jr.
<i>Financial Secretary</i> Chad Fabbro	Jeremy Switzer / Antonio Pritchett II
<i>Guide</i> Twanna Q. Coleman	Sean Meachem / Chad Boyce
<i>Trustee</i> Melissa Bowen	Bryan Ventrone /
<i>Trustee</i> David V. Garcia	Kevin Smiley / Anthony Vincent
<i>Trustee</i> Chrissy Jones	Shane Herriman / Bo Browning
<i>Sergeant-at-Arms</i> Randy Frost	Jon Galant / Wendy Ignash
<i>Retiree Chapter Chair</i> Janet Woodson	Terry Oliver / Stephanie Farrell
	Stan Chervinski / Todd Bieber
	DeWayne Tippit / Randy Frost
SHOP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN	Will McIntosh / Christopher Russell
Eric Welter	Terry M. Oliver / Stephanie Farrell
SHOP COMMITTEE-AT-LARGE	Brian Shick / Joanna Batson-Escamilla
Nick Dekalita, Joe Dontje	Aaron McAlister / Nicole Bates
SHOP COMMITTEE (DISTRICT)	Jacob Kohn / Jerry Strauser
Shane Herriman, Sean Meachem	

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

BEACON O&M BARGAINING COMMITTEE
Chairperson Rolando Villarreal Tracy (Andy) Carter

M.P.S. BARGAINING COMMITTEE – DISTRICT COMMITTEE
Tasha Wynne Kristine Momany, *Alternate*
John Wineland John Lyttle, *Alternate*
Damon Harrison Jimmy Constable, *Alternate*

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 Middleton, George Washington, Dave Yanta

EYE OPENER EDITOR..... Britta Rusaw

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 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.**

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Thank You for Your Confidence and Support

"The strength of any organization is not found in a single officer or leader. It is found in the active participation of its members."

CORISSA CARTER
VICE PRESIDENT



As we celebrate Juneteenth, a day commemorating freedom and resilience, we also recognize Pride Month, a time to honor authenticity, inclusion, and the ongoing pursuit of equality.

I am especially honored and humbled to thank the membership for electing me as your Vice President. I am deeply grateful for the trust you have placed in me, and I am proud to have been elected as Vice President. Every vote represented a voice, a belief in our future, new relationships, and a commitment to building forward together.

This past election is particularly meaningful because I have the distinction of being the first woman and the first Black woman to serve in the office of Vice President. While I am honored to make history, I recognize that this moment is bigger than me. It is the result of the courage, perseverance, and leadership of countless women who broke barriers, challenged expectations, and created opportunities for those who would follow.

As we reflect on Juneteenth, I think about the women who paved the way through their advocacy, determination, and

unwavering belief that progress is possible. Their legacy reminds us that representation matters, participation matters, and every voice has the power to create change.

Pride Month also reminds us of the importance of creating spaces where everyone feels valued, respected, and empowered to bring their whole selves to the table. Together, Juneteenth and Pride Month call us to celebrate the progress that has been made while continuing the work of building communities and organizations where opportunity, dignity, and belonging are available to all.

I also want to encourage every member to become more involved in our Union. One of the best ways to make an impact is by serving on a standing committee. Whether your interests lie in education, community outreach, membership engagement, governance, or another area, there is a place for your talents and ideas. Our committees are where much of the important work begins, and they provide opportunities for members to learn, lead, and help shape the future.

The strength of any organization is not found in a single officer or leader. It is found in the active participation of its members. Your involvement, perspectives, and dedication are what make us successful.

Thank you again for your confidence, your support, and the opportunity to serve. I look forward to working alongside each of you as we continue building on our successes, creating new opportunities, and strengthening our union for generations to come.

Together, we can achieve great things.



