

HAPPY LABOR DAY!



***OUR LABOR UNIONS ARE NOT NARROW, SELF-SEEKING GROUPS. THEY
HAVE RAISED WAGES, SHORTENED HOURS, AND PROVIDED
SUPPLEMENTAL BENEFITS. THROUGH COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AND
GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES, THEY HAVE BROUGHT JUSTICE AND
DEMOCRACY TO THE SHOP FLOOR***

JOHN F. KENNEDY



Editor Note

Andy Keogh

The 39th UAW Constitutional Convention was one for the history books. They had important speakers there with valuable information and new additions and changes to different articles inside of our UAW Constitution. The number of points of order was borderline out of control; I thought that they would never get the rules read and voted on to be able to even start in on the business for the 39th UAW Constitutional Convention.

Out of the speakers, there was Liz Schuler, the president of the AFL-CIO. Her message was on point, and she had good things to say, such as: We need good union jobs. We are the anti-greed. She also said that the companies are not going to change our jobs without workers being included in the changes. We need to speak up at work and help make positive changes to our jobs. She stated that we want training and we want civil rights protected, working people first, not some BS. Lastly, the one that she said that really resonates with me is 'You are with the working-class people or you are with the big tech companies'.

Mary Sheffield was there, and she is the 76th mayor of Detroit and the first woman to ever be elected to this position in Detroit. She is a daughter and granddaughter of civil rights leaders. She said, "Together we can, and together we will." She believes in people and believes this moment represents our generation's defining moment in the fight for workers' rights. She talked about the union pioneers whose shoulders we have stood on for the last 91 years. She believes that we will do remarkable things together for UAW workers and American workers. She talked about the stand-up strike in 2022 in the shattered of expectations for a new contract. Better than expected. She talked about Volkswagen being organized. Record-setting contracts and all the new workers into our UAW. She even called out Elon Musk for being the world's first trillionaire, when families can't even afford health care. Her final thought was we need the UAW now, more than ever! Corporate pathways to the middle class demand dignity for an honest day's work; the time to organize and the fight is now. Power has always been, and will always be, with the people.

Keep a lookout for the recent changes in the 39th Constitution; these changes affect all of us and are solid changes for our future. Thank you to the elected who went and held the line for us to make these positive changes a reality.

Solidarity, Solidarity, Solidarity

LOCAL 685 NEWS

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Co-Editor..... Bonna Vore

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Health & Safety Representative 1st Shift at KTP Dan Keirns
2nd Shift at KTP Josh Perin
3rd Shift at KTP T.B.D.
1st Shift at ITP Rob Seals
2nd Shift at ITP T.B.D.
1st Shift at KEP Lloyd Kerns
Skilled Trades Unit Chair..... Paul Soultz
International Representative UAW Region 2-B..... Ryan Hiestand
UAW Chrysler Dept. International Rep John Stanfill

UAW LOCAL 685 AMALGAMATED UNIT #1 (CONTINENTAL)

Chairperson..... Cathy Spencer
Vice Chairperson..... Regina Ashby
Recording Secretary Sammi Cooper
1st Shift Bargaining Representative..... Rachel Kidwell
2nd Shift Bargaining Representative T.B.D.
3rd Shift Bargaining Representative..... T.B.D.

UAW LOCAL 685 AMALGAMATED UNIT #3 (STAYWELL)

Chairperson T.B.D.

UAW LOCAL 685 AMALGAMATED UNIT #4 (DFM)

KTP Unit Chair Ron Smith
1st shift Steward Aaron Benson
2nd shift Steward Tondaly Butcher
3rd shift Steward John Alsup Jr.
ITP Unit Chair..... Jeremy Adkins
1st Shift Steward Dan Havens
2nd Shift Steward John Frinkle
3rd Shift Steward Leslie Bashore
KEP Unit Chair..... Jamie McKibben
1st Shift Steward Twanna Fitts
2nd Shift Steward Sherri Gerhart
3rd Shift Steward Greg Powell

NOTICE

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES MUST BE TURNED IN BY THE
5TH OF THE EVEN NUMBERED MONTHS IN ORDER TO
BE PRINTED IN THE NEXT MONTH'S NEWSPAPER.
ARTICLES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE
DEADLINE.



The President's Report

Brothers and Sisters,

Today, more than ever, we are reminded that our greatest strength is not found in any one individual, department, or facility. Our strength lies in our solidarity. It lies in the unity of working people who stand together, support one another, and fight for a stronger future for our members, our families, and our communities.

The history of the UAW has always been a story of workers standing shoulder to shoulder to secure better opportunities. Every contract improvement, every gain in wages and benefits, every advancement in workplace safety came because union members refused to stand alone. They understood that when we speak with one voice, we have the power to shape our future and protect the jobs that sustain our communities.

As we look ahead, one of our most important priorities is the fight for new jobs and future investments. The automotive industry continues to evolve, bringing new technologies, new products, and new challenges. While change is inevitable, one thing remains constant: UAW members deserve the opportunity to build the future. We must continue advocating for investments that create and retain good-paying union jobs right here at home.

The fight for new work is about more than numbers on a production schedule. It is about ensuring that future generations have the same opportunities that many of us were fortunate enough to receive. It is about keeping our local economy strong, supporting local businesses, and maintaining a high standard of living for working families. Every new product allocation, every plant investment, and every job secured represents a victory for our entire membership.

Solidarity is essential in this effort. Management and elected officials must see that our membership is united in its commitment to protecting existing jobs and securing future opportunities. When we stand together, we demonstrate that our workforce is skilled, dedicated, and ready to meet the challenges of a changing industry. Unity sends a powerful message that our members are committed to quality, productivity, and excellence.

We also recognize that solidarity extends beyond the walls of our workplace. It means supporting one another during difficult times, celebrating victories together, and understanding that the success of one member strengthens us all. It means putting aside differences and focusing on our common goals. When we work together, we build a stronger union and a stronger community.

As your Local UAW President and Vice President, we remain committed to fighting every day for investments, product commitments, and opportunities that secure the long-term future of our membership. We will continue working with union leadership, community partners, and elected officials to advocate for the jobs our members deserve.

The road ahead will require determination, persistence, and unity. But history has shown that when UAW members stand together in solidarity, there is no challenge too great and no goal beyond our reach. Let us continue to support one another, stay engaged, and fight for the future of good union jobs.

