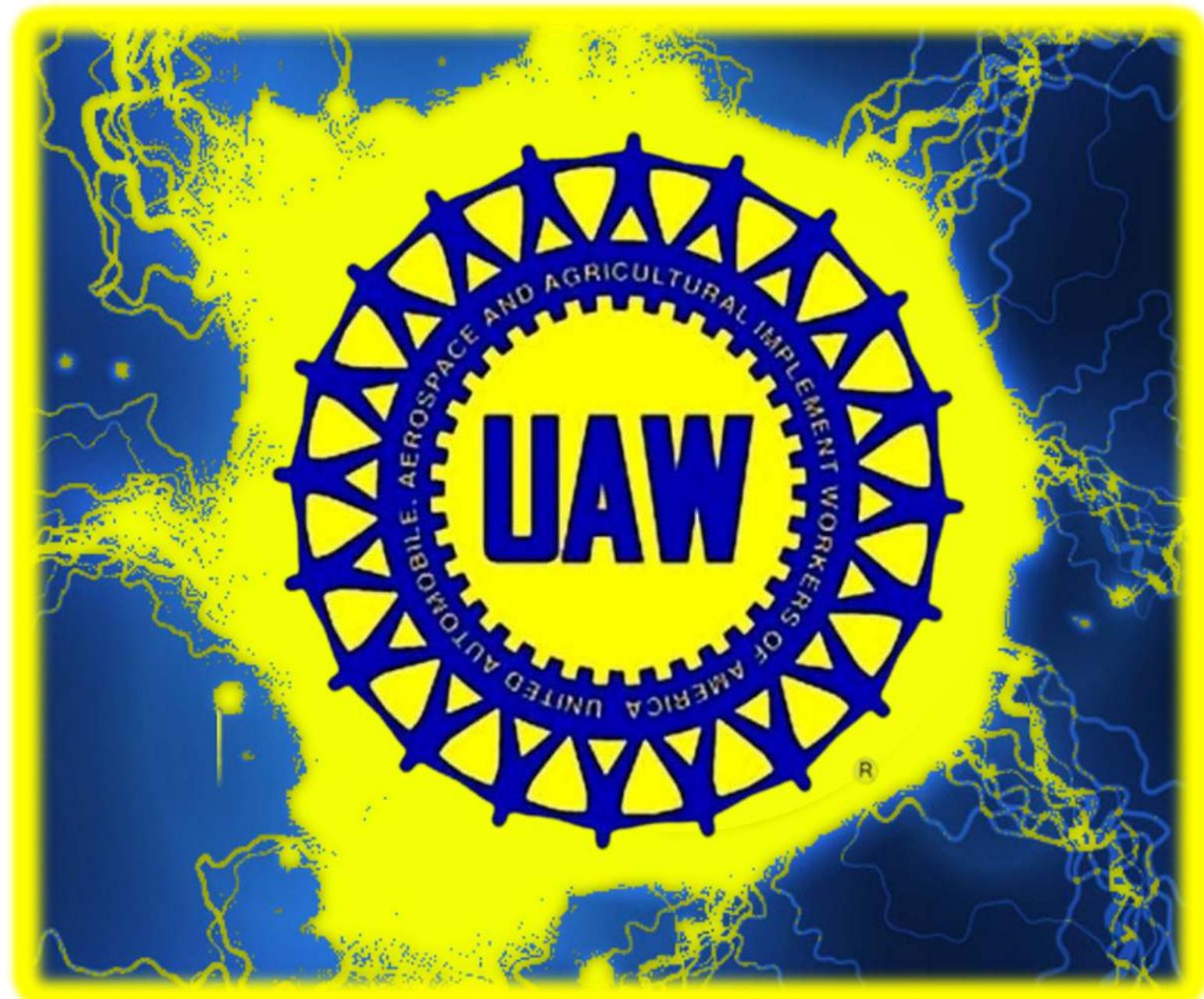


# WE ARE BELVIDERE 2025

## INVEST IN US!!



---

### **UAW Local 1268 Leadership**

Page 2—Matt Frantzen, UAW 1268 President  
Page 3—Tony Cavallaro Vice President  
Page 5—Stacey Dahle, 2nd Vice President  
Page 9—Michelle Lopez, Recording Secretary  
Page 10—Mike Moe, Financial Secretary