New 598 LEADERSHIP Sworn In



Congratulations to the newly elected officers and representatives of UAW Local 598, who took the oath of office during the May Membership Meeting on May 17. The swearing-in ceremony was conducted by IUAW Vice President Mike Booth and attended by Region 1D Director Steve Dawes, Assistant 1D Director Scott Zuckschwerdt, and Top Administrative Assistant to the UAW Vice President Nicole Current. Their presence underscored the importance of the occasion as the newly elected leaders officially began their service to our membership.

Annual UAW LOCAL 598 GOLF OUTING

**SUNDAY
AUGUST 9**
AT
**LAPEER
COUNTRY CLUB**
3786 HUNT ROAD, LAPEER



\$320
PER TEAM OF FOUR
TEAM CAPTAIN MUST BE AN
ACTIVE LOCAL 598 MEMBER

- SILENT AUCTION
50/50 & MORE
- BEST DRESS TEAM
THIS YEAR'S THEME **80s!**
- LUNCH
AT THE TURN
- OTHER PRIZES!

18 HOLES / LUNCH AT THE TURN / DINNER AFTER!

REGISTRATION
STARTS
JUNE 15

REGISTRATION
CLOSES
JULY 9

REGISTER AT
UNION HALL

DAY OF CHECK-IN
STARTS AT
7:30 AM
TEE OFF AT
8:30 AM

**GET YOUR
80S SHIRT!**
\$20 EACH
AVAILABLE TO ORDER
AT TIME OF REGISTRATION!

PLEASE PROVIDE:
• NAME
• SHIRT SIZE

SHIRTS WILL BE HANDED
OUT AT THE EVENT!

UAW CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES: *What the New Strike Fund and Dues Rules Mean for Local 598*

"While some amendments focused on leadership pay, the most critical changes involve the International Union Strike and Defense Fund."



CHAD FABBRO

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Greetings Local 598 Brothers and Sisters,

The recent UAW Constitutional Convention brought major updates to our Union's financial structure. While some amendments focused on leadership pay, the most critical changes involve the International Union Strike and Defense Fund. These changes directly dictate how much we pay in dues and how much financial backing we have on the picket line. Here is what Local 598 needs to know.

1. Strike Benefits Have Increased

Why it was implemented: To give members more financial security and stronger leverage against the automakers during a walkout.

- The union has officially increased weekly strike benefits.
- Benefits will now be at least \$550 per week for each striking member, up from the previous minimum of \$400.

2. The Strike Fund "War Chest" and Your Dues

Why it was implemented: Paying out higher strike benefits requires a much larger safety net, meaning the union needs to collect more money before allowing dues to drop to their minimum levels.

- Previously, the union's goal was to build the Strike and Defense Fund to \$850 million, at which point monthly dues would be reduced.
- Under the new constitutional language, the fund must now reach a massive \$1.3 billion before that dues reduction kicks in.
- Once the fund hits \$1.3 billion, minimum monthly dues for members with the right to strike will equal 2 hours of straight-time pay.
- However, if the strike fund dips down to \$950 million (up from the old threshold of \$650 million), dues will automatically increase.
- During that rebuilding phase, dues will be set at 2.5 hours of straight-time pay until the fund climbs back to \$1.3 billion.
- The Bottom Line for 598: We will likely be paying the higher dues rate of 2.5 hours of pay for longer periods to build and maintain this new \$1.3 billion threshold.

3. Increased Funding for Organizing Drives

Why it was implemented: To allow leadership to aggressively unionize non-union auto plants, strengthening the UAW's overall market share and protecting our local contracts from being undercut.

- The International Executive Board is now authorized to withdraw larger amounts from the Strike and Defense Fund between Constitutional Conventions.
- The withdrawal limit has been increased from \$60 million to \$100 million.
- These funds are strictly permitted for specific purposes, such as major organizing drives, increasing UAW membership, and strengthening bargaining power.

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



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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.

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.

GM-UAW LEGAL SERVICES: 1-800-482-7700

HAPPENINGS



UAW Local 598 Members joined the **McFarlin Park Memorial Day Service** to honor our fallen heroes.