Solidarity, Solidarity, Solidarity



IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Absentee Call-in.....	1-800-810-2271
AudioNet (Hearing Provider Active).....	586-782-6435
American/Union made product info.....	www.unionlabel.org
Attendance Counselor KTP, Brian Hecht.....	1-765-454-1673
Attendance Counselor ITP, Tina Durham.....	1-765-854-4562
Attendance Counselor KEP, Jamie Nelson-Caraveo.....	1-765-236-2242
Blue Cross Mental Health and Substance Abuse (Active).....	800-367-6389
BC/BS of Michigan.....	1-800-521-0488

BENEFIT CONNECT FOR ALL HEALTH ARE, LIFE INSURANCE AND PENSION CHANGES..... 1-888-409-3300

Benefits Office (KTP)	
Vicki Smock.....	1-765-454-1141
Marla Fairley.....	1-765-454-1276
Benefits Office (ITP) Andy Bramel.....	1-765-854-4175
Benefits Office (KEP) Donald Beech Jr.....	1-765-236-4762
Blue Cross Enhanced Care Program (ECP Retirees B/C Non-Medicare).....	866-507-2850
Blue Cross Medicare Advantage.....	888-322-5616
CAREMARK.....	1-866-329-4448
Website.....	www.caremark.com
Chrysler Owner Relations Hotline.....	1-800-992-1997
Chrysler Parts Discount Program.....	1-855-476-6727
Davis Vision (Retirees).....	1-800-999-5431
VSP (Active Employees).....	1-800-877-7195
website:.....	vsp.com
Delta Dental.....	1-800-292-0626
website (claims information available):.....	www.consumertoolkit.com

Employee Assistance Program

KTP – Barrett Riggs..... Work phone: 765-454-4992
Cell: 765-431-4922

ITP– Helen Williams..... Work phone: 765-854-4220
Cell: 765-480-4375

KEP – Bonna Vore..... Work phone: 765-236-2695
Cell: 765-480-7867

Ergonomics Support	
KTP Representative, Aaron Hochstedler.....	1-765-454-1573
ITP Representative, Jeff Lappin.....	1-765-854-4217
KEP Representative, Mike Guinn.....	1-765-438-7342
FCA Family Health and Wellness Center (Active Employees only).....	765-236-8380
Financial Builders Federal Credit Union.....	1-765-455-0500
.....	1-800-858-8874
Greenslips.....	1-800-756-2886
website: https://www.ea.chrysler.com/employeeadvantage/login.jsp	
KTP Committeemen and Stewards	
Brandon Starkey.....	1-765-454-1064
Chet Cowan.....	1-765-454-1158
John Andrysiak.....	1-765-454-1263
Dave Johnson.....	1-765-454-1026
Jay Plummer.....	1-765-454-1175
Stace Alter.....	1-765-454-4931
Jason Morrow.....	1-765-454-1638
Ted Landrum.....	1-765-454-1648
Tony Vaughn.....	1-765-454-7579
Tim Merritt.....	1-765-454-1049
Chris Goldsberry.....	1-765-454-7481

Derrek Williams.....	1-765-454-1049
Zack Cummings.....	1-765-454-1496
John Hursh.....	1-765-454-1463
Carl Vaughan, Jr.....	1-765-454-7482

ITP Committeemen and Stewards

Andrew Butcher.....	1-765-854-4149
Willis Harvard.....	1-765-854-4462
Eric Stanley.....	1-765-854-4457
Josette Sanchez.....	1-765-854-4113
Adam Bodkin.....	1-765-854-4457
Chad Walker.....	1-765-854-4551
Trish Roberts.....	1-765-854-4460
Jody Yeagley.....	1-765-854-4450
Bruce McEntyre.....	1-765-854-4458

KEP Committeemen and Stewards

Clarence Gaston.....	1-419-905-6719
Tim Pascoe.....	1-765-236-4781
Tony Jewell.....	1-765-398-0269
Scott Butler.....	1-765-432-6933
Gary Holloway.....	1-765-437-5240

Legal Services.....	1-800-482-7700
Medicare of Indiana.....	1-800-633-4227

website: www.medicare.gov

Merrill Lynch (401K).....	1-800-483-7283
Specific questions regarding investment options (Chris Padgett).....	1-800-937-0844

.....	1-317-706-6953
Met Life.....	1-800-638-6420
Optum RX (Retirees).....	855-409-0219
Retiree Health Care Connect.....	866-637-7555
Retiree Servicing (BC/BS of Michigan).....	1-800-521-0488
Retiree's Website.....	http://fcaretirees.com

Security (for emergencies)

KTP.....	1-765-454-1222
ITP and KEP.....	1-765-854-4444
Sedgwick (S&A, EDB, and FMLA).....	1-888-322-4462
Skilled Trades Office (KTP).....	1-765-454-1457
Social Security Administration.....	1-800-772-1213
Solidarity Community Federal Credit Union.....	1-800-999-5894
.....	1-765-453-4020
Standard Care Network (SCN).....	1-800-810-2583

Website: 1) www.bcbsm.com

2) www.bcbs.com/healthtravel/finder.html

Theramatrix.....	888-638-8786
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(Outpatient Physical Therapy phone number to find Provider for Active Employees)

Tru Hearing (Hearing Aid Provider Retirees).....	844-394-5420
Tuition Assistance Program (TAP).....	1-586-427-6757
TAP Representative KTP, Nick Wunderlich.....	1-765-454-1265
TAP Representative ITP, Katina Thomas.....	1-765-854-4363
TAP Representative, KEP, Rhonda Johnson.....	1-765-236-2280

UAW Local 685.....	1-765-459-3133
(Fax).....	1-765-454-5464
Website:.....	www.local685.org

United Health Care Medicare Advantage.....	844-320-5021
US Med – diabetic supplies (active and retiree).....	1-800-787-6331

Workers Compensation

Ombudsman Office.....	1-800-824-2667
website:.....	www.in.gov/workcomp
Workforce Development Helpline.....	1-800-437-9136
File a claim on line at.....	www.in.gov/dwd/

Monthly Meeting Notices!

Union Membership Meeting

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Tuesday, October 20, 2026

8:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. & 5:00 p.m.

