

United Auto Workers Amalgamated  
**LOCAL 2280**

# LABOR INFORMER

VOL. 48 • NO. 1 • SUMMER 2025

## INSIDE this ISSUE



Kids Easter Egg Hunt 2025 ..... **4**



Rosie the Riveter Day ..... **10-11**

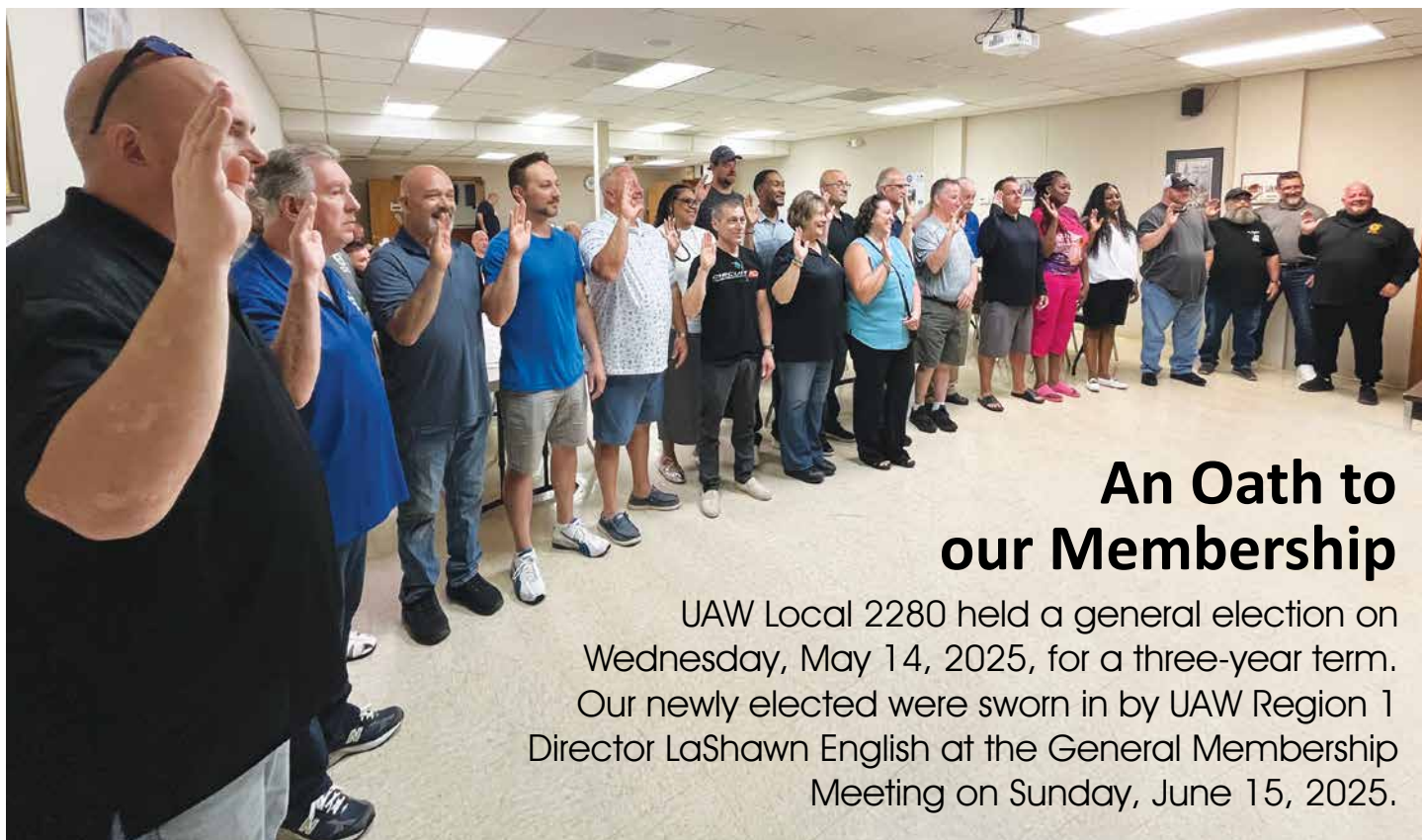


2025 Retirees Picnic ..... **14**



'No-Tap' Bowling Tourney ..... **16**

## 2025 General ELECTION Results



### An Oath to our Membership

UAW Local 2280 held a general election on Wednesday, May 14, 2025, for a three-year term. Our newly elected were sworn in by UAW Region 1 Director LaShawn English at the General Membership Meeting on Sunday, June 15, 2025.

### LOCAL 2280 LEADERSHIP

President.....**Andy Vultaggio**  
Vice President ..... **Nicole Didia**  
Recording Secretary.....**Thomas Peet**  
Financial Secretary..... **Robert Vitale**  
Trustee .....**Stephanie Drozdalski**  
Trustee ..... **Bruno Garreffa**  
Trustee .....**Michelle Riggs**  
Sergeant-at-Arms..... **Teresa Wright**  
Guide ..... **Gary Kujawa**  
Executive Board-at-Large ..... **Linda Fletcher**  
Executive Board-at-Large ..... **Wayne Conner**  
Plant Chairman .....**Nicholas A. Stefani**  
Plant Committee..... **James Montgomery**

District #1 Committee ..... **Pete Dimkovski**  
Alt. District #1 Committee ..... **Nino Pace**  
District #2 Committee ..... **Joe Simbandi**  
Alt. District #2 Committee ..... **Joe Adragna**  
District #3 Committee ..... **Tom Sauve**  
Alt. District #3 Committee ..... **Mario Soave**  
District #4 Committee ..... **Bryan Garten**  
Alt. District #4 Committee ..... **Bill Barjoui**  
District #5 Committee ..... **Marlon Finley**  
Alt. District #5 Committee ..... **Dave Schachinger**  
DFM Steward and  
Executive Board-at-Large ..... **Greg Merrill**  
Bay Logistics Steward and  
Executive Board-at-Large ..... **Marcus Taylor**  
QPC Steward and  
Executive Board-at-Large ..... **Alfonso Randazzo**

*Congratulations...* to this group and we thank them for their willingness to lead this membership of our Local.

NON-PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
FENTON, MI  
PERMIT NO. 1776



**UAW LOCAL 2280**  
45116 Cass Avenue  
Utica, MI 48317  
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



# Great Cars. Great Sales. Great Service.



At the All New Serra Ford  
in Rochester Hills.



Introducing Our New  
Cars Sales Manager  
**Vito Vultaggio**,  
Son of your  
Local 2280 President,  
Andy Vultaggio

To our friends at Local 2280, we appreciate your efforts to build the greatest vehicles in America.

At Serra Ford, we are proud of our staff and brand new Sales and Service center that will make every customer's buying or service experience second to none! We invite you to come and visit our brand new facility and to meet all of our wonderful Sales and Service professionals at Serra Ford today.



2890 S Rochester Rd.  
Rochester Hills, MI 48307  
Direct: 248.852.0400  
[serrafordrochesterhills.com](http://serrafordrochesterhills.com)  
Sales Hours: Mon. – Thurs.: 9am-7pm  
Friday: 9am-6pm  
Saturdays: 9am-3pm



## President's Report by **ANDY VULTAGGIO**

## Local Happenings in 2025

I would like to start off by welcoming all of the new members who came to Van Dyke over this past year. I hope you have found your time at Local 2280 enjoyable thus far. I also hope all our active and retired members had a great winter. It seemed like those cold temperatures were here for longer than usual, but we have finally made it to the warmer months!

There was a fantastic turnout for our Bowling Tournament held at Imperial Lanes held on May 4th. Thank you to all who took the time to come to the event and to the Recreation Committee for their help making everything run smoothly.