Way to go to our **Veterans Committee Chairperson Cavanaugh Jones**, for representing **Local 598** at the **Memorial Day 5K Run** in Lake Orion.

Congratulations Regional BOWLING TOURNAMENT WINNERS



Congratulations to our Local 598 members and tournament champions (L-R) Sam Blanks, Todd Bieber, Adarrey Humphrey, Eric Goodwin, Antonio Massie, Charon Brown

Honoring Flag Day



The Veterans Committee performed a flag folding ceremony at the Union Hall on June 14th in Honor of Flag Day.

UAW Local 598 WOMEN'S COMMITTEE:

Designer Purse



Fundraiser for Making Strides Breast Cancer Awareness



SUNDAY, AUGUST 16
2 - 4 PM

\$25 in advance, \$30 at the door

Location: Local 598 Union Hall
3293 Van Slyke Rd. Flint MI 48507

2 bingo cards included, additional cards for purchase



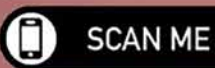
Scan the QR code to reserve your spot today!
Women's Committee will have tickets for cash sales.



"The Local Union With a Heart"



REFRESHMENTS & SNACKS WILL BE PROVIDED



39th UAW CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

by Britta Rusaw

The 39th UAW Constitutional Convention began on June 15, 2026, bringing together elected delegates from across the union to represent their members and help shape the UAW's future. Held every 4 years, the convention is the union's highest democratic body, where delegates debate and vote on resolutions and constitutional changes.

Key issues that were under discussion included healthcare costs, retiree support, retirement security, workplace health and safety, organizing and growing our union membership, fair trade policies, political action, and the impact of artificial intelligence on workers. Throughout the week, delegates made decisions aimed at strengthening the UAW and improving the lives of working families for years to come.



Following the nomination and voting process for the vacant International Trustee position, delegates cast their votes to fill the seat. **STACEY LOVELESS** was elected by the delegates and was subsequently sworn in by **President SHAWN FAIN**, officially assuming her role as **UAW International Trustee**.

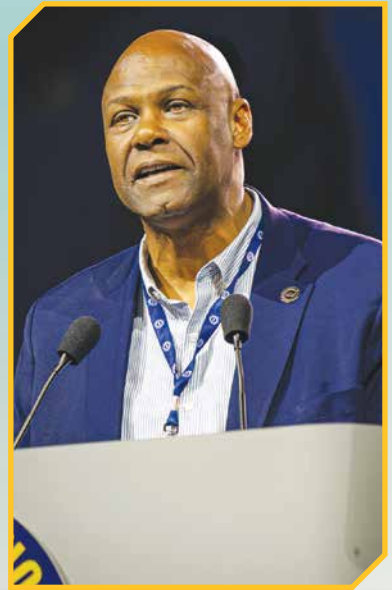


UAW International President SHAWN FAIN presented **Region 1D Director STEVE DAWES** with a special award in recognition of his dedicated years of service and leadership as he prepares for retirement. The presentation honored Dawes' lasting contributions to the UAW and the members he has served throughout his career.

"I think this award goes to you, and the great people of my delegation. This award really belongs to you because, if it wasn't for you, I wouldn't be here."





Chris Redding of UAW Region 8, Local 3285, introduced a resolution to bestow the honorary title of President Emeritus upon retired **UAW International President RAY CURRY**. Following a motion and second from delegates, the resolution was approved by an overwhelming majority vote.

"Thank you for this Honor," President Emeritus stated. "There is one thing we can never forget and that is it is all about the membership. The power still resides in the membership and they always have to come first."