UAW Local 685, 929 E Hoffer St., Kokomo, Indiana

A. Philip Randolph Committee
Isaac White, Chair
4:30 PM
Thursday, September 24, 2026
Thursday, October 22, 2026

AFV, Unit 1
Cathy Spencer, Chair
As announced by chair

By-Laws Committee
TBD, Chair
4:00 PM
Monday, September 14, 2026
Monday, October 19, 2026

Chaplains Committee
Will Price, Jr., Chair
4:45 PM
Monday, September 14, 2026
Monday, October 12, 2026

Community Service
TBD, Chair
4:30 PM
Tuesday, September 8, 2026
Tuesday, October 13, 2026

Education Committee
TBD, Chair
3:00 PM
Sunday, September 13, 2026
Sunday, October 11, 2026

Executive Board
4:30 PM
Wednesday, September 9, 2026
Wednesday, October 14, 2026

Howard County CAP
Tina Durham, Chair
5:00 PM at 1201 W Alto Rd
Wednesday, September 23, 2026
Wednesday, October 28, 2026

685 CAP Committee
TBD, Chair
1:00 PM
Sunday, September 13, 2026
Sunday, October 11, 2026

Organizing Committee
TBD, Chair
4:30 PM
Monday, September 21, 2026
Monday, October 19, 2026

Recreation Committee
TBD, Chair
4:00 PM
Sunday, September 13, 2026
Sunday, October 11, 2026

Stewards Council
5:00 PM
Monday, September 14, 2026
Monday, October 19, 2026

Veterans Committee
TBD, Chair
2:00 PM
Sunday, September 6, 2026
Sunday, October 4, 2026

Women's Committee
TBD, Chair
5:00 PM
Tuesday, September 1, 2026
Tuesday, October 6, 2026

Union Label Committee
TBD, Chair
Following membership meeting
Tuesday, September 15, 2026
Tuesday, October 20, 2026

Retirees Regular Meeting

Catered Meal

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

Wednesday, October 14, 2026

6:00 P.M.

UAW Local 685

929 E Hoffer St • Kokomo, Indiana

Bring your spouse or a friend

UAW Local 685 Retirees Chapter

Ron Bendixon Chairman and Region 2-B Retired
..... Workers Executive Board Member
Mike Rankert Vice Chairman
Mark Hornstein Recording Secretary
Dana Wilson Treasurer
Don Riebe Sgt-At-Arms

"Stock It"

The retirees are asking that each person that attends the meeting donate a non-perishable food item (canned goods). These items will be collected by an area food bank (a different one each month) to help restock the food pantries all year long.

Just one item from each person, just once a month

If any of our active members would like to donate canned goods for this project, they can drop them off at the Union Hall on the 2nd Wednesday of each month when the retirees hold their meeting or they can be brought to the regular membership meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

CHAPLAINS COMMITTEE

If you need help with any spiritual needs, feel free to call a chaplain through your steward or call the Union Hall (459-3133). All the members of the committee have received a call to be of service to our members. You may request a certain chaplain, or you may simply request that one of the chaplains be available to help in your time of need. They stand ready to help meet our spiritual needs.

Local 685 Chaplains Committee:

	Dept.	Shift
Will Price, Chair	Retired	ALL
Roland Tyler	Retired	ALL
Kerry Ellison	Retired	ALL
Henry Carter	Retired	ALL
Mike Woodson	Retired	ALL
Jeremy Hook	Dept. 7700	1
Omar Daniels	Dept. 5690	1
Rich Galbreath	Dept. 4271	2
Timothy Kemper	Dept. 6100	1
Larry Quirk	Dept. 7700	1
Jason Graves	Dept. 4265	1
Tonia Carroll	Retired	ALL

2026 LOCAL 685 ELECTED OFFICIALS



Local 685 Employee Assistance Program

Bonna Vore, KEP Representative



This month's topic: Perseverance

Noun: continued effort to do or achieve something despite difficulties, failure, or opposition

A person who continues to overcome obstacles and pushes through difficulties to reach a goal is said to have perseverance. This concept can be applied throughout a wide variety of life experiences like issues at work, family situations, political disagreements, or social injustices. Perseverance is needed when you are learning a new skill and allows you to keep going even though the task is becoming frustrating. When you know you are on the right track, but life gets relentless, remember that it will not be this way forever. Stay on the right course, and success will be easier to attain in the end.

DISCLAIMER: The information provided in this article is not intended to diagnose or treat any mental health conditions. For proper diagnosis and treatment, see your EAP Rep or doctor for a referral to a mental health professional.

In Memory

Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, has called to His eternal reward the following members of UAW Local 685:

Timothy McAninch

Retired – Dept. 4270

Michael Carl Kordel

Retired – Dept. 8000

Kathy Hicks

Retired – Dept. 5601

Harold Clem

Retired – Dept. 9400

Herbert Slack

Retired – Dept. 4977

Phillip A Pearson

Retired – Dept. 4360

William Burton, Jr.

Retired – Dept. 8700

Jack Winegardner

Dept. 7900

Family Scholarship Program

Christopher Kenyon

Hello Brothers and Sisters, I want to begin by expressing my sincere gratitude to our leadership for providing us the opportunity to participate in such a wonderful event. Our Union Scholarship Program. As always, Black Lake and our dedicated staff go above and beyond; from the cleanliness to the classroom experience, everything was truly exceptional. I always leave feeling recharged and ready for the next adventure.

I asked my family when we returned home, I wanted them to write down two things, what was your favorite thing at Black Lake and what did you learn. I have four children so let's start with my youngest (6yrs old) Griffin said, "I loved my instructors which are also called Local Union Discussion Leader (LUDL), I loved swimming and playing at the beach, being able to make friends in class, swimming at the pool, and Oh, I can't forget about the food, lol, so good." To say the least Griffin had a blast.

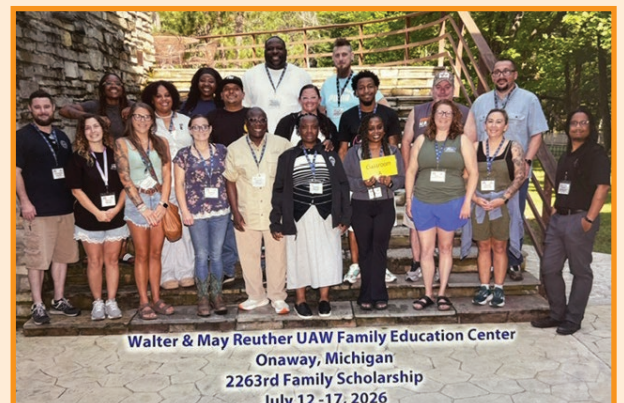
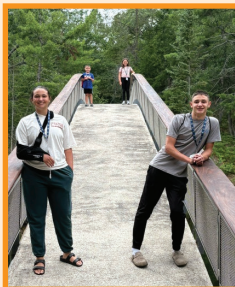
"Hello, my name is Maya Kenyon, and I am 10 years old I learned at Black Lake that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. had a dream of building an education center where union brothers and sisters could come and network together, now we now have Black Lake because of his vision. I learned that solidarity is a group of people coming together for a common cause."