Next up is our Picnic at Jimmy Johns Field on Sunday, August 3rd. The gates open at 12:00 noon, so please bring your families out for what is sure to be a fun day. Please remember that retirees are welcome to come too!

Our Scholarship Golf Outing is set for August 24th at Cherry Creek Golf Club. This is always a fun event and the proceeds go to educating our members and retirees' children and grandchildren, so it is a win-win for everyone.

We held our General Election in May for a new three-year term. There was a pretty good turnout of voters, so thank you to those who took the time to cast your votes. Congratulations to all the winners and thank you to everyone who put their name in the hat. It's not always easy to put yourself out there, and I appreciate your interest in representing our membership.

As always, the Election Committee put in a long day keeping the polls running smoothly and I thank all of them for the great job. I also want to thank the membership for their support in electing me as president for another term. I will continue to conduct business at the Local to the best of my ability and appreciate the opportunity to represent our brothers and sisters in this capacity.

As we have seen, there are some changes taking place in the plant. There have been some areas on TLO and short work week, mostly due to parts or dunnage shortages. If all goes well, things should be picking up around the end of the year. Our trades have been working hard on the change-over in the plant, allowing for new work to come in. Thank you for remaining patient until the new work is up and running. Nick Stefani and James Montgomery have been doing a great job for our membership to keep everyone working and eliminating the need for ILOs.

I would like to acknowledge our Retiree Chapter Chairperson, Ralph Frontera. Ralph does an excellent job running the Chapter and really goes above and beyond for our retirees. He continues to bring in guest speakers that are relevant and interesting and works hard to cascade important information to the group. We are lucky to have someone who is willing to volunteer so much of their time for the benefit of the group. *Thanks for all you do, Ralph!*

For those of you who have been looking to get downtown to see the Tigers play this year, we have been planning a bus trip for the September 7th game. We will be heading to Comerica Park to see our boys take on the Chicago White Sox. There are limited seats left, so please call the Local if you are interested (*see notice on page 13 of this Labor Informer*).

Lastly, I would like to extend a special thanks to my fellow officers Nicole Didia, Tom Peet and Rob Vitale. Your dedication and efforts to this Local are admirable and everything you do helps make my job a little easier. Thank you for ensuring everything runs smoothly.

May you all have a safe shut down and enjoy summer with your family and friends. If there is anything that I can do to be of assistance, please reach out to me at the Local. I look forward to seeing you all in the plant and at our events.



Visit us on our  
**Facebook** page for  
up-to-date notices, and  
Local 2280 events!





# Serving Our Membership



**Vice President's Report**  
by **NICOLE DIDIA**

Greetings Local 2280 Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you, thank you, thank you, for all the support during the recent General Election. Your enthusiasm and dedication throughout the campaign has been inspiring and reaffirms the strong community we share.

As we continue into the next three years, I promise to remain accessible, transparent, and fiercely dedicated to protecting our rights and improving the workplace and Local. I welcome your input and ideas. Please never hesitate to call or email me with what is on your mind.

A big passion of mine has been improving communication throughout the Local. Realizing that not everyone uses social media, I have been

working to improve our website as a place to go to for information, so please check it out at [www.uawlocal2280.com](http://www.uawlocal2280.com). In addition, we recently launched a text messaging service, allowing you to receive updates and reminders straight to your phone. Sign-up using the QR code (at right) to receive text alerts and never miss a thing.



Keep a look out for education opportunities, and for those who want to get more involved, join us at our monthly General Membership meetings. We will be holding a Standing Committee Election at our meeting in October, so plan on attending if you want to step up your involvement. See notice on this page.

Again, from the bottom of my heart, thank you for entrusting me with the responsibility of representing you as Vice President. Together, we will continue to stand strong and build a brighter future for Local 2280.

# Grats on Your Success



**Recording Secretary's Report**  
by **THOMAS PEET**

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Local 2280,

I would like to start by congratulating all of you who have 2025 graduates, whether they be from high school, college, or trade school. This is certainly an accomplishment and I wish all of them enormous success in their future endeavors. Personally, I would like to thank all the participants of our Annual Local 2280 Scholarship Program, congratulations to all the recipients!

Next, I would like to congratulate all our newly elected Local 2280 leadership, both at the Local and in the plant. I wish all of you much success over the next three years, making sound and confident decisions

to guide our membership to new levels in employment and profitability at our plant. The swearing-in of the newly elected was eventful with Region 1 Director LaShawn English and Assistant Director Ray Pecoraro joining us at the June General Membership meeting. Thanks to both for taking time out of their day to join us and for their well wishes to our Local.

Lastly, I know this is a given for all of you, but please spend as much quality time as possible with family this summer. If you are able, come out and participate in some of the summer events being hosted by Local 2280, such as the Annual Picnic at Jimmy John's Field on August 3rd, the Local Golf Outing at Cherry Creek on August 24th, and the Detroit Tiger bus trip on September 7th!

## Standing Committee Election

The election for a three-year term for our Standing Committees will be held at the General Membership Meeting on Sunday, October 19, 2025! We will be electing five (5) members to each of the following committees...

- Building Fund Committee
- Education Committee
- Bylaw Committee
- Organizing Committee
- CAP Committees (Macomb, Oakland, Thumb Area, Wayne)
- Recreation Committee
- Chaplaincy Committee
- Union Label Committee
- Civil and Human Rights Committee
- Veterans Committee
- Community Services Committee
- Women's Committee
- Consumer Affairs Committee

*We are always looking for fresh faces and new ideas to bring to the table, and we hope that one of the above committees peaks your interest in becoming more involved!*

### VAN DYKE ELECTRIC POWERTRAIN CENTER



United Auto Workers Amalgamated  
**LOCAL 2280**

## LABOR INFORMER

*Published by UAW Local 2280 in the interest of the membership to further the aims and programs of UAW Local 2280, and to promote the policies and programs of the UAW International Union.*

### UAW LOCAL 2280

45116 Cass Avenue • Utica, MI 48317 • (586) 731-0010 • Fax: (586) 731-1835

### LABOR INFORMER EDITORIAL STAFF

Andy Vultaggio, Editor Nicole Didia, Co-Editor Rob Vitale, Co-Editor



Visit our **Facebook** page for news and events!

- or - visit us at... [uawlocal2280.com](http://uawlocal2280.com)

**MILK THE EQUITY**  
from your HOME!

WITH UDDER-LY RIDICULOUS

**LOW RATES**

Michigan's Only Labor-Focused Financial Institution



[THELOCALcreditunion.com](http://THELOCALcreditunion.com)

NEW MONEY ONLY, LOANS CURRENTLY AT THE LOCAL CREDIT UNION ARE NOT ELIGIBLE. Payment example: A Loan amount of \$50,000.00 at 7.0% for 120 months would have a monthly payment of \$580.74 or a weekly payment of \$134.45. Promotion is subject to change without notice. THE LOCAL credit union is federally insured by the NCUA.





**Plant  
Chairman**  
by **NICHOLAS A.  
STEFANI**

## Highest Scoring of All The Plants

To the retirees, sisters and brothers of Local 2280, may you all be safe and have a great summer! Enjoy your time with family and friends, as they are truly important in this life.

I would like to report that the VEPC is doing great! As you may know, right before Christmas last year we were awarded a new hybrid job to replace the electric job they cancelled, which is great for the longevity of our plant. We just had the bus tour roll through on June 12th, with our plant scoring the highest of all the plants, which is more great news for us.

Thank you to the brothers and sisters of Local 2280 for their continued support of my team and myself in our recent

election. It is an honor to serve the membership as Plant Chairman and, as always, I will continue to do everything in my power to produce the best outcome for our membership.