---

### **Events**

Page 4—Special Meeting  
Page 5—Northern IL Food Distributions  
Page 9—The Tender Touch Project  
Page 10—Labor Day Parade  
Page 14—Benefits Office

Page 17—Hometown Christmas

### **Committees**

Page 11—Election  
Page 15—Chair Reports  
Page 16—Union Label  
Page 17—Veterans & Womens



Brothers and Sisters-

This year we've seen the corporation re-commit to Belvidere with the Jeep Compass and Jeep Cherokee products. I recently had the opportunity to visit the Dome at CTC and see the vehicles myself. They look great, and if they are priced right, they will provide a strong future for our membership and for our community.

As we continue waiting for an official timeline on these projects, we have seen some movement over the latter part of the year. Most of this activity has been focused on management functions. Corporate has hired a Launch Director and Launch Managers for Assembly. Several engineers have been in the plant evaluating what needs to be updated and what equipment can be saved. We've also been told that HR representation will be in place within the first quarter of next year.

I know this doesn't seem to directly help our hourly members who are laid off or waiting to come back home. The reality is that these are the steps the corporation must take to set themselves up before hourly members can be recalled. It's important to note that none of this groundwork was happening under the original 2023 agreement. That means we are moving in the right direction.

We've had several important developments within the Local that you may not be aware of:

- **Unit 9- SBM Janitorial Services**

On September 1<sup>st</sup>, Caravan took over janitorial operations. With this transition, Caravan now covers most locations within the corporation.

- **Unit 12- Circuit Clerks**

Unit 12 successfully negotiated a new 3-year agreement, which the membership approved with a 100% unanimous vote. The Bargaining Committee did an outstanding job representing their Unit.

- **Unit 16- Boone County Clerks and Recorders**

Unit 16 has also reached a new 3-year agreement, receiving 100% unanimous approval from the membership. The Bargaining Committee did an excellent job representing their Unit.

- **New Addition- Unit 17 Belvidere PDC**

We are pleased to welcome a new Unit to Local 1268. Unit 17 Belvidere PDC, was previously part of Local 1178, they followed the necessary steps to sever ties with Local 1178 and officially join Local 1268. Great job to all in making this happen!!

- **Local 1268**

The Local celebrated it's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. The Charter was formed August 19, 1965. We've had our ups/downs, we're still hanging on. Here's to another 60 years!!!

Because of our members' unity and strength our Union continues to move forward. Wishing you and your family a Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year. To all of the volunteers that keep showing up, Thank you for your dedication, solidarity and commitment to one another throughout the year.

Matt Frantzen  
President  
UAW Local 1268





Brothers and Sisters,

I know there isn't much news out there but there are very high hopes with the plant starting back up again. There have been many higher-up management individuals walking the plant, which is just baby steps but steps in the right direction to get us back up and started again.

I understand the many people who have been on lay-off going into three or more years now, just wanting to get back to making a paycheck and provide for our loved ones. That time will be here before we all know it. Next time we might all be complaining that we have to work Saturday's (lol).

For all the members that took the retirement/IPR I would like to say that you will be missed and thank you for all that you have done for the plant and especially to the people you worked side by side with and our Local 1268. I would also like to say thanks to any of the people who moved and may not come back to Belvidere.

I know this is easier said than done but continue to stand strong! We are getting closer to the finish line of starting something new and pray for the longevity of these two new Jeeps coming! Let's make that wish on Jan 1<sup>st</sup> and hope that

our plant will start up sooner than expected and beat our last record of being 3<sup>rd</sup> in the world and let us be #1 in the world.

Continue to be kind and help each other during this difficult time because we know that better times are ahead for us. Again, have a safe and happy holiday no matter you may go.

In Solidarity,

**Tony Callavarro**  
Vice President



## **2025-2028 ELECTION COMMITTEE**

Elections were held in September for the 2025-2028 Election Committee. Only ten slots were filled, so another election was held in October. All opened spots were filled, with the remaining members becoming alternates.

Congratulations Everyone!