"Hi, my name is Maddux Kenyon, and I am 15 years old and I went to the UAW family scholarship program this summer. A few things I have learned in this experience is that solidarity is the most important thing when it comes to union activities, together we bargain divided we beg. Having this experience, I was able to make friends by networking. I went into this thinking it was all going to be about cars; boy was I wrong. I learned that unions are not only in the car industry but should be all industries around us, unions build up our communities. My time at Black Lake was fun; we learned about how child labor laws were enacted and how we are combating this still today. Thank you for letting me go and learn about the unions and to create lifelong connections."

"Hello, I'm Bella Kenyon and I went to the UAW Family Scholarship this summer and had a lot of fun! Black Lake was an awesome learning experience, it had amazing scenery and the atmosphere was very welcoming. I love the variety of activities and learning opportunities that were provided in our itinerary. I also enjoyed meeting new people from all over the country. Thank you for a great week!"

"My name is Natalie Kenyon (Chris's Wife). Experiencing Black Lake as a family was something we will remember for a lifetime. I gained a lot of knowledge regarding the history of the union, its purpose, and the power in numbers, collective bargaining, and the importance of working together. Meeting members from California to Pennsylvania, and everywhere in between, gave me a different perspective on how lives are affected when companies are not willing to put their workers' needs above their own. Thank you for a great week!"

Recharged: "I encourage everyone to sign up, and let's keep this amazing program available for years to come. Thank you."



Big Pipe, Bigger Cost Savings: Inside the latest piping project at Indiana Transmission Plant (ITP), Kokomo, Indiana

The Projects pipefitter team recently completed a large-scale piping job for the plant. We were tasked with the demolition of the original (circa 1997) cooling tower supply piping and replacing it. This started back in 2021, when the cooling tower piping and supports were visually inspected, along with non-destructive ultrasonic testing of the pipe. The results were not good, as it revealed many failures on the system. The constant weathering elements are hard on systems that are exposed. That is the answer to the question, “how did we get here?” The installation of this piping, with new heat trace wiring and insulation, will future proof this infrastructure for decades to come.

ITP plant engineers received a quote from a contractor to perform this work, and that is the baseline for the cost savings. After we completed the project, I was curious as to how much the plant was saving. When I concluded the cost savings spreadsheet, I was surprised. I knew we were saving money, I did not know how much, though. This team of pipefitters slashed the project expenses— and delivered an incredible \$448,774 in total cost savings, all while significantly updating part of the facilities utilities infrastructure. This is a huge win for the plant, the tradesman, and UAW 685. Even more impressive, this entire project was completed with zero delays and no overtime. That alone represents great leadership, excellent preparation, and even better execution.

At the core, projects succeed because of mutual trust. We are incredibly grateful that ITP’s Manufacturing Engineering Manager, Mark Carlson, places his trust in our capabilities to perform complex work, as he always does. Mark is a crucial factor in our success here, not only with this project, but all of them. Knowing we had the green light to take on this challenge, every single team member stepped up in a big way, and we could not have been happier. This was a profound learning experience for some of the members of the team involved, as well. Every team member gained invaluable insight, grew their skills, and are critical to our ultimate success.

While the cost savings and massive piping in the field get all the attention, this project truly started and took shape long before materials and supplies were delivered. Mountains of invisible, behind-the-scenes work began. There are a lot of detailing and meticulous pre-planning, estimating, and logistics coordination months before materials arrive. From the procurement processes and combing through the blueprints, to logistics and taking measurements. These unseen efforts lay the foundation for successful projects, like this one.



This win comes down to the absolute dedication, and precision, of the Project Pipefitter team. I cannot express enough appreciation for the other pipefitters that made this, and all our projects successful. Handling large diameter piping, like the 30-inch pipe, requires a different technical skill set, safety,



685 Skilled Trades

Projects Coordinator ITP

and rigging, being the primary. These guys did not back down, and braved the demanding field conditions, to execute this installation perfectly. Again, I cannot express my appreciation for these guys enough, and what they all bring to the team. These are the results you constantly get with us, and with every job we do. This project reminded me, again, why I love what I do.

A project of this scale requires a high, superior standard of labor, and this win stands as a direct testament to the knowledge of our skilled trades. We are proud to be a union shop, where top-tier craftsmanship, rigorous safety training, and skillset drive every project forward. This workforce proves that day in and day out, investing in highly skilled, organized labor guarantees superior results, maximum efficiency, and unparalleled job-site safety.

We are securing a lot of good work at the plant. From installing a new process line for the UPE group, to Capital jobs, like this one, and everything in-between. It has been a lot of hard work by everyone that helped to make this successful. I work hard to generate, and secure our work in the plant, and I am happy to see the fruits of their labor.

Clint Nicholson from the projects team said "Ryan Riendeau is very good at getting projects and coordinating them for the crew. Clint also stated that he had all the confidence going into this project knowing his coworkers would be safe and professional which makes him proud of their team and their accomplishments."

Jordan Sterling from the projects crew said "Enjoys coming into to work with such a good group of people to work with makes all the projects better. He also stated that this cooling tower was nice for him getting back to his roots of the job he did before he worked at Stellantis."

Pat Carter, ITP Plant Manager, said "Really proud of the entire team. This was a great project with real cost savings for the plant. It is an impressive testimony to the extraordinary talent we have at ITP to execute something of this magnitude. Excellent job Ryan, Engineering group, and entire Project crew!"

Mark Carlson, ITP Manufacturing Engineering Manager, said "When I first approached Ryan about this potential project, I was already confident that his team possessed the skills and expertise necessary to successfully manage a project of this scope. The primary concern was the timeline. We could not begin too early due to winter weather conditions, and the work had to be completed before summer temperatures made the system operationally critical.

After months of planning and coordination, we determined that not only could our internal team successfully execute the project, but they could do so at a significantly lower cost than outside alternatives. The results have exceeded expectations.

I cannot adequately express what a privilege it is to work alongside the ITP project teams. Time and again, they demonstrate their dedication, professionalism, and commitment to excellence by going above and beyond to deliver outstanding results."



Brothers and Sisters,

First, we would like to thank everyone who took the time to vote and elect us as your Local 685 delegates to the UAW Constitutional and Bargaining Conventions. It was an honor to represent our membership, and we are proud to say that we represented Local 685 with dignity, professionalism, and class.