For those of you who will be off on shut down, have a great vacation and we will see you back in the plant upon your return. *Have fun, be safe this summer, and God Bless!*



**Plant  
Committee**  
by **JAMES  
MONTGOMERY**

## Thanks For Your Efforts

Hello to all my Brothers and Sisters of Local 2280,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their continued support here at the Van Dyke plant. It goes without saying that without all the hard work from every one of you, this plant could not be as successful as it is today.

I would also like to wish each one of you a happy holiday. Please be safe and enjoy yourself this year, as I look forward to seeing you return to work after the July shutdown.

I truly look forward to what this next year can bring all of us and I know that with all our continuous hard work that the Van Dyke plant will continue to have success. Again, be safe and take this down time to enjoy friends and family time.

# Kids' Easter Egg Hunt

The Women's Committee worked hard to put on a fun Egg Hunt for the children of Local 2280. The event was held on Sunday, April 6th at Riverbends Park in Shelby Township. There were lots of great treats and prizes to be had, along with a petting farm and a visit from the Easter Bunny.

*Thank you to everyone who came out to this event.*

**WE  
HAD A  
GREAT  
TURN  
OUT!**





# Local Happenings in 2025

Hello to My Fellow Members (*Active and Retired*),

I would like to thank all of the members who exercised their right to vote in this past General Election on May 14th. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve our great membership for another three years. Congratulations to the newly elected leadership and those who were reelected. I look forward to working with all of you.

Summer is upon us already! May you all enjoy your time off for the vacation shut down and get some well-deserved rest and relaxation.

Our Scholarship Golf Outing at Cherry Creek is just around the corner on August 24th. Thank you to

all who participate each year and to our sponsors. This year, we were able to award 20 scholarships to our members' children or grandchildren to help further their education.

We have two events coming up that you may want to consider should your schedule permit. First up is the Family Picnic at Jimmy John's Field in Downtown Utica on Sunday, August 3rd. Gates will open at noon for the 1:00 p.m. game. Everyone seems to enjoy this event, so bring your families out for a fun day of baseball, food and treats. The Tigers Bus Trip is Sunday, September 7th for a 1:40 p.m. game against the White Sox. Please be sure to call the Local to reserve your spot before the bus is full and the event is sold out.

In closing, I hope you can all take some time to slow down in this fast-paced world we are living in and enjoy the Michigan summer with family and friends. Just like our breaks from work, these warm months never seem to last long enough. Hopefully, you get the chance to do some of the things that bring you joy. *God Bless and Be Safe!*

## Financial Secretary's Report by ROB VITALE

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Submitted for  
your approval,  
**ROB VITALE,**  
Financial Secretary

**Beginning Balance (May 1, 2025).....976,320.73**

### INCOME

Dues – Regular (Private Sector)..... 112,037.41  
Dues – SUB..... 1,986.83  
Dues – Retired Workers @ 35% ..... 471.45  
Donations – Scholarship Awards..... 4,350.00  
Donations – Retired Workers Chapter..... 120.00  
Donations – Other ..... 350.00  
Shirts, Sweatclothes, etc. .... 125.00  
Social & Recreation Registration Fees..... 2,585.00  
**Income Total .....122,025.69**

### EXPENSES

Wages (Officers)..... 1,200.47  
Wages (Clerical) ..... 5,155.20  
Wages Overtime @ 1.5x (Clerical) ..... 434.97  
Lost Time (Officers) ..... 10,164.83  
Lost Time (Others)..... 9,489.75  
Weekly/Monthly Exp Allowance – Officers ..... 554.00  
Weekly/Monthly Exp. Allowance – Others..... 265.00  
Others – Non-Tax Travel Per Diem, etc..... 3,906.53  
Vacation (Officers) ..... 176.21  
Refreshments Reimbursement..... 908.22  
Federal Taxes ..... -3,266.16  
FICA..... -1,701.32  
MECA ..... -397.91  
MI Tax ..... -1,275.09  
UDues..... -59.21  
Federal Income Taxes (941) Forward..... 3,266.16  
FICA-Employee OASDI and HI Forward ..... 2,099.23  
State Income Taxes Forward..... 987.49  
Dental/Medical/Vision Insurance ..... 1,042.26  
FICA Employer OASDI and HI (941) ..... 2,099.23  
Dental/Hearing/Medical/Vision Insurance..... 102.26  
Disability/Sick & Accident Insurance..... 567.32  
Group Life Insurance ..... 645.90  
Utilities (Building Ownership)..... 559.76  
Donations – Charities ..... 1,041.52  
Furniture & Equipment – Leases & Rentals ..... 217.42  
Furniture & Equipment – Purchases..... 254.32  
Internet Service (Access Fees) ..... 80.00  
Per Capita Taxes – International ..... 182,154.54  
Per Capita Taxes – CAP Councils ..... 7,288.66

## THE FOLLOWING FINANCIAL REPORT

*Period of MAY 1, 2025 through MAY 31, 2025*

Professional Fees (Elections)..... 5,480.00  
Raffle and Fundraiser Costs ..... 307.33  
Registration/Conference/Tuition Fees ..... 786.00  
Rental of Mats, Mops, Rugs, etc ..... 24.39  
Social & Recreational Events – Sporting..... 1,449.50  
Telephone ..... 227.60  
**Expense Total .....236,236.38**  
**Total.....862,110.04**

Beginning Balance ..... **976,320.73**  
Income..... 122,025.69  
Expenses..... -236,236.38  
Difference ..... -114,210.69  
**Balance .....862,110.04**

### FUND BALANCES

General Fund..... 701,706.62  
Education Fund ..... 7,062.29  
Recreation Fund..... -63,414.32  
Retired Members Fund..... 1,442.34  
Scholarship Fund..... 27,272.21  
Retired Workers Chapter Fund..... 17,984.34  
Union Label Committee Fund..... 9.00  
New Member Orientation Fund ..... 1,598.42  
Chaplaincy Committee Fund ..... 111.34  
Building Fund..... 166,104.46  
Community Service Committee Fund..... 108.54  
Civil Rights Committee Fund..... 256.00  
Veterans Committee Fund..... 698.48  
Women's Committee Fund ..... 1,170.32  
**Total of All Funds .....862,110.04**

### ALLOCATION OF ASSETS

Actual Bank Balance ..... 330,945.67  
Cash On Hand..... 0.00  
The Local Credit Union..... 55,629.61  
The Local Credit Union – 24 Month..... 131,402.83  
The Local Credit Union – 12 Month..... 30,991.80  
The Local Credit Union – Savings ..... 10.00  
Royal Alliance ..... 313,130.13  
**Total Cash Assets .....862,110.04**

### CURRENT LIABILITIES

Per Capita Tax – May 2025 ..... 68,711.63  
**Net Cash Worth .....793,398.41**



# Chaplains March of Faith



## A Quick Note from the Chaplains...

### To Our Brothers and Sisters of UAW Local 2280,

Summer is finally here! Fun with the family should be the main item on the agenda, however heat and humidity tend to be a big part of the summers here in Michigan. Enjoy yourselves but please stay hydrated and safe at all your events.

The chaplains will continue to keep you lifted in prayer. We all know that navigating life can be difficult. Please don't hesitate to reach out to any one of us if you or someone you know is struggling and could benefit from the power of prayer.