1. Ryan Hermann - Chair
2. Jeanne Ellis – Co-Chair
3. Arline Simmons
4. Monica Sago
5. Sherry Redmond
6. Rebecca Mabie
7. Kim Larson
8. Matt Smith
9. Laura Diskin
10. Johjuana Grayson
11. Cynthia Miller
12. Dawn C. Williams
13. Justin Cavitt
14. John M. Mann
15. Wil W. Brent

**Alternates:**

- Wendy Graham
- Kanesha Huggins
- Sandra Rodriguez
- Michael E. Usmiller
- Robin Walker
- Rob Taylor
- Anjela Red
- Brett Starkey
- Jimmy Carrell
- Kyle Jefko
- Neal S. Tolodxi Sr.
- Carl Baird



# SPECIAL MEETING CALLED

A special meeting was called on March 1, 2025, to host International UAW President, Shawn Fain, and Kevin Gotinsky, Director, UAW Stellantis Department. Region 4 Director Brandon Campbell, and John Stanfill, Stellantis Department Servicing Representative also joined 1268 President Matt Frantzen on updating the membership on the details of the special packages and outside earnings while receiving SUB and more.

The leadership answered questions along with giving individual time with members after the meeting. President Fain assured us that all of them are fighting for Belvidere every day will continue to do so.



## GEORGIE “THE GOAT”



## KERRIE

Meet our newest volunteer, Georgie, a pygmy goat and *kid* of member Dawn Simms.

Although she's less than a year old, Georgie already has joined us in a couple of parades, hoofing along with members and spreading joy along the way.

At the Union Hall, she lends a hoof by efficiently clearing weeds near the back door and even serves as an enthusiastic paper shredder, happily snacking on discarded papers.

Alongside her owner, Georgie has even represented us in a news clip.



**UAW Local 1268 has the best membership!!**

I love working with you and can hardly wait for everyone to come home!!

Have a happy, healthy and blessed Holiday Season!

Kerrie Moreno  
UAW Local 1268  
Secretary





Brothers and Sisters,

2025 has been another year of waiting, but this time, things have felt different. We have spent the year looking forward with hope, encouraged by positive news and progress, the light at the end of the tunnel is now visible. Soon, we will be back to work.

We extend our gratitude to everyone at International who helped make this possible, as well as our elected officials for their dedication to reopening Belvidere Assembly. Our committees and members deserve special thanks for their ongoing commitment to the Local and our communities. Through your involvement, you are making a meaningful difference for our members, retirees, and the community as a whole.

We truly appreciate all who have supported and contributed to our food distribution efforts. Thanks to donations from area businesses, Representative Dave Vella, United Way, and

many others, our distribution days have been extra special. We are deeply thankful to every volunteer for generously sharing your time and talents. We look forward to working alongside you all again in 2026.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Stacey Dahle  
Second Vice President



## NORTHERN ILLINOIS FOOD BANK

The first NIFB Distribution at the Union Hall event took place on September 9, 2023. Since that time UAW Local 1268 members, together with community members, has assisted over 3,279 families in receiving supplemental food.

The Community Service Committee organized school supplies and winter clothing drives, with ongoing support from Anderson Chrysler Dodge Jeep RAM and Kunes Chrysler Dodge Jeep RAM of Belvidere. The committee appreciates their commitment in helping with the community.

Some members consistently go the extra mile. Linda Montes and her friend Cody donate reusable bags to those receiving food. At December 20, 2025, distribution, Unit 1 Benefit Representative Deanna Veil and her son Colton made a special effort by inviting Santa Claus to help distribute snacks and toys to the children in attendance.

We wish to extend our sincere appreciation to State Rep. Dave Vella and United Way of Rock River Valley for their ongoing support and generous donations of books. Also to The Baby Bank in Belvidere for their donation of diapers.

Our volunteers efficiently manage traffic, unload trucks, set up food displays, register and assist recipients, and help carry food to cars. Whether they come often or occasionally, their dedication ensures everything runs smoothly, and their community support is invaluable.

Trail Life USA Troop of IL 2237 regularly volunteers, both as a group and individually. Other community organizations and members also play key roles in these distributions.



State Rep. Dave Vella presented a \$10,000 donation to Northern Illinois Food Bank on behalf of Stellantis.