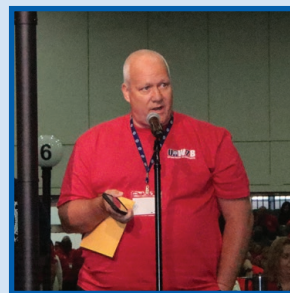
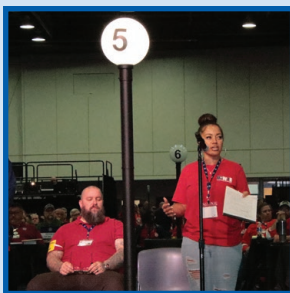
Prior to and during the convention, there were many rumors circulating on social media and through text messages suggesting that delegates were merely “puppets.” We want to set the record straight: your Local 685 delegates were nobody’s puppets, and we never will be. We attended the convention with three responsibilities in mind—to represent the members of Local 685, to represent our brothers and sisters across all UAW locals and sectors, and to make decisions that strengthen the future of our union. We had no hesitation in approaching the microphone, speaking our minds, and standing up for what we believed was right.

There were also claims on social media that delegates and the International Executive Board voted to eliminate breaks during convention proceedings. That is simply not true. Delegates had opportunities throughout the day to use the restroom, get lunch, grab coffee, and take breaks. Delegates chose to do so during guest speaker presentations. That said, we do believe the International Executive Board should have provided a formal agenda as has been done at previous conventions.

One of the most debated resolutions involved increasing the strike fund and adjusting International Executive Board compensation. We recognize that this decision may not be popular with everyone. During debate, it was reported that the Stand-Up Strike utilized nearly half of the union’s strike fund. If we expect to continue taking on major corporations and securing the contracts our members deserve, maintaining a strong and well-funded strike fund is critical. For that reason, your delegates supported increasing the strike fund. However, we did not support the increases to International Executive Board compensation.

Another development that drew our attention was the creation of the LUCA (Local Union Communication Association) Committee as a standing committee. We look forward to seeing how our International leadership implements this initiative. Improved communication between local unions and their memberships has been a recurring concern throughout the UAW, and this committee has the potential to become a valuable tool for keeping members informed and engaged.

One issue we were disappointed to see fail was an effort to strengthen the constitutional language regarding One Member, One Vote. Under the current Constitution, convention delegates retain the authority to change the method used to elect International Executive Board positions. We supported language that would require any future change to the One Member, One Vote system to be approved directly by the membership through a secret mail ballot. Unfortunately, that proposal did not pass. While disappointed by the outcome, we gained valuable insight into what will be necessary to build support for this proposal at the 2030 Constitutional Convention.



tion Convention 2026

Lastly, we were successful in getting a resolution passed that expands the eligibility requirements for retiree status within the UAW. Under the new language, members with a minimum of 10 years of service who are at least 55 years old, or members with 30 years of service regardless of age, will be recognized as retirees and will be eligible to vote and utilize their local union hall.

Unfortunately, members who retire while still in progression before the 2026 International Executive Board election will not be eligible to vote in that election. The resolution was written to allow retiree voting rights to begin with the 2030 International Executive Board election. International leadership stated that this timeline is necessary to properly identify, verify, and establish an accurate list of members who qualify under the expanded retiree provisions.

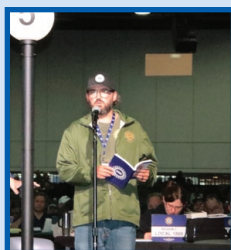
While we would have preferred to see these members gain voting rights sooner, the passage of this resolution is a key step forward in ensuring that more retired members have a voice and remain connected to their union in the future.

Throughout the convention, your Local 685 delegates stood together in solidarity and voted based on what we believed was right, not on what was popular. That commitment to representing our membership honestly and independently will never change. Local 685 is one of the largest locals in our region, yet our level of member involvement does not always reflect that strength. We need members standing together so we can continue making gains both within our local and on the shop floor.

One of our goals moving forward is to help prepare our membership for the 2028 Bargaining Convention. We will work with our Local leadership to ensure Contract Resolution Proposals are distributed in a timely manner so members can review and submit ideas. We encourage everyone to participate by submitting proposals for non-economic issues that you would like to see addressed.

We also invite all members to attend our monthly union meetings. If you have questions, concerns, or ideas, you can speak during New Business and make your voice heard. That is how our union democracy works, and that is how meaningful change happens. Together, through education, involvement, and solidarity, we can continue building a stronger Local 685 and a stronger UAW for future generations.

***In Solidarity,** Denny Butler, Bill Guinan, Chris Pavey, Tim Eller, Jessica Collier, Chet Cowan, Mandi Drake, Zack Cummings, Warren D Holloman Sr, Willis Harvard, Jody Yeagley, and Josette Sanchez*



UAW Local 685 Community Service Committee Presents

Pop-Up Vendor Market

Proceeds will help support Alzheimer's &
Dementia fundraising efforts

- Vendor tables: \$35
- Reserve table by Sep 4th
- Saturday, Sep 19
- Location: 929 E Hoffer St Kokomo, IN
- 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

- Looking for vendors selling:
- Food
- Art
- Clothing
- Food Trucks
- Handmade Goods
- Hair products
- Jewelry & More

More info contact
Kim Story

765-437-3428

kjp-ozeiu#98-afl-cio

Everyone is
Welcome!!!



fight the fight against BREAST CANCER 2026

To Treasured Supporters of the Annual UAW 685 Women's Committee Howard County Breast Cancer Initiative:

For many years, you have stood strong and united with the UAW Women's Committee in the "Fight Against Breast Cancer" here in Howard County.

Your impactful support has been an integral part of the success of our campaigns in the past. We are still very much in that fight today.

We need your support as we continue to rally around this important cause here in Howard County.

The UAW Women's Committee will be hosting a variety of fun and engaging events to energize the community to help us meet our important financial goal!

On Saturday, October 3rd we are hosting a concert featuring "The Time Travelers" @ UAW 685 Union Hall.

If you're interested in being an event Sponsor (information below) or reserving a table or tickets please contact Tammy Mohr ASAP by phone, email, (kokomotammy@gmail.com) or mail this form to address provided.

All proceeds from the event will benefit the "Fight Against Breast Cancer" here in Howard County. There will be locally sourced fare & refreshments available for purchase. Tickets for this event will be limited, so please make sure to reserve your tables and tickets today.

We are deeply grateful for your past support of the UAW Local 685 Women's Committee "Fight Against Breast Cancer". We hope that you will continue to support this year's fundraising initiatives and help us achieve our goal!

If your business would be interested in a sponsorship, we are still offering those opportunities as well.

Sponsorship

_____\$2500.00 Sponsorship (16 Event Tickets, Event Sponsor Announcement, Sponsor Name in UAW 685 Union Paper, Sponsor Flyer will be available at door for all participants.)