IN SOLIDARITY,

Chaplain Scott Arrington, Chairman and Region 1 Chaplaincy Coordinator and Chaplains David Murray, Alex Nye, Terry Pendergrass, Victor Graves

# VETERANS Committee REPORT

Chairman REGGIE JHONS, SCOTT ARRINGTON, WAYNE CONNER, MICHELLE JONES, Advisers JEFF CLELAND and KIM KOHN

*Thank you* to all the members and their families who have contributed items to our collection for veterans. The VA Hospital is always in need of personal items like travel shampoos, lotions, deodorant, shaving cream, etc., so please continue to bring your contributions to the Local. We would also like to thank the membership for the numerous monetary donations made throughout the year. *Your generosity is inspiring!*

Last year's Toys for Tots campaign in the plant generated \$3,266 of monetary donations and over 200 toys for the cause. Thank you so much for your kindness in making Christmas special for needy children in the community. We would also like to thank the membership for their support of the *Blankets for the Dom* effort. Last December, we donated 35 blankets to help keep the residents staying at the VA Dom during the cold winter months.

We are lucky to have such a generous membership willing to step up to meet the needs of our brave veterans.

As always, remember... *If You Love Your Freedom, Thank A Vet!*

**STAND DOWN**  
**A HAND UP, NOT A HAND OUT!**  
**SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN VETERANS**

by WAYNE CONNER II, Vice President of Marketing, SMVSD Inc.

The 30th Annual Southeastern Michigan Veterans *STAND DOWN* will be held September 24-25, 2025, at UAW Region 1 in Warren, Michigan. The event is designed to help homeless veterans get off the street (at least for a bit), providing a nice meal and assistance with other basic needs. The cost to put on the event is roughly \$25,000, serving 330 people total (both homeless vets and non-veterans). Once again, the second day of the event was focused on our female veterans.

There are roughly 107,000 homeless veterans in the United States, with around 7,000 being here in Michigan. This event is a great way to show appreciation to those who have served our country.

We are planning a 12th annual *Stand Down Golf Outing* on September 25, 2025, at Golden Hawk to raise money for the event. Please contact Wayne Conner if you are interested.

If you would like to volunteer at the *STAND DOWN*, please register at [www.4vets.org](http://www.4vets.org).

**UAW Local 2280**  
**Family Picnic**  
**Jimmy John's Field (Downtown Utica)**

Members and retirees are invited to bring their families out for some food, fun and frozen treats while we watch the Beavers take on the Hoppers in a game of baseball. Gates open at 12:00 noon for the 1:00 p.m. game. Please note that food is only available for the first two hours, so keep that in mind if you plan to eat!

**ATTENTION: All Retiring UAW EMPLOYEES**

**Are You Planning Your Retirement?**

**We are your UAW Rollover specialists.**

**Michelle Gravelle, CFP Investment Professional**

*Serving UAW Members and their Families for over 21 Years!*

Securities offered through LPL Financial Member FINRA/SIPC

- ▶ Retirement Planning
- ▶ IRAs
- ▶ Rollovers
- ▶ Early Buyouts

*Whatever your financial needs, we can help. There is no cost or obligation for UAW members!*

**CALL MICHELLE TODAY TO SCHEDULE YOUR PERSONAL APPOINTMENT.**

**1.800.668.7135**



## Member Benefits & Services

Brothers and Sisters of Local 2280,  
My name is Debbie Littleton. I am the ESSP/EDTP Representative for Local 2280. For those of you who do not know what types of benefits are available to you through this negotiated program, I have highlighted a few of the different programs and services that are available to you. If you have any questions or are looking for any additional information, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

### Employee Support Services Program (ESSP)

UAW-FORD offers Employee Support Services Program (ESSP). ESSP is a *confidential* and *voluntary* program, designed to help workers dealing with issues that not only detract from their job performance, but their private life as well.

ESSP assists with Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Wellness, Child Care, Elder Care, Stress, Grief/Loss, Depression, Eating Disorders, Marital and Family, Financial and many more. ESSP assistance is available to the UAW-FORD Active Employee (*Hourly or Salary*), their spouse and/or dependent(s).

### Fitness Center

I appreciate everyone signing in, filling out the waivers and keeping the facility clean. If there's any issues with the equipment, please contact me at your earliest convenience.

Everyone who uses the Fitness Center will need to fill out a new waiver (starting January 2025) for the new year.

### EDTP and ETAP

The Education Development & Training Program (EDTP) and the Education Tuition Assistance Plan (ETAP) are for all Active UAW-represented hourly employees, including Temporary Workers after 90 days of employment.

ETAP provides for prepayment of tuition and approved fees up to \$8,000 per calendar year for approved courses leading to a GED, Associate Degree, Bachelor Degree, Master Degree, PhD, and approved certificate/diploma programs from regionally accredited educational institutions.

### Personal Development Assistance (PDA)

The PDA feature of the Employee Tuition Plan provides for prepayment

of tuition and approved fees up to \$4,000 (of the \$8,000) for classes that improve or enhance a member's position in the workplace.

### Textbook Reimbursement

Up to \$1,000 (of the \$8,000) per year may be used for book reimbursement.

For more information visit:

[www.uawford.org/EDTP](http://www.uawford.org/EDTP)

### Ford Industrial Readiness Certificate Program (IRCP)

All full-time seniority Ford Motor Company employees and Temporary UAW hourly employees who have acquired 90 days of employment or more who are interested in earning a position on the facility's Apprentice Eligibility List must successfully complete the Industrial Readiness Certificate Program (IRCP).

This program consists of three standardized, non-accredited courses completed through the local approved college or the online provider.

Successful completion consists of a Pass/Fail basis – 75% and higher is passing. Employee Tuition Assistance Program benefits will apply.

For more information please visit:  
[www.uawford.org/edtp/ircp/](http://www.uawford.org/edtp/ircp/)

### Community Engagement Scholarship (CES)

The CES assists UAW employees with college tuition costs for their dependent children.

The CES program reimburses the active, UAW-represented employee(s) up to \$1,600 per calendar year, per eligible dependent, once the classes are completed by the dependent and the required documentation is submitted.

### Retiree Employees (RETAP)

Retirees may now use their full \$2,000 benefit to attend classes at colleges or universities approved at regionally accredited institutions. For more information visit:

[www.uawford.org/scholarships/](http://www.uawford.org/scholarships/)

As you can see, there are many benefits and programs. You might as well put these negotiated benefits to use! Please feel free to contact me at [dlittl13@ford.com](mailto:dlittl13@ford.com) or call me in my office at (586) 826-6161 for more information.

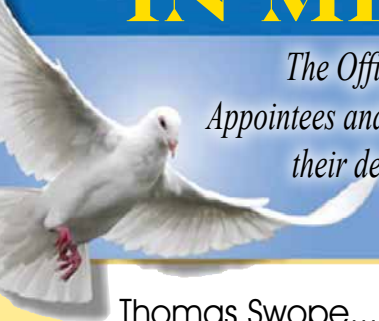
*Have a safe and fun summer!*

## IN MEMORIAM

*The Officers, Executive Board, In-Plant Committee and Appointees and entire membership of UAW Local 2280 extend their deepest sympathies to the families and loved ones of our deceased members and retirees...*

Thomas Swope.....	Retiree.....	January 2023
Denis Postl .....	Retiree.....	April 2023
Harry "Bill" McKelvey .....	Retiree.....	March 2024
William Paull .....	Retiree.....	January 2025
Timothy Raymond .....	Retiree.....	January 2025
Quinto Burchi.....	Retiree.....	February 2025
Donell Lockett.....	Retiree.....	February 2025
Thomas Sauve .....	Retiree.....	May 2025
Michael Maloney .....	Retiree.....	June 2025

*Please keep the family and friends of these brothers and sisters in your thoughts and prayers.*





## VAN DYKE Dealer Panel

**FOR EMPLOYEES and FAMILY MEMBERS**

### Take Advantage of Your UAW-Negotiated New Vehicle Benefit

I would quickly like to remind you of the **\$1,500 voucher** for all active members to use towards the purchase of a new vehicle. This benefit was negotiated in the recent UAW-Ford Agreement. For members that hire/convert after January 1, 2024, the 12-month period will begin on their hire/conversion date. The voucher program is valid during the life of the agreement with these parameters.