Troop of IL 2237 Troop of Trail Life USA

J  
A  
N  
U  
A  
R  
Y



F  
E  
B  
R  
U  
A  
R  
Y



M  
A  
R  
C  
H



MAY



JUNE



JULY



AUGUST



SEPTEMBER



OCTOBER



NOVEMBER



DECEMBER 20



DECEMBER 6





It's hard to believe that 2025 is almost over! Our unity and dedication remain as strong as ever. Down here at the Union Hall. Over the past year, many of our fellow units have worked through challenging negotiations, standing firm for fair pay and benefits, and defending their livelihoods when faced with major changes. Notably, Local 1268 secured a key win by bringing Belvidere PDC back as Unit 17—demonstrating the power of solidarity and perseverance when we work together.

And now, a beacon of hope shines on Belvidere! Stellantis has committed to not one, but TWO vehicles—the Compass and the Cherokee! This isn't just about new models; it's about jobs, families, and our community. The plant's reopening means a chance for us to get back on the line, building quality products and securing our future, working shoulder to shoulder, as we always have.

This news fuels our hope, the hope that we, the laid-off members, will soon be back in the plant, doing what we do best, together. Let's keep that hope alive, support each other, and show Stellantis and the world the power of a united workforce. Together, we will rebuild Belvidere and ensure a strong future for all our members. Solidarity forever!"

In Solidarity,  
Michelle Lopez



## THE TENDER TOUCH PROJECT

### *Comfort When It Matters THE Most*

There are moments in life when words fall short, and the world feels unbearably small. Tender Touch exists for those quiet, heavy minutes — to offer a soft hand, a gentle presence, and a small companion that says, without speech, "You are seen. You are cared for."

Our work is simple but sacred: we collect and gently used stuffed animals to bring comfort to people in their most vulnerable times. A child arriving at a shelter after fleeing domestic violence, an adult reeling from sudden loss or

displacement, a patient in a hospital bed or living with Alzheimer's — each receives a plush reminder that someone cares enough to reach out.

Tender Touch has been humbled to place these small comforts where they matter most: with the Belvidere Police and Fire Departments and Cherry Valley Police Department for first-response moments; at Rockin' the Spectrum, B.A.C.A, and Live4Lali are among our recipients of the program.

UAW Local 1268 Tender Touch Coordinators

Jannette Blake      Linda Montes



Boone County Fire Department, District 2



Community Policing Coordinator Jeremy Bell of the Belvidere Police Department



B.A.C.A members



Seasons Greetings my 1268 Sisters and Brothers!!!

We have finally received some great news, but until we get back to running, I would like to remind everyone to be mindful of how they are currently getting paid.

- Please, please take two seconds the next time you manually input for SUB and double click the sheet that you attach every week. Look in the bottom right side of the sheet for your "Benefit Year End Date". You need to be mindful of when that is so that you remember to file a new IDES claim when you get to that point.
- A reminder, you cannot file a claim early! If you file a claim before your year is up, you will receive the exact same sheet you have been using and will still need to file a claim when the year is up.
- To know when you can file, remember that FCA has you use the previous Saturday every week when you put in for your unemployment. When you reach the point that your sheet will be expired by the next time you file for your SUB, then you are at the point you must file a new unemployment claim.
- If you have not worked within the past 12 months at the time of your filing, you will not be actually eligible for unemployment. If you receive a UI Finding sheet showing that you are, please contact me at the hall with your claimant number and I will get a corrected one ordered for you.

- If you have worked in the past 12 months and are not presently working, you will be eligible for unemployment per the State rules (remember to do resume and job search).
- If you are presently working and submitting your pay stubs every week or two, you will just need to get a new UI Finding Sheet (remember to tell your current HR that you will be filing a claim but not claiming unemployment).

Look on the bright side, life will be so much easier once this is behind us and everyone is back to work and receiving a weekly paycheck. If you have a specific question you need answered to this process, the Union Hall is open from 8 am-4 pm daily and I can be reached at 815-544-2111 during those times. I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season!!!