2026 UAW International EXECUTIVE BOARD Candidates

International offices plus Region 1D Director candidates

Office	Candidates
 International President	Shawn Fain; Tricia Geiger; Brian Keller; Will Lehman; Greg Mooney
 International Secretary-Treasurer	Brandon Campbell; Roc Ciers; Margaret Mock
 International Vice President Vote for 3	Mike Booth; Laura Dickerson; Rachael Dickinson; Kevin Gotinsky; Ryan Hiestand; Kisha Richardson; Matt Slade; Tony Totty
 Region 1D Director	Tony Mann; David Pillsbury; Scott Zuckschwerdt



A SPECIAL AWARD WAS ALSO PRESENTED TO VOLKSWAGEN

in recognition of its successful organizing campaign and official unionization with the UAW.

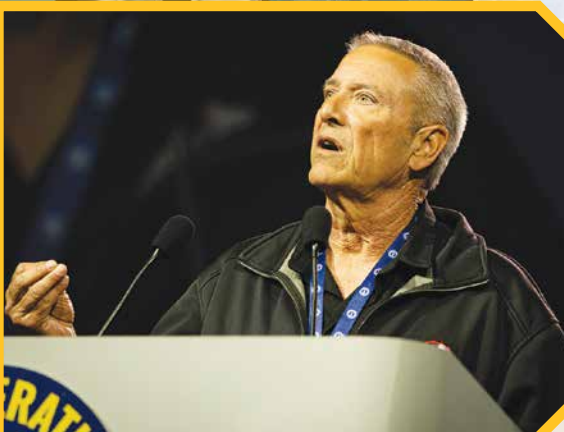
“These workers didn’t quit when everyone told them no,” said UAW Region 8 Director Tim Smith. *“This movement didn’t start in 2024, it started over 15 years ago. It has been their perseverance, their solidarity and their determination that made their victory.”*



UAW Secretary Treasurer Margaret Mock chaired a special meeting for Region 1D to accept nominations for Region 1D Director.

NOMINEES ARE:

- **Scott Zuckschwerdt**
 - **Tony Mann**
 - **David Pillsbury**



Several Civil Justice Awards were also presented during the convention. Recipients included **retired Vice President CHUCK BROWNING** (at left), the late Reverend Jessie Jackson, whose award

was accepted by **JESSIE JACKSON, JR.** (at right), and Educational Departments Maria Medina who has dedicated her career to helping our many Spanish-speaking members better understand the UAW Constitution, their collective bargaining agreements, and their rights as union members. An amendment passed to translate the UAW Constitution into Spanish.



Keynote Guest speakers, includes **AFL-CIO President LIZ SHULER**, who spoke out about our fight for the working class vs AI. *“Working people first, not some BS algorithm. Every thing we have won is because we fought for it!”*



NAACP President DERRICK JOHNSON was a guest speaker and discussed the connection between civil rights and the labor movement, as well as the growing divide between working people, corporate interest, government institutions, and the media.



Congratulations to **Recording Secretary D'ANDRE JACKSON** on being selected to serve on the Resolutions Committee for the 39th Constitutional Convention.



President Shawn Fain introduced **Michigan Senate Candidate DR. ABDUL EL-SAYED**.

“I was raised by my father who immigrated here from Egypt,” Dr. El-Sayed stated. *“He worked hard and watched his job dissolve as corporations worked to eliminate workers. It’s way too hard to survive here in the richest, most powerful country in the world and it should not be this hard to get by. Too hard to buy groceries, too hard to find affordable health care, too hard to get buy in this economy. We must have an economy that works for all. We never ask if there is enough money for war but we always ask where is the money for health care.”*



UAW-endorsed Michigan Governor JOCELYN BENSON addressed the membership and reaffirmed her dedication to safeguarding the interests of the working people throughout Michigan.

SEVERAL KEY CHANGES WERE ADOPTED

Convention delegates approved key constitutional amendments that expand member engagement and representation. Among the changes were making the Local Union Communications Association (LUCA) a mandatory standing committee, formally recognizing the UAW Veterans Department within the constitution by making it a new UAW department and establishing Health and Safety committees at the local level.