Please remember that I am here to assist with any problems that arise between you and the dealership, so please be sure to reach out if you need my help!

In solidarity, UAW Local 2280 Dealer Panel  
**Wayne Conner • (586) 826-6577 • [wconner@ford.com](mailto:wconner@ford.com)**







# Scholarship Program

**As a reminder, these scholarships are funded through our annual Scholarship Golf Outing, so THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SPONSORS AND MEMBERS WHO PARTICIPATE!**



## Dominic DAVIS

Dominic is the son of Sheila Davis (Dept. 777, #1 Shift) and a recent graduate of Sterling Heights Stevenson. Dominic is the recipient of the National African American Recognition Program Award from the College Board. In addition to his studies, he participated with the ThunderChickens in the FIRST Robotics Competition. Dominic is off to Pennsylvania State University Behrend in the fall.



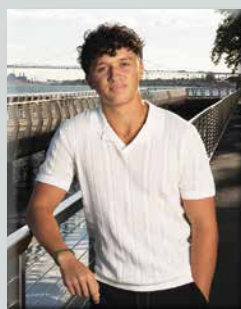
## Cora DEAN

Cora is the daughter of Michael Dean (Dept. 830, #2 Shift). Cora graduated from Allen Park High School in 2024 and now attends Eastern Michigan University where she is studying biology. In her free time, Cora has been involved with the Toledo Zoo as a Zoo Teen.



## Reese FOLLEBOUT

Reese is the granddaughter of UAW Local 2280 Retiree Jim Follebout. Reese graduated from Henry Ford II High School this year, where she was an AP Scholar and a member of the National Scholar Society. She was also involved with competitive dance and the environmental club. Reese is heading to Wayne State University where she plans to major in psychology.



## Ryan FOSTER

Ryan is the grandson of UAW Local 2280 Retiree Chairperson Ralph Frontera. He has just graduated with honors from Romeo High School, where he played tennis, football and basketball. Ryan was also a member of NHS, RAAC, DECA and Student Council. Ryan will be attending Michigan State University in the fall where he plans to study finance.



## Trenton KAEDING

Trenton is the grandson of Local 2280 Retiree Robert Schluentz. Trenton attends East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina. Trenton has earned himself a spot on the honor roll and participates in intramural basketball for fun. Trenton is pursuing a major in communications with a minor in sports journalism.



## Derrick HARRIS, Jr.

Derrick is the son of Derrick Harris, Sr. (Dept. 132, #2 Shift) and a recent graduate of Chippewa Valley High School, where he made the honor roll every quarter of his senior year and participated in varsity basketball and track. In his free time, Derrick enjoys making music and has even started his own clothing brand! Derrick is attending Oakland University this fall, where he will pursue a business management major.



## Lydia HUIZENGA

Lydia is the granddaughter of Executive Board Member-at-Large Wayne Conner. She was recently recognized as Student of the Quarter and inducted into the National Honors Society. Lydia was also involved in the student council and key club and was a member of the track team. Lydia will be continuing her studies at Sauk Valley Community College in the fall.



## Melissa KACZOR

Melissa is the granddaughter of Local 2280 Retiree Ken Jurek and Barb Jurek (Dept. 777, #3 Shift). Melissa is graduating from Romeo High School this year, where she played on both the softball and basketball teams. She received an academic varsity letter in 2024 and received Honors Awards in mathematics, Spanish and academics throughout her time at Romeo. Melissa plans to start at Macomb Community College in the fall where she will begin her studies in nursing.



## Hannah KING

Hannah is the daughter of Brian King (Dept. 143, #2 Shift) and is a recent graduate of Clawson High School. In her time at Clawson High, Hannah was a two-time winner of Academic Excellence Awards and a Scholar Athlete, playing on the tennis team. In her free time, she coached gymnastics and participated in the Art Club. Hannah is off to East Lansing in the fall where she will continue her education at Michigan State University.



## Isabel PRETZER

Isabel is the daughter of Jason Pretzer (Dept. 777, #2 Shift). Isabel started her collegiate education off at Macomb Community College, where she earned herself a spot on the Dean's List for 2023-2024. Isabel has since transferred to Oakland University, where she is majoring in biology, pre-med. She aspires to become a naturopathic physician, specializing in women's health and hormones.



## Jackson LACEK

Jackson is the son of Michael Lacek (Dept. 490, #1 Shift). Jackson is a graduate of Richmond High School, where he participated in varsity wrestling. Jackson is attending St. Clair Community College, where he is focusing his studies on cyber security.



## Jacalynn PUNG

Jacalynn is pictured here with her grandfather, Local 2280 Retiree Lyle Danforth and her grandmother Diane Danforth. Jacalynn is a recent Yale High School graduate, where she was a member of the National Honors Society and an All-Area Conference athlete. She even managed to earn six college credits already through her participation in AP courses. Jacalynn is heading to Michigan State University, where she plans to major in communicative sciences.



## Jaiden SIMRAK

Jaiden is the granddaughter of UAW Local 2280 Retiree Karl Simrak. She recently graduated from Armada High School where she earned a spot in the National Honors Society. In her spare time, Jaiden volunteers her time on the camp leadership team for PAL. Jaiden is taking her prerequisites at Macomb Community College and plans to work in diagnostic medical sonography.



## Pierce SIMRAK

Pierce is the son of Kara Simrak (Dept. 722, #3 Shift) and a Magna Cum Laude graduate of Dakota High School. Pierce played lacrosse for all four years at Dakota while also participating in the National Honors Society and the Marketing Club. He is off to Central Michigan University in the fall where he will pursue a degree in business.



## Maria VULTAGGIO

Maria is the daughter of Joseph Vultaggio (Dept. 143, #2 Shift) who graduated from Warren Mott High School in 2023. She currently coaches the JV basketball team at Warren Mott, a former basketball and volleyball player herself. Maria currently attends Macomb Community College and has been named on the Dean's List every semester thus far. She will be transferring to Oakland University in the coming year to continue her studies.



## Alexandria WILBUR

Alexandria is the daughter of Aaron Wilbur (Dept. 744, #2 Shift) and a student at Wayne State University. She graduated high school with a GPA above 4.0, so it's no surprise that she is dedicated and set to graduate college in three years! She has been on the Dean's List since 2023 and is enrolled in the honors college at Wayne State, where she also is on the cheerleading team. Alexandria volunteers her time at Gleaners Community Food Bank, the Ronald McDonald House of Detroit and Blankets With Care. She is pursuing a bachelor's degree in social work with a minor in gender, sexuality and women's studies.

## Ashley POWELL

Ashley is the daughter of Duane Powell (Dept. 722, #3 Shift) and a recent Armada High School graduate. Ashley earned herself a spot in the National Honors Society and on the Honor Roll. In her spare time, Ashley enjoys playing softball, both for her school and on a travel team. Ashley is heading to Michigan State University in the fall to continue her studies.

## Joseph WELCH

Joseph is the son of Brian Welch (Dept. 163, #1 Shift) and a four-year varsity athlete in Rochester Hills. Joseph also has Scholar Athlete and Academic All-State on his list of achievements. Joseph attends Oakland Community College.

## Viviana VITALE

Viviana is the daughter of Faro Vitale (Dept. 163, #2 Shift) and a graduate of Rochester High School, where she completed seven AP courses and achieved Honors of Highest Distinction. Among other activities and clubs, Viviana participated in track & field and was a peer mentor, helping students with special needs. Viviana will be attending Wayne State University in the fall, likely studying criminal justice.