United We Stand Strong,  
Michael Moe  
Financial Secretary



## LABOR DAY PARADE





## ELECTION COMMITTEE

Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to thank everyone that took the time to sign up for the Election Committee. Members from the previous Election Committees were instrumental to the significant progress achieved training the new members. These new members have been used in bylaw elections and two different unit's contract ratification votes.

The year 2026 will be a busy year for the Election Committee. For the first time since 2014 we will have a Constitution Convention Election and General Election in the same year. We are going to be working on new rules of campaigning paper this spring. I want to thank everyone for making the transition as smooth as possible.

In Solidarity,  
 Ryan Hermann  
 Election Committee Chairperson



Thank you  
 2022-2025 Election Committee

Congratulations  
 2025– 2028 Election Committee



# 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF LOCAL 1268

Only a select few pursue the role of President, a position that requires handling many tasks as the leader of our local union. The President is responsible for managing the union's daily operations, supervising officers, committees, and activities in the hall, and supporting unit chairs when needed.

This person also serves as our representative outside the Union Hall while staying accessible to all members.

In 1965 Don Brady was appointed as president until elections were held.

## UAW Local 1268 Presidents

1965-1967	Dave Davenport first elected President	1998	Vice President Dave Woody moved to up to President
1967-1969	Herb Bowie	1999	Dave Woody
1969-1973	Sam Cazazza	1999	Dave Woody accepted an International appointment
1973-1974	Sam Cazazza accepted an International appointment	1999	Vice President EJ Parham moved to up to President
1974	Vice President Mel Gomez moved up to President	2002-2005	CD Graham
1975-1978	Mel Gomez	2005-2008	Tom LittleJohn
1978-1984	Chuck Britnell	2008-2009	Brandon Campbell accepted an International appointment
1984-1990	Bob Kruger	2009	Vice President John Gedney moved to up to President
1990-1991	John Byers accepted an International appointment	2011-2020	George Welitschinsky
1991	Vice President Larry Rielly moved to up to President	2020-2023	Kevin Logan accepted an International appointment
1993-1998	Larry Rielly	2023	Vice President Monica Sago moved to up to President
1998	Larry Rielly accepted an International appointment	2023-2026	Matt Frantzen



1965 Plymouth Fury II 4 door  
 1965 Dodge Monaco 2-door  
 1965 Plymouth Sport Fury Convertible  
 1966 Plymouth Fury III 4 door  
 1967 Dodge Monaco 500  
 1967 Dodge Polar 500  
 1967 Plymouth Fury III Convertible  
 1968 Plymouth Fury III Convertible  
 1969 Chrysler New Yorker  
 1969 Chrysler Town & Country Wagon  
 1969 Plymouth VIP  
 1970 Dodge Monaco 2-door  
 1970 Dodge Monaco Wagon  
 1970 Plymouth Sport Fury  
 1970 Plymouth Fury Wagon

## Vehicles Built At Belvidere Assembly

1972 Chrysler New Yorker	1987 Dodge Omni America
1972 Plymouth Grand Fury Coupe	1987 Dodge Shelby Turbo
1972 Plymouth Grand Fury Sedan	1991 Chrysler Imperial
1974 Dodge Monaco Custom	1991 Chrysler New Yorker
1975 Dodge Royal Monaco	1992 Chrysler Salon
1975 Dodge Royal Wagon	1992 Dodge Dynasty
1977 Chrysler 5th Avenue	1994 Dodge Neon
1977 Dodge Omni b	1995 Dodge Neon Sport
1977 Dodge Omni	1995 Plymouth Neon
1977 Dodge Royal Monaco	1996 Dodge Neon Sport
1979 Dodge Omni 0-24	1996 Plymouth Neon Sport
1982 Plymouth Turismo TC3	1997 Plymouth Neon Highline
1983 Dodge Omni	2001 Neon
1983 Dodge Rampage	2002 Neon SRT
1983 Plymouth Scamp	2003 Dodge SRT 4
1983 Plymouth Horizon	2005 Dodge Caliber
1984 Dodge Omni GLH	2006 Jeep Compass
1984 Dodge Plymouth Turismo	2006 Jeep Patriot
1984 Dodge Shelby Charger	2007 Dodge Caliber SRT4
1985 Plymouth Turismo 2.2	2013 Dodge Dart
1987 Dodge Daytona Shelby	2017 Jeep Cherokee



# RETIREE CHAPTER

Greetings to the Retired members of UAW Local 1268.