_____\$1000.00 Sponsorship (8 Event Tickets, Event Sponsor Announcement, Sponsor name in UAW 685 Union paper, Sponsor Flyer will be available at door for all participants.)

_____\$500.00 Sponsorship (8 Event Tickets, Event Sponsor Announcement, Sponsor name in UAW 685 Union Paper, Sponsor Flyer will be available at door for all participants.)

_____\$200.00 Sponsorship (8 Event Tickets, Event Sponsor Announcement, Sponsor Flyer will be available at door for all participants.)

Make Check to UAW 685 Women's Committee or mail to Tammy Mohr 2307 South Wabash Avenue, Kokomo, IN 46902.



UAW LOCAL 685
WOMEN'S COMMITTEE



17TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING FUNDRAISER

SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

American Legion Golf Course
2604 S. Lafountain St.
Kokomo, IN 46902

Check-in: 7:30am

Opening ceremony: 8:15am

Tee Time: 8:30am

\$50 per player



AT LEAST 1 TEAMMATE MUST BE A UAW MEMBER.

18 holes - 50/50 Raffle - Mulligans for \$5 - Lunch will be served!

Prizes for 1st, 2nd, and Last place. (Prizes TBD)

Pre-register your team by turning in this form and money by **Sept 4, 2026.**

The number of carts is limited, so please pre-register ASAP by texting

Jen Greathouse 765-507-1256 or Millie Dunnuck 765-461-6954

or give this form to any Vets Committee member.



PROCEEDS WILL SUPPORT VETERANS WITHIN LOCAL 685 AND OUR COMMUNITY.

Team Captain Name: _____
Team Captain Phone Number: () _____

Player Name: _____
Phone Number: () _____

Player Name: _____
Phone Number: () _____

Player Name: _____
Phone Number: () _____

✓ UAW Member

☐
☐
☐
☐

"PETAL TO THE METAL" BOUQUET BAR



DATE: SEPTEMBER 2ND, 2026

TIME: 6:00-8:00 PM

LOCATION: 929 E HOFFER ST, KOKOMO, IN 46902

PUT THE "PETAL TO THE METAL" AND JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF BOUQUET MAKING AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AS FLOWERS FEED FOLKS BRINGS A BOUQUET BAR TO THE UAW LOCAL 685 WOMEN'S COMMITTEE. FUNDS RAISED WILL SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF FLOWERS FEED FOLKS AS THEY GROW AND SELL FLOWERS IN ORDER TO GROW AND DONATE FOOD TO OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY PARTNERS.

MEET YOUR HOSTS:

FLOWERS FEED FOLKS (FLOWERSFEEDFOLKS.ORG) IS A LOCAL NON-PROFIT WORKING TO SOW THE SEEDS OF COMMUNITY AND ESTABLISH THE ROOTS OF FOOD SOVEREIGNTY FOR OUR HOWARD COUNTY.

THE UAW LOCAL 685 WOMEN'S COMMITTEE IS COMMITTED TO COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND THE BELIEF THAT COMMUNITIES ARE STRONGER WHEN WE WORK TOGETHER.

HOSTED BY



FLOWERS FEED FOLKS
"GROWING BEAUTY TO FEED
OUR NEIGHBORS"

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Adopt - A - Highway

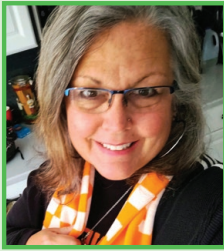
All Volunteers Welcome!



Sunday, Sept 20

10:00AM – until finished

- ✓ Clean up US-35 between mile markers 108-110.
- ✓ Cleaning items supplied by INDOT.
- ✓ Contact Jeff Emmons 765-438-1932
- ✓ Rec Meeting and lunch immediately following



Local 685 Recreation and Conservation Committee

Kym Dieselberg

Greetings membership! Kokomo Beach was an enormous success this year. About one thousand people came out to enjoy the weather, including the 2 days when it was rainy. We have posted the pictures we took while everyone was having great family time for your enjoyment. Thank you for attending the events, we LOVE to see our membership enjoying their union dues and appreciate all the compliments on trying to do more things instead of just one big event.

Do not forget the trip on the Tippy coming up on the weekend of August 21-23 with a 15% discount for everyone to get their crew together and make great memories. Please send us your pictures that you take for our newsletter and Facebook. You will have the option of renting a canoe or kayaking, unfortunately they are not doing the tube floats this year. Ray's Canoes and Kayaks, the website raysriver.com is a family-owned business and the flyers are posted along with them on Facebook. Hoping you have already reserved your timeslots so they can have the right amount of equipment ready for the event to prepare for our arrival, if not do so stat You should be receiving text messages from the hall reminding you of all the events we are having.

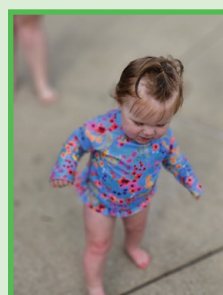
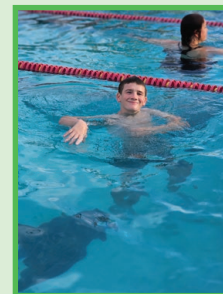
We have finally got the game put together in Cincinnati playing the Cubs because I do not know what it means to give up. At the time of this article, we are about 95% on the bus (Praise the Lord!) and we are planning to leave the hall at 10:30am so we can do a pub crawl or sightseeing before the game. If you are interested and we still have space, we would love to have you join us. Please contact me to check 765-860-0297.

With a heavy heart this will be my last event as chair for the Conservation and Recreation Committee. I have really enjoyed doing this over the last 6 years. Hanging with friends I made here and meeting new sisters and brothers has been amazing and I cannot say enough about my committee...**YOU GUYS' ROCK!** I could not have done it without you, and I love you all so much. I will still be around, just not as active because I plan to retire in October. Thank you for everything you have given me since taking on this position and I hope that after reading this you will want to get more involved in the union because it takes a village to keep things going. I will miss you all when I leave but we all know it will be just another chapter in my life. xoxo -Kym

Signing out for the last time

"Keep it classy UAW!"

In Solidarity!





Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

The Employee Assistance Program seeks to help those employees whose living and/or work problems cause their job performance to deteriorate. We can help with problems such as absenteeism, tardiness, alcohol/drug abuse, and other personal problems. Situations such as these within the family may be causing personal or employment problems. The responsibility of the Employees Assistance Program is to search out the cause factor(s) at the earliest possible stage through confidential counseling and referral of employees and/or members of their families to provide the very best assistance available.

A high percentage of troubled employees recover with confidential assistance and proper referral.