## Ruby WELCH

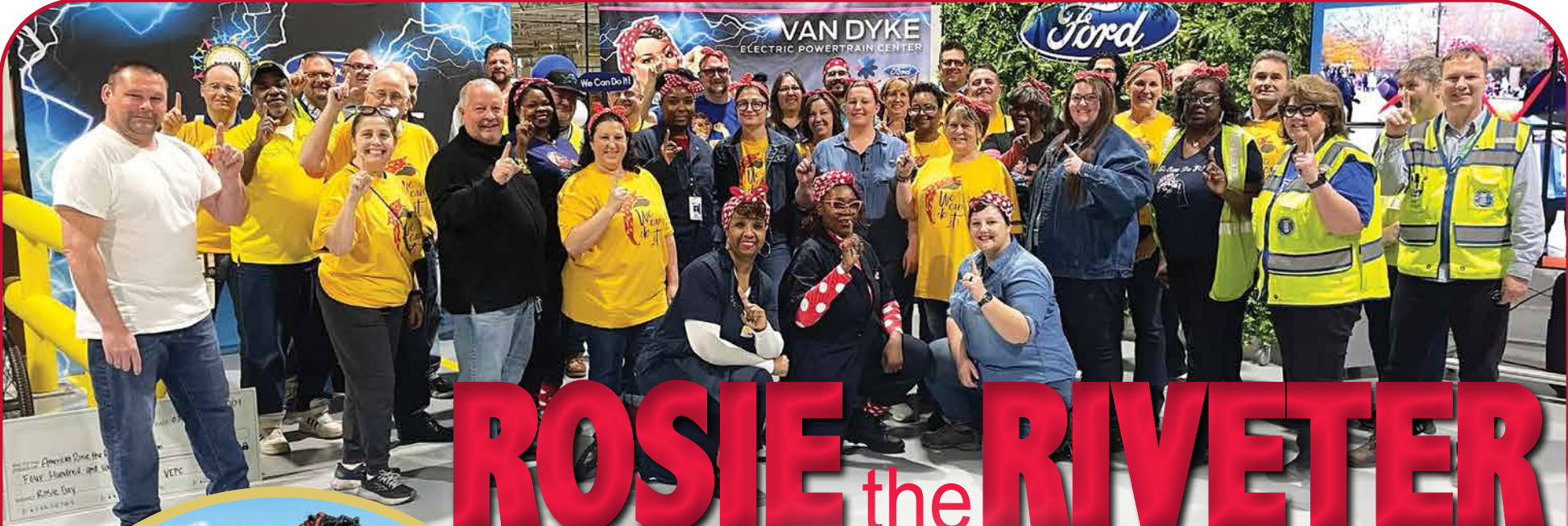
Ruby is the daughter of Brian Welch (Dept. 163, #1 Shift) and a student at Michigan State University. She worked hard to earn herself a spot on the Dean's List in the fall semester of 2022 and the spring semester of 2023. In her free time, she enjoys playing intramural volleyball and basketball and volunteers her time with The Care Team.

# CONGRATULATIONS

**TO THE RECIPIENTS OF  
THE 19th ANNUAL  
UAW LOCAL 2280  
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

Local 2280 wishes this group the best of luck as they move forward with their education. Their parents and grandparents must be very proud! We see bright futures ahead for this group of deserving young men and women.





# ROSIE the RIVETER DAY and Parade



Local 2280 and the Van Dyke Electric Powertrain Center went all out for Rosie the Riveter Day on March 21st! Members dressed up in their best Rosie looks to celebrate women in the workforce, specifically those in manufacturing jobs. **DONATIONS WERE COLLECTED IN THE PLANT AND T-SHIRTS WERE SOLD TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE AMERICAN ROSIE THE RIVETER ASSOCIATION,** which they were truly grateful for! In addition, a parade was held in Sterling Heights on Memorial Day (May 26th) to commemorate 80 years of Rosie. **THANK YOU TO OUR SERGEANT-AT-ARMS TERESA WRIGHT AND EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER-AT-LARGE LINDA FLETCHER FOR ATTENDING ON BEHALF OF OUR LOCAL.**



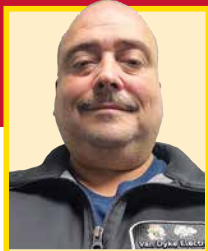




VEPC Celebrates Women's History Month and Rosie The Riveter







## Retirees: Read New HRA Benefits

With shutdown just around the corner, I would like to extend my wishes for everyone to have a safe and enjoyable break from the plant! The Fourth of July is always a fun time for celebrations with family and friends. Hopefully, we will get some nice weather.

I advise the retirees to read up on the new HRA benefits that are afforded to you and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out!

*Take care and God bless!*



Founders: William Lucy AFSCME, Nelson "Jack" Edwards UAW-deceased, William Simon ATF, Charles A. Hayes UFCW-deceased, Cleveland Robinson DWAD-deceased

### COALITION OF BLACK TRADE UNIONISTS MACOMB CHAPTER

P.O. Box 23 • Sterling Heights MI 48311  
Email: [macombcbtu@yahoo.com](mailto:macombcbtu@yahoo.com)

## The Macomb Chapter CBTU Has Arrived

Greetings UAW LU2280 Brothers and Sisters,

I am honored and humbled to announce the chartering of the Macomb County Chapter of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU). The Macomb Chapter was recognized as an official CBTU chapter on December 19, 2024 and officially received its charter during the 85th CBTU Conference held in Orlando, Florida on May 25, 2025.

The CBTU is an international auxiliary labor organization founded in 1972 by Brothers William "Bill" Lucy-AFCME, Nelson "Jack" Edwards-UAW, William Simon-ATF, Charles A. Hayes-UFCW and Cleveland Robinson-District 65-UAW that unifies AFL/CIO labor organizations to assist and support the labor movement through civic engagement and community service. Don't let the name fool you the CBTU is inclusive and welcoming to all. Encouraging unionized and non-unionized skilled trades, production, service, clerical, and public workers of all ethnic groups, LGBTQ, religious affiliations and genders to join our ranks.

The CBTU provides an excellent opportunity and platform for labor activists through several standing and special committees to include civic engagement, human and civil rights, mens, womens, veterans and under 40. It also allows for the meeting and fellowshiping of all AFI/CIO organizations. Through our committees the Macomb Chapter CBTU provides services and uplift within the Greater Macomb County community while promoting the obtainment of labor education and the development of the necessary skills to become effective and productive union leaders that will lead and guide the labor movement into the twenty-second century.

The Macomb Chapter CBTU meets every third Saturday of the month at UAW Region 1 located at 27800 George Merrelli Dr., Warren, MI 48092. We are currently seeking highly enthusiastic and motivated labor activists to join our ranks. Dues are forty dollars per year for rank-and-file members. Twenty dollars a year for non-affiliated members. The time of the meetings alternates from 12pm to 4pm to accommodate for members work schedules. Chapter meetings are held in-person and through Zoom to allow all members to actively participate within the chapter. For those that are interested in joining or have questions concerning the Macomb Chapter CBTU feel free to reach out to me at the contact information provided below.

In Solidarity,  
**Bro. Dana Greene**  
Bro. Dana Greene, President  
CBTU, Macomb Chapter  
Email: [dgreene6893@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dgreene6893@sbcglobal.net)  
Cell: 313-600-7123

# Small Business Support Initiative... *Let's Lift Each Other Up!*

We are aware that many of the talented members of Local 2280 have small side businesses for a variety of goods and services. Supporting coworker-owned businesses is more than just a nice gesture. It has real benefits for the workplace, community and the success of our brothers and sisters!