On behalf of the Executive Board we warmly welcome you to 2026! Thank you to everyone who dedicated their time and volunteered last year; we truly appreciate your contributions.

## Recaps of 2025

- Our retired members who attended the Region 4 Retiree Retreat in Ottawa this past summer had a fantastic experience and highly encourage more members to attend next year.
- In September, the Trust held their annual meeting and informed us about upcoming changes to our 2026 Benefits.
- Retirees actively volunteered at the food bank and participated at rallies at the Hard Rock Casino. We proudly witnessed our Region 4 Director, Brandon Campbell receive the Lifetime Achievement Award from Rockford United Labor.
- We are honored to give back to our community, including our annual contribution to the Giving Tree.
- Our summer and Christmas luncheons at the Golden Coral continue to be enjoyable, attracting both new and longtime members for great food and company. We eagerly look forward to more gatherings in 2026!

## Monthly Meetings

We would love to see more of our retirees at our meetings, held on the last Thursday of each month at 12:00 p.m. at the Local 1268 Union Hall, (1100 W. Chrysler Dr., Belvidere, IL). Your presence is greatly encouraged.

Here's what to expect:

- Updates on the Local Chapter's business.
- Important news from our Local Union President, Matt Frantzen.
- Benefit updates from our representatives. For questions about benefits, please contact Dawn Rogers, 815-547-2118 or Deanna Viel, 815-547-2468. Special thanks to Dave Ingram and Charrise Staten for their invaluable support to our retirees.
- Guest speakers including the Boone County Health Dept. and local representatives addressing community concerns.
- A delightful lunch featuring delicious fried chicken! Members are kindly asked to bring a dish to pass.

## Solidarity

Remember we are not "former members" of the UAW, we are "forever members". We hope to see you in January, for good food, valuable information, and the wonderful camaraderie of friends. Feel free to bring your spouse to join our meeting! Stay connected by following our Facebook page, UAW Retiree Chapter 1268. I encourage everyone to join the group and check it regularly. Please ensure you answer the required questions to join the group. As we look back on 2025, we honor the memories of our members we lost in 2025. Please keep their families in your thoughts, as well as our sick and shut-in retirees.

In Solidarity,  
UAW Local 1268 Retiree Executive Board

**THE LOCAL UNION VALUES  
THE ONGOING SUPPORT OF  
OUR FOREVER MEMBERS**





DAWN ROGERS  
DEANNA VIEL

# UNIT 1 BENEFIT OFFICE

Dawn Rogers and Deanna Viel are stepping into some huge shoes to fill as they start their new positions as UAW Local 1268 Benefit Representatives. Congratulations to you both.

Thank you Charrise Staten and Dave Ingram for always going above and beyond for this membership. You will be missed by all. Enjoy your next chapter in life.



## *Happy Holidays from the Benefits Office!*

This year has been a time of transition and growth for the benefits office. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Dave Ingram and Charrise Staten for their many years of dedicated service to our membership. Their expertise and commitment have left a legacy—and big shoes to fill! We aspire to carry forward their knowledge and dedication as we continue serving our union family with the same passion and care.

Since they stepped down at the end of May, we've proudly stepped up to assist our union brothers and sisters with all benefit-related needs. We are honored to guide our members through challenging times and excited to embrace the future we fought for—a future made possible by our outstanding quality, production, and teamwork.

As we reflect on this past year, we are proud of the strength and unity that carried us through. Together, we STOOD UP—and achieved—a brighter future. We look forward to contin-

uing this momentum into the new year and beyond, building on the foundation of excellence that defines our membership.

Our office is open Monday through Friday, 5:00 AM to 1:30 PM, and we're always happy to help—in person, by phone, or by email. Thank you for trusting us to be your resource.



Wishing you peace and joy this holiday season and throughout the coming year!