EAP representative for ITP employees:

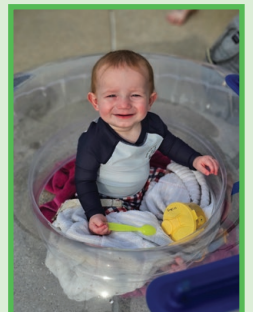
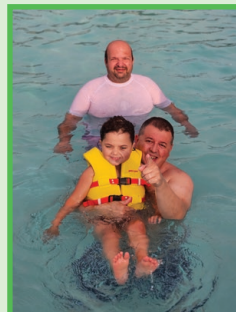
Helen Williams Work phone: 765-854-4220
Office at ITP Cell phone: 765-480-4375

EAP representative for KTP employees:

Barrett Riggs Work phone: 765-454-4992
Office at KTP Cell phone: 765-431-4922

EAP representative for KEP employees:

Bonna Vore Work phone: 765-236-2695
Office at KEP Cell phone: 765-480-7867





Local 685 Civil Rights Committee

Rashel Gray

On June 23, the Indianapolis Urban League hosted its annual Equal Opportunity Day Fund-raising Luncheon at the Convention Center. This event granted scholarships not only to high school graduates but also to adults to continue their education. These scholarships ranged from healthcare, robotics, business owners, foreign language, skilled trades, and so much more.

Donations poured in from sponsors and individuals totaling \$55,000 by the end of the afternoon. It was highlighted by keynote speaker Stacy Abrams, former governor of Georgia and a Minority Leader of the Georgia House of Representatives. Some of her accomplishments outside of being a political leader and voting rights advocate include collaborating with her business partners to create several nonprofit organizations dealing with social issues and serving the community through voter engagement. Abrams wrote two bestselling books for the New York Times called 'Our Time is Now' and 'Lead from the Outside'. Her dynamic speech emphasized the importance of knowing that sometimes the road in front of you looks like a dead end; therefore, you must be willing to build the rest of the road in order to continue on with your journey. Realize that your path may not be freshly paved, so expect bumps, but never give up on yourself because giving in is not an option. Desire to defy the odds no matter what the outcome may be.



Equal Opportunity Day wasn't just about Stacy Abrams and her speech, but it informed individuals that feeling overwhelmed in life is ok. However, you must keep moving forward, yearning to learn more every chance you get if change is to happen. Hold others accountable when injustices are rearing their ugly heads. These challenges give us tenacity, compassion, empathy, and the understanding that we all may not look the same or have similar interests but should have the same opportunities. Dare to be different!

"Where you see wrong or inequality or injustice, speak out, because this is your country. This is your democracy. Make it. Protect it. Pass it on."- Thurgood Marshall, 1978



Congratulations on 39 years of service Brother William Price.

Local 685 Veterans Committee

Jeff Emmons, Chair



Standing Together for Our Veterans and Our Community

As summer comes to an end, the UAW Veterans Committee is looking forward to a meaningful September filled with opportunities to remember, give back, and make a difference. We invite all our UAW brothers and sisters, retirees, families, and friends to join us as we come together in support of those who have served our country and those who continue to need our help.

On September 11, we will gather for our annual Stellantis/SVG Ruck March to remember the innocent lives lost during the terrorist attacks on America. Together, we will complete a 2.2-mile march in honor of the victims, the brave first responders, the members of our Armed Forces, and the countless heroes whose courage and sacrifice continue to inspire us. As we walk side by side, we are reminded that even the smallest steps taken together can honor the past and strengthen our future.

On September 13, our 17th Annual Veterans Golf Outing is more than just a day on the golf course; it is a day of fellowship, laughter, and giving back. Every golfer, sponsor, volunteer, and donor helps make a real difference in the lives of local veterans. We are incredibly grateful for the continued support that has helped this event grow year after year.

On September 16 -19, we hope you will stop by the UAW Veterans Committee booth during the Howard County Vietnam Veterans Organization Healing Grounds event. We will be selling tickets for our gun raffle throughout the event, with the winning ticket drawn at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 19. It's a great opportunity to visit with fellow union members, veterans, and community supporters while helping us continue our mission.

Because Every Veteran Matters

The proceeds from our Veterans Golf Outing and Gun Raffle will directly benefit the chronically homeless veterans at Jackson Street Commons. These men and women answered our nation's call, and through your support, we can help ensure they know they have not been forgotten.

We are also proud to share that, thanks to the incredible generosity of our members and supporters, the UAW Veterans Committee recently presented a check for \$9,000 to Jackson Street Commons. Those funds were raised through our Veterans Committee T-shirt sales and our 1st Annual Bowling Fundraiser, and they will help support local veterans who are working to rebuild their lives.

Every shirt purchased, every raffle ticket sold, every round of golf played, and every volunteer hour given reflects the compassion, generosity, and solidarity of our union family. The UAW has always stood for looking out for one another, and that commitment extends beyond the workplace. Together, we honor those who served, support veterans in need, and strengthen the community we proudly call home.

Thank you for standing with us. We look forward to seeing you at our September events and appreciate your continued support of the UAW Veterans Committee. We are always looking for new members to join the Veterans Committee; you do not have to be a veteran to join.

If you would like to join our UAW Local 685 Veterans Committee, we would love to have you. You don't have to be a Veteran to join our committee. All we ask is that you share mutual respect and love for each of our nation's heroes.

In Solidarity!



Local 685 Women's Committee

Tammy Mohr



The Women's Committee missed our article in the last newsletter. We would like to catch everyone up on what the Women's Committee has been doing.

In April, the Women's Committee had the meeting at the Kokomo Rescue Mission along with a tour of their new addition.

On April 26, the Women's Committee help the Veterans committee with their Bowling Tournament all proceeds going to Jackson Street Commons home for homeless Veterans. Mike Perry made keychains for all Veteran's and Bowlers. Mike also helped with silent auction items.

Our May meeting had guest speaker Alize White talking about her spiritual book, 'Still Here'. We presented her with a dress bridal basket because she will be marrying Referend Micheal Carsen in a few months. In May the Women's Committee had their first Zumba Class with our wonderful instructor Chad McCater. It is still going strong!

On May 18th we had the Annual Breast Cancer Awareness BobKat game. We teamed up with the Advanced Medical Imaging Center. It was a great game, Thank You, Kokomo BobKats. The Women's Committee help CTBU with a donation of slippers and socks for the Atlanta Conference to help the less fortunate in Atlanta.

On May 12th and 13th, the Region 2B Advisory Council met, and Tammy Mohr ran unopposed for Recording Secretary.