Delegates also approved an amendment to expand how retiree status is defined under the UAW Constitution. Effective upon the conclusion of the 2026 International Executive Board election, a member must be in good standing and satisfy at least one of the following three requirements to qualify for retired status.

- Meeting the requirements for a defined pension plan. As provided under the applicable collective bargaining agreement.
- Attain at least 10 years of employment in a UAW represented bargaining unit and have reached the age of 55.
- Have attained at least 30 years of employment in a UAW-represented bargaining unit.

Increased funding for the Civil Rights and Women’s departments, yearly CAP Conferences until 2028, and the Competitive Shops Department to be renamed the Competitive Shop/Independent Parts Supplier Department.



PRIDE MONTH & JUNETEENTH

Pride Month is celebrated each June to honor the history, achievements, and contributions of the LGBTQ+ community. It originated in remembrance of the 1969 Stonewall Riots, which marked a turning point in the movement for LGBTQ+ rights in the United States. Pride Month advocates for equality, inclusion, visibility, and respect for all individuals, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. Throughout June, many communities host parades, educational events, cultural celebrations, and discussions to encourage acceptance and support while recognizing ongoing efforts toward equal rights and understanding.

Pride Month holds various meanings for different individuals. For some, it is a celebration of identity and community. For others, it serves as a time to remember those who fought for equal rights or lost their lives due to violence, discrimination, or health crises such as the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Many also view Pride as an opportunity for advocacy and ongoing efforts toward fairness and equality. Today, Pride Month is recognized in many parts of the world, although attitudes and laws regarding LGBTQ+ rights vary widely across countries and cultures. While significant progress has been made in areas such as marriage equality and anti-discrimination protections in some nations, challenges related to equality, safety, representation, and acceptance persist in many communities.

Ultimately, Pride Month symbolizes visibility, resilience, community, and the belief that all individuals deserve respect, dignity, and the freedom to live openly as their authentic selves.

– *Phill Pruitt*

Juneteenth is a significant celebration within the labor movement and the UAW, as it honors freedom, equality, and the ongoing struggle for justice in both the workplace and society. This holiday is observed on June 19 and commemorates the day in 1865 when enslaved African Americans in Texas were finally informed of their freedom, more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation.

For the UAW, Juneteenth serves as a crucial reminder of the significance of solidarity, inclusion, and equal opportunity for all workers. The

union recognizes the valuable contributions of African American members who have enhanced the labor movement through their leadership, activism, and perseverance. Celebrations of Juneteenth in the workplace often include educational programs, cultural events, community outreach, shirt sales, and discussions centered on civil rights, workplace fairness, and economic justice. Many organizations, including the UAW, offer time off to commemorate this day.

By recognizing Juneteenth, the UAW reaffirms its commitment to diversity and equity, standing together against discrimination while continuing the fight for dignity and respect for every worker.

– *Takiesha Hillard*

SUNDAY, JULY 19th

32ND ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2026

SOBERFEST of Recovery

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!

JULY 19th

FREE BIKE RAFFLES

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

WORK & FAMILY
Finding The Balance

COMMUNITY SERVICE *Conference*

by Josh Childers, Local 598 Member

Recently, I had the opportunity to attend the **73rd Michigan State AFL-CIO Community Services School at Black Lake**. We learned about the many ways United Way helps individuals and communities connect with the resources they need. If you don't want to call, you can visit their website, enter your zip code, and search for the assistance you're looking for. It will provide local resources and organizations that can help. If you or someone you know needs assistance, call 211.

We also learned that if you want to help but don't have the time to volunteer, donating through payroll deduction is another great option. In many cases, financial donations can go further than donating time or items. Organizations can purchase exactly what is needed and direct funds where they will have the greatest impact, while also reducing the time and resources required to organize, sort, and distribute donated goods.