From baked goods to crafts, car detailing or photography – we want to support you and get your name out to our brothers and sisters.

If you would like your small business to be advertised to the membership, please submit the following information via e-mail to [uawlocal2280@aol.com](mailto:uawlocal2280@aol.com):

- ▶ Your name
- ▶ Business name
- ▶ What you offer
- ▶ Contact info (social media, website, phone/email)

We will then create a flyer that will be posted on social media and shared on the UAW information boards in the plant.

*Let's build a stronger workplace community by supporting each other's passions and side hustles while strengthening morale!*

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION The UAW App...

Whether it's through union meetings, text messages, worksite fliers, email, tele-town halls, websites, direct mail or social media, there's been an unprecedented amount of attention paid to how the International Union makes sure that every UAW member, both active and retired, has an opportunity to connect with the UAW and get the information they need.

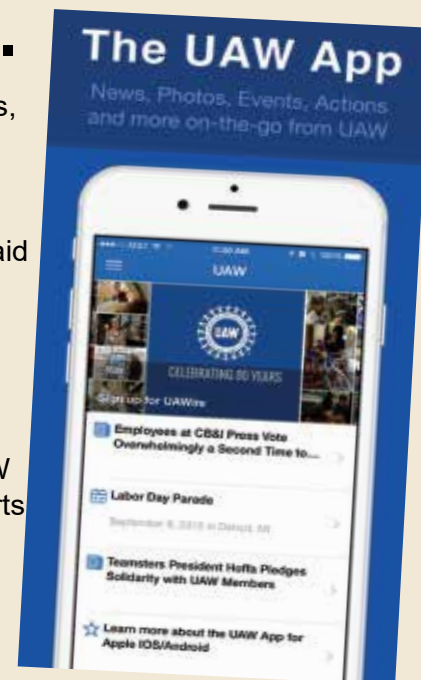
Now, there's one more way for UAW members to get easy access to all sorts of great information. It's the UAW app for your smartphone.

*On the UAW app you'll find lots of useful, relevant information such as:*

- **News** – Find out the latest about the news that affects UAW members from across the country.
- **Events** – Be the first to find out about national events.
- **Actions** – Take action to support union members and fight legislation like the TPP.
- **Educational Resources** – Get educated about issues like labor history and finding the union label.
- **UAW Constitution** – Get the UAW Constitution right on your phone, only one click away.

### DOWNLOAD THE UAW APP TODAY!

Here's how to get the UAW app: If you have an iPhone or Android device, simply type in "UAW" on the App Store or Google Play Store to find the UAW's mobile app. Or, text "APP" to 99795 for a link to download. Just reply with what type of device you have for the appropriate link.





# The Michigan Labor History Society

## The Spirit of Working People

*Submitted by Linda Fletcher, Executive Board Member-at-Large*

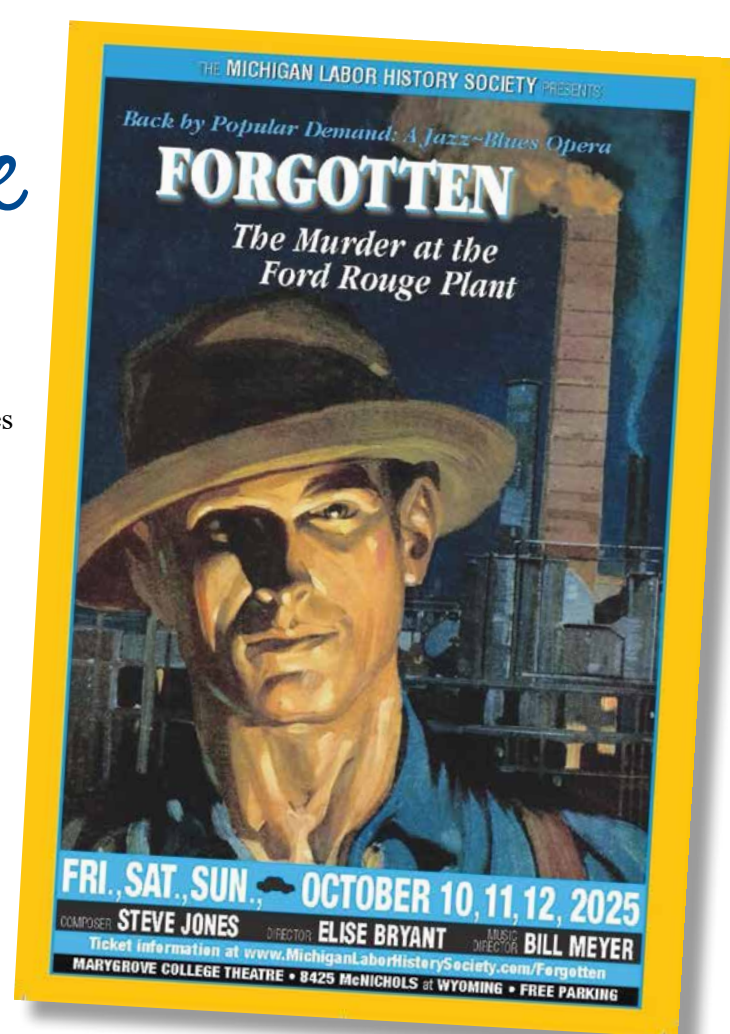
The Michigan Labor History Society (MLHS) plays a vital role in preserving and promoting the legacy of Michigan's labor movement. Established in 1977, this nonprofit organization brings together union members, educators, historians, and community advocates to celebrate the struggles and triumphs of working people across the state.

Michigan, a historic epicenter of industrial strength, has long been a battleground for workers' rights – from the sit-down strikes in Flint to the growth of the United Auto Workers (UAW). The MLHS honors this heritage through educational programs, exhibits, publications, and events that highlight the pivotal role workers have played in shaping Michigan's economy and democracy.

One of MLHS's most notable achievements is the Detroit Labor Legacy Landmark, "Transcending," a towering sculpture in Hart Plaza that pays tribute to the contributions of organized labor. The society also hosts labor history tours, commemorative ceremonies, and collaborations with schools to inspire future generations.

Through its ongoing work, the Michigan Labor History Society ensures that the stories of working men and women are remembered, respected, and used to inspire continued advocacy for justice and equity in the workplace.

Please consider supporting the MLHS by attending the jazz/blues opera "Forgotten, the Murder at the Ford Rouge Plant" this coming October.



# DETROIT PARTY BUS

## COME JOIN US!

★ ★ 20 ★ ★ 25 ★ ★



# TIGERS



## THE TIGERS BUS TRIP IS BACK!

Only a  
FEW SPOTS  
left!

### Detroit Tigers vs Chicago White Sox at Comerica Park in Detroit, MI

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

The bus will depart from  
UAW Local 228 (Mound Rd. & 17 Mile) promptly at 11:00 a.m.

**BE SURE TO ARRIVE ON TIME!**

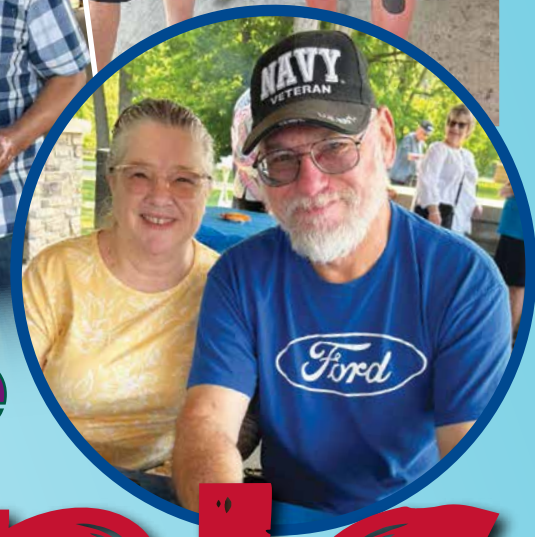
Game starts at 1:40 p.m.