Also, in May we did Teacher Appreciation Breakfast for thirty teachers at Kokomo High School. Mike Perry made 3D Apples for all the teachers.

Our June Meeting we had Flowers Feed Folks Speak. We will be having an event to support the cause at the hall on Wednesday, Sept. 2, from 6 to 8 pm. On June 27th, we had our Breast Cancer Awareness Creek Chubs baseball game. Our Breast Cancer Survivor Rachel Green threw out the first pitch. She did a wonderful job! We gave out breast cancer ribbons and sold our Creek Chubs Breast Cancer Awareness T-shirts. Thank you, Creek Chubs, for a great game.

We had our Breast Cancer Harley Davidson Ride on Sat. Aug. 15th. Thank you, Harley Davidson of Kokomo.

We will be having our Annual Breast Cancer Awareness Concert with the talented Time Travelers Band. It will be at the hall on Sat, Oct 3 at 7 pm. Our theme this year is the Statue of Liberty (Lady Liberty). We will be selling T-shirts, and Mike Perry made 3D Lady Liberty ducks to sell.

Our Next Meeting will be Tues Sept. 1 at 5 pm Everyone is invited.

In Solidarity!



Happy Retirement

RETIRING MEMBERS OF UAW LOCAL 685

The officers, committeemen, stewards, and the membership of UAW Local 685 wish you the best of luck and many happy years in retirement.

There is a website that may contain information of interest to you. Check out www.chryslerretirees.com.

As a retired member of the Local Union, you are automatically a member of our Retirees Chapter. Their

regular meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at the Local Union Hall. The meeting starts at 6:00 P.M. and includes a catered meal. We urge you and your spouse to attend. You will enjoy renewing acquaintances with old friends and fellow workers and forming new friendships. You will benefit from joining with them in support of programs designed to advance the interests of retired members and their families.



Randell Barber
Dept. 4190
Corp. Date 3-11-96



James Brading
Electrician
Corp. Date 6-03-85



Matthew Bradley
Dept. 9400
Corp. Date 5-28-96



Jon Bushong
Dept. 3200
Corp. Date 6-10-13



Mark Cardwell
Dept. 9400
Corp. Date 5-06-96



Jason Coombs
Dept. 7500
Corp. Date 4-22-96



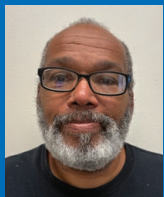
John Cottingham
Electrician
Corp. Date 10-20-98



Ronald Davis
Dept. 9400
Corp. Date 2-23-98



David Eckenboy
Dept. 5490
Corp. Date 12-14-95



Rex Grady
Dept. 7500
Corp. Date 9-05-95



Pamela Graves
Dept. 4265
Corp. Date 9-11-95



Kathy Hartsch
Dept. 7600
Corp. Date 9-05-95



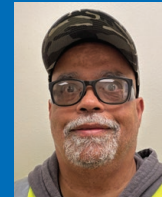
Vincent Hobbs
Dept. 9450
Corp. Date 3-16-98



Mylyna Jackson
Dept. 4190
Corp. Date 4-05-94



Roseellen Jackson
Dept. 5490
Corp. Date 4-25-94



Monte Kemper
Dept. 4190
Corp. Date 9-06-95



Rick Latta
Dept. 9400
Corp. Date 2-23-98



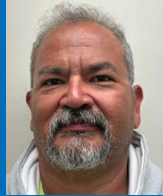
William Messer
Toolmaker
Corp. Date 12-08-97



Lynda Morris
Dept. 7100
Corp. Date 4-01-96



Anthony Nelson
Dept. 4190
Corp. Date 6-09-88



John Phalen
Dept. 4190
Corp. Date 5-02-96



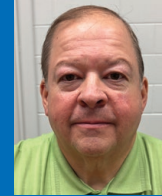
Larry Reagan Jr.
Dept. 9500
Corp. Date 7-31-95



Amy Shipe
Dept. 9400
Corp. Date 5-03-96



Timothy Simpson
Machine Repair
Corp. Date 6-06-95



Travis Snider
Jitney Repair
Corp. Date 2-07-00



John Stout II
Dept. 5690
Corp. Date 8-01-94



Robert Summers
Dept. 7500
Corp. Date 5-02-96



Johnny Walker
Dept. 3700
Corp. Date 1-20-97



Tommy Werst
Dept. 7700
Corp. Date 4-15-96



Lisa Whisler
Dept. 7100
Corp. Date 4-11-94



Stacy Wines
Dept. 7600
Corp. Date 2-23-98

David Byrd
Dept. 6100
Corp. Date 4-15-96

John Geary Jr.
Dept. 9450
Corp. Date 9-06-88

Lori Malone
Dept. 4272
Corp. Date 3-28-96

Mark Martin
Dept. 9500
Corp. Date 2-09-98

Michael Meredith
Dept. 8190
Corp. Date 9-11-95

James Netherton
Dept. 7500
Corp. Date 5-20-96

Brian Paul
Dept. 6100
Corp. Date 10-10-94

Rex Pavey
Dept. 7100
Corp. Date 5-02-94

Kenneth Savage
Dept. 8345
Corp. Date 5-06-96

Ted Secrease Jr.
Dept. 9500
Corp. Date 3-02-98

Douglas Shrock
Dept. 8270
Corp. Date 5-09-96

Anthony Strickling
Dept. 4190
Corp. Date 3-03-89

Stanley Tarr
Electrician
Corp. Date 5-05-97

Steven Willis
Dept. 4190
Corp. Date 3-25-96

Bret Witman
Dept. 7600
Corp. Date 11-12-97

Kristi J. Shawhan
Dept. 7700
Corp. Date 6-26-95

UAW Local 685
929 East Hoffer Street
Kokomo, Indiana 46902-5797



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Kokomo, IN



-NOTICE- Skilled Trades

Do you have ideas or complaints?
Then attend your next Skilled Trades meeting!
To be held at UAW Local 685 Union Hall.

Thursday, September 10, 2026

Thursday, October 15, 2026

8:45 AM – 1:30 PM – 4:00 PM

Any Skilled Trades Journeyman wishing to apply for a UAW Journeyman Card and who can either prove eight years' experience in that trade or is a graduate apprentice of that trade should contact their committeeman, Chet Cowan, KTP, 454-1158, Eric Stanley, ITP, at 854-4457 or Tim Pascoe, KEP, 236-4781.

Thank You Cards

From the families of:

**Viola Marie
Guffey, Michael
Mims, Charles
Story, Sandra
Ann Wisher, Jerry
Pence, Teresa
Price, and Donald
Fennell.**