As part of the class, we helped assemble food packages for families affected by flooding in the Black Lake area. We formed an assembly line and prepared a large number of meals for those in need. It felt good to be a small part of helping the community, and it was also a great team-building experience. We were also taught the best practices for organizing a food drive. Sometimes it's necessary to limit certain donations due to a lack of refrigeration, limited storage space, or other logistical

challenges.

It's perfectly acceptable to request specific items or, even better, provide a flyer listing needed items along with a QR code for monetary donations. This allows organizers to purchase exactly what is needed most.

If you have the opportunity to attend this class at Black Lake, I highly recommend it. You'll meet people from our local, build new friendships, and connect with members from other locals. Everyone is there with a common goal: learning how to better serve and support our communities.





Coalition of Black Trade Unionists Conference

by Jared Smith

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the membership for sending us to the 55th Annual Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU) Conference.

This year's theme, "Cherish our legacy & bend to no one!" resonated throughout the event. The central areas were transformed into a historical time capsule, highlighting the profound impact CBTU members have had on labor movements and democratic policies in our society.

The conference featured speakers from a wide range of unions and policy sectors who emphasized the critical importance of solidarity, education, and coalition-building during these challenging times for labor. Distinguished speakers included:

- Claude Cummings, Jr., President of the Communication Workers of America (CWA)
- Dr. Everett Kelley, President of the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE)
- Lee Saunders, President of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)

They addressed the labor and policy challenges faced by their unions and shared strategies for resisting and overcoming the anti-labor and anti-democratic policies enacted during the previous administration.

Additional notable speakers such as Stacey Abrams, U.S. Representative Bennie Thompson (Mississippi's 2nd Congressional District), and Terrence Woodbury, Founder of HIT Strategies, underscored the vital role of electoral engagement. They articulated strategies to mobilize voters in support of policies and candidates that champion labor interests, thereby preserving our political influence at all levels of government.

The conference culminated in a vote to endorse various resolutions aimed at advancing labor rights and condemning the escalating hostility towards labor in society.

Local 598 distinguished itself at the convention, with

Executive Board members Vice President Corrissa Carter and Trustee Edward "Skip" Thompson spearheading active participation in fireside chats, workshops, and networking events. Our engagement earned commendations from many national and regional members, resulting in several appointments to leadership roles within our local CBTU chapter:

- Brother Dennis Causey – Men's Chairman
- Brother Kareem Snell – Men's Vice Chairman
- Brother Quinton Smith – Sergeant-at-Arms

Overall, we had an enriching experience fostering fellowship with our brothers and sisters at the CBTU conference. We are excited to apply the knowledge gained to further advance the labor movement both locally and nationally. Let us continue to "Cherish our legacy, and bend to no one!"

UAW REGION 1-D
AMERICAN MUSCLE CRUISE Presented by
Motorcycle & Auto Show
SATURDAY, JULY 11th
 10945 Dixie Hwy
 Birch Run, MI 48415

Open to all American Made Cars, Trucks and Motorcycles
All Proceeds go to Michigan's United Way Ramp Programs

Show Registration: \$15 before June 23 • \$30 on or after June 23

- Each registered vehicle receives two tickets to a future race at Birch Run Speedway
- Dash plaques awarded to the first 500 vehicles
- Cash prizes for Best Dressed, Burnout Contest winners, and each vehicle class

Schedule

- 10:00 AM – Cruise Registration & Line-Up Opens
Madden's Lounge, Davison
- 12:15 PM – Police-Escorted Cruise to the Speedway
- 1:00 PM – Cruisers Enter the Track
Parade Lap & On-Track Parking
- 1:00 PM – Track Opens for Pre-Registered
(Follow Cruisers and all staged at Track)
- 2:00 PM – Show Officially Kicks Off
- 3:00 PM – Judging Begins
- 6:00 PM – Awards Presentation
- 6:45 PM – Burnout Contest
\$500 Cash + Medal

Available All Day: Concessions • Clean Restrooms • Covered Seating • Vendors & Sponsor Tents • Giveaways & 50/50 • Cornhole Tournament • Live Music & DJ • Gas Alley Bar & Grill

Vendor & Sponsorship Info | Registration Help Call Randy Hamilton,
 GM Flint Assembly/UAW Communications (810) 399-8343 • randy.hamilton@gm.com

No Summer Meetings

"Congratulations, D'Andre!
We're so very proud of you."