#### TICKETS:

**\$80.00** per person,  
which will include:

- ▶ Ticket to the Game
- ▶ Round Trip Bus Ride to Comerica Park
- ▶ Special Event T-Shirt



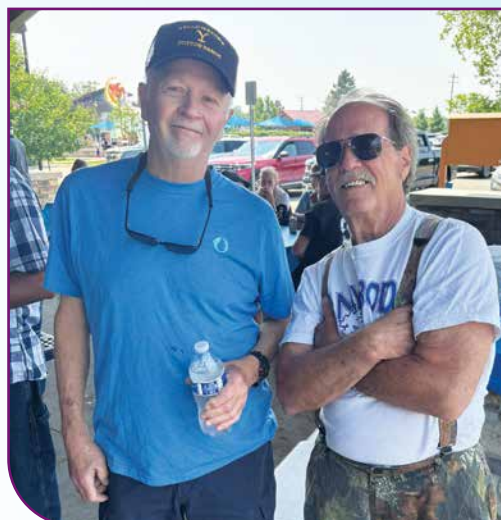


# Retiree Picnic

## Thank you

**TO EVERYONE WHO  
BROUGHT A DISH TO  
PASS AND TO THOSE WHO  
HELPED WITH  
SET UP AND  
CLEAN UP!**

We had a fantastic time at this year's Retiree Picnic on Wednesday, June 11, 2025, at Dodge Park. The pavilion was full of over 90 retirees and their spouses. What a great turnout! We couldn't have asked for better weather and all of the food and desserts were nothing short of delicious.







# Retirees Chapter Members Staying Involved

Hello Fellow Retirees and Active Members of Local 2280,

The retirees of 2280 hope that the active members are doing well, with the newer jobs and projected new jobs coming in. We have had a steady flow of new retirees join us at our monthly meetings. It's always great to see newly retired members come in and introduce themselves. To the retirees who haven't made an appearance... don't be shy, come on in. You'll be glad you did.

Our meetings are fun and informative. We have had some good speakers in to address our group over this past year. We had a financial planner, a representative from the Michigan Alzheimer's Association (who gave a very informative presentation), and VEBA presentation explained all the changes in our insurance.

We have a new benefit this year – \$600 from WEX. In the last few months, you should have received a package in the mail from the UAW Retiree Medical Benefits Trust. If you haven't received your WEX card or have any questions, please call WEX Customer Service Call Center at 844-440-4300.

On April 16th, sixteen fellow retirees and guests took a free bus trip to the Detroit Institute of Arts. We had a one-hour guided tour followed by an hour to freely explore on our own. The final stop was in the cafeteria where we were treated to coffee, tea and cookies. It was an enjoyable day by all.

We held our annual Retiree Picnic on June 11th at Dodge Park in Sterling Heights. We had a great crowd of 93 retirees and guests. The weather was perfect, the food was great, but most of all the company of fellow retirees was absolutely fantastic. We had retirees show up who I haven't seen or heard from for many years, which made the day even better. A *big thanks* to all those who stepped up to help, brought a dish to pass, and our resident chefs on the grill, who did their usual great job with the sausage and hot dogs. Last, but not least, thanks to the folks who helped to clean up after the festivities were done. It takes a village to have a Local 2280 Picnic.

The Local 2280 Retiree Chapter Executive Board hopes you will have a safe and wonderful summer. If you are retired and would like to get updates from our chapter, send me an e-mail at [ralphfrontera51@yahoo.com](mailto:ralphfrontera51@yahoo.com). I will include you on our group email listing. Like that old song by The Happenings, 'See You in September'!

## RECENT RETIREMENTS

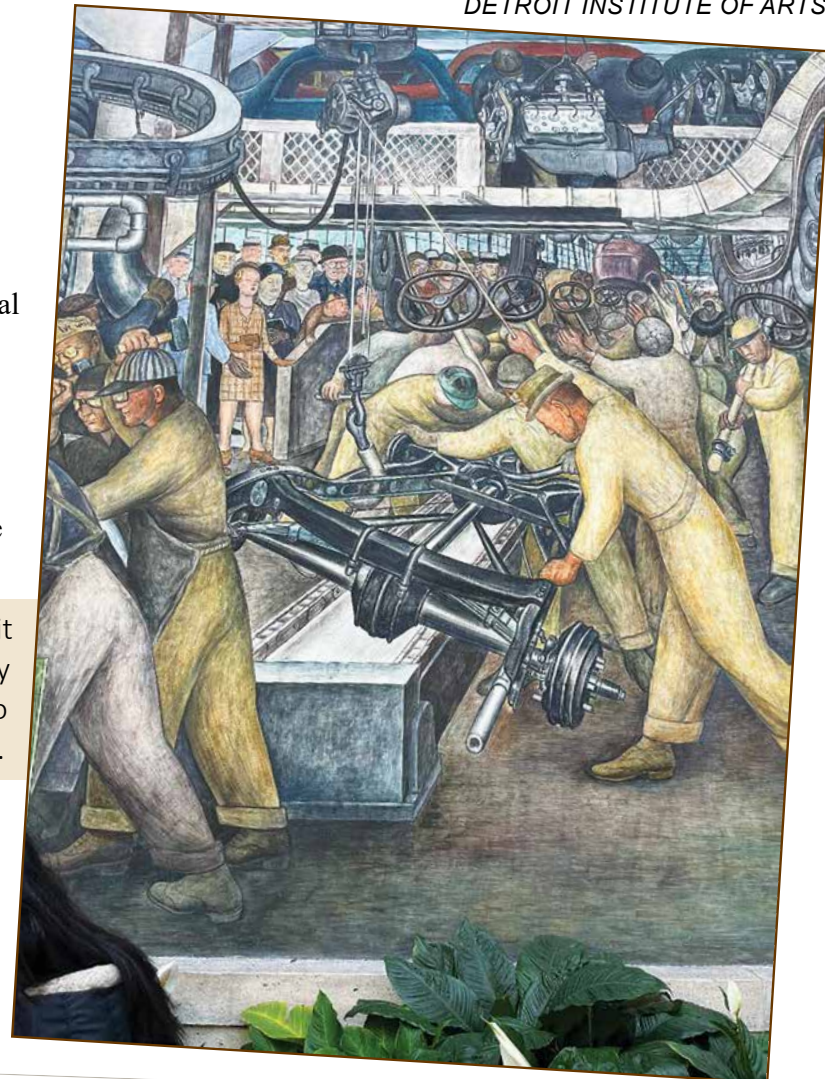
# Happy Retirement

**Congratulations, Marj, we wish you a long life of leisure in your retirement.**



### Marj BISCORNER

25 Years  
Dept. 423, #2 Shift  
"Thank you to UAW Local 2280 and Ford. I had a lot of good times over the years and already miss the people."



DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS



Local 2280 Retirees posing for a group photo at their Bus Trip to the DIA this past April.

# Congratulations

to all of our newly retired members of UAW Local 2280. There are many who retired and have yet to get their picture taken. Please come by so we can include you in the next issue of the LABOR INFORMER. We wish you a long life of leisure in your retirement... you deserve it!



On Sunday, May 4, 2025, the Local held our annual Bowling Tournament at **IMPERIAL LANES IN CLINTON TOWNSHIP**. We had the best showing of bowlers that we have had in years! **THANK YOU TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED**, with a special thanks to Grech Law Firm, The LOCAL Credit Union and Holiday Pizza for their prize donations to this event.

# LOCAL BOWLING Tournament

**PIN NO TAP**