JANET WOODSON

RETIRED WORKERS CHAIR



I hope you all are enjoying time with your family, especially with school being out. I know that I look forward to spending more time with my grandkids.

Our last retiree meeting for the summer was one to remember, with great food and a good turnout. We had



**to Local 598
Recent Retiree**

BRIAN BOSTWICK
Retired: 12-01-25

We hope to see you at our
RETIRES CHAPTER MEETING held on the
second Thursday of the month at 12:00 noon.

Congrats, Brian!

Consumers Energy to share information on how to lower your energy bills. I have an appointment today for them to come to my home for an energy assessment. Their number to schedule your free assessment is 1-877-448-9433.

Your Retiree Executive Board attended the 39th UAW Constitutional Convention in Detroit. We learned a lot and spent long days watching the progress for our Resolutions Committee. Our Recording Secretary, D'Andre Jackson, made us proud by being selected to be a part of the Resolutions Committee as Co-chair. *Congratulations, D'Andre!* We're so very proud of you.

Congratulations also to all our recent 598 retirees. Please come out and join in on the fun starting September 10, 2026, at the UAW Local 598 Union Hall at 12:00 noon. We would love to have you all in attendance.

I know we've lost members that I don't know of, but I pray for our members that you are being safe and happy. We lost Mrs. Elnora Maxwell-Davis on June 12, 2026. She was a force to be reckoned with and I adored her. She will be greatly missed. Barbara, we're praying for you and your family. *Love to you all!*

UPCOMING EVENTS Retired Workers Chapter

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

SUNDAY July 19th 32ND ANNUAL SOBERFEST
Union City Fields, 8:00AM - 5:00PM

FRIDAY August 14th LOCAL 598 RETIREE GOLF OUTING
Fenton Farms Golf Club
Fenton, MI
\$140 (foursome)
Registration ends July 31st

SATURDAY August 29th DETROIT TIGERS Baseball Game
Members \$40, non-UAW Members \$100
Deadline for payment on July 31st.
Bus leaves from Local 659 at 9:00AM

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

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[^]APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Subject to approval based on creditworthiness. Rates may vary based on each individual's credit history and underwriting factors. The Credit Union will reduce the rate of your existing non-Financial Plus loan by 1% (subject to a minimum rate of 3.99% APR for auto, 4.99% APR for boat, 5.49% APR for RV, and 5.99% APR for motorcycle and powersport loans). Proof of the current rate and terms of the loan to be refinanced is required. Promotion only applicable to secured auto, boat, RV, motorcycle, and powersport loans. Promotion does not apply to existing loans with the Credit Union, purchases or lease buyouts. Rates and terms are subject to change without notice. Cannot be combined with Loyalty Rate Discounts. The Credit Union reserves the right to modify or discontinue this offer at any time without notice. Some restrictions apply. See Credit Union for details.



ALLEN R. SMITH
JASON ROOKER
ROBIN SCHALLER
MATTHEW HUBBARD

MICHAEL DOVER
ROBERT VINCENT
BYRON COTTON
STANLEY CLARK

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.*

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Linden Chapel 810.735.7833

Miller Road Chapel 810.635.4411





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USPS Publication # 110-770



HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED

While Celebrating **Community Spirit!**

THANK YOU TO THE RECREATION COMMITTEE

for creating a float to represent Local 598 in the **Burton Memorial Day Parade**. Thank you to everyone who came out and participated. It was a great day!