Deanna Viel

815-547-2468

[deanna.viel@stellantis.com](mailto:deanna.viel@stellantis.com)

Dawn Rogers

815-547-2118

[dawn.rogers@stellantis.com](mailto:dawn.rogers@stellantis.com)



UNIT 1  
EAP REPRESENTATIVE

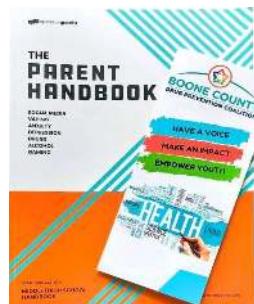
# MIKE WILLIAMS

UAW Local 1268 Unit 1 EAP Representative Mike Williams held a Drug Trend Discussion on Saturday, October 18 and a CPR Training & NARCAN Administration class on November 1, 2025.



The Drug Trend Discussion was presented by BCDPC Program Director Alyssa Rothmaler. Alyssa covered drug trends with marijuana, various vaping products, along with bullying and coping skills for youths.

In the CPR Training & Narcan Administration class attendees were educated on what Narcan is for and how to use it. They received free Narcan to keep on hand or to share with someone in need. The CPR training was for adults and babies and attendees became CPR certified.





## *Holding On To Hope and Solidarity*

As we approach the Christmas season of 2025, it's natural for our thoughts to turn to family, community, and the promise of brighter days ahead. For the members of UAW Local 1268, this holiday period is tinged with the unique challenges we've faced since the indefinite idling of the Belvidere Assembly Plant in February 2023. Yet, even in this time of uncertainty, our union's core strength—our solidarity—shines brighter than any Christmas light.

Our fight to "Keep the Promise" has been long and strenuous. We've weathered layoffs, relocations, and the ongoing struggle for concrete dates and plans from Stellantis management. But the 2023 UAW-Stellantis collective bargaining agreement has provided a roadmap, with the company committing to invest over \$600 million to reopen our plant to build new Jeep models.

This is the hope that fuels our holiday spirit. The prospect of jobs, the hum of the assembly line returning, and the vibrant life of our community being restored are the

gifts we are working towards.

To our brothers and sisters who have transferred to other facilities, accepted buyouts, or retired, know that you are in our thoughts and remain a vital part of our UAW family. To those who remain in Belvidere, patiently waiting for the recall, your resilience is an inspiration.

This Christmas, let's cherish the time we have with our loved ones. Let's remember the power of standing together, as a united front, to hold a multi-billion-dollar corporation accountable.

Our shared history and the promise of a future where good union jobs are the lifeblood of Belvidere give us strength. May your holidays be filled with peace, and may the new year bring us closer to the day when the Belvidere Assembly Plant is back in full swing.

In unwavering solidarity,

Cliff Graham

Unit 1 Chair/Material Committeeman

UNIT 16 CHAIR  
BOONE COUNTY CLERKS

**LAURA BETTIS**



UNIT 9 CHAIR  
CARAVAN

**BRENT WALKER**

I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We closed out the year on a very happy note. We welcomed Amy E Ohlsen as our new County Clerk & Recorder. Unit 16 is looking forward to working for her and with her to continue serving the public and running smooth elections.

Our contract was also up for negotiations and I am happy to report that with only coming to the negotiation table twice, we ratified a new 3-year contract with Boone County.

If you haven't driven by Boone County Admin Campus lately, the building is under construction. We are adding on to the front allowing more office space for the Health Department. Also adding on to the side of the building creating space for two more departments. Hoping to be done with construction November 2026.

Laura Bettis  
Unit 16 Chair

The crew has been working hard maintaining the Belvidere Assembly Plant as the layoff continues for Unit 1.

We look forward to our Unit 1 Brothers and Sisters returning to plant so it will be lively and productive once more.

Brent Walker  
Unit 9 Chair



Unit 9  
extends  
holiday wishes  
to all the units of  
UAW Local 1268.

# RUL ANNUAL LABOR RECOGNITION BANQUET

Rockford United Labor (RUL) held its sixth Annual Labor Recognition Banquet on Saturday, October 25, at the IBEW 364 Union Hall. RUL represents more than 30,000 unionized workers in Winnebago, Boone, Stephenson, Ogle, and Lee counties.

A great dinner was served, and union members and labor-friendly politicians heard from speakers Sara Dorner, President of Rockford United Labor, AFL-CIO, and Tim Drea, President of Illinois AFL-CIO.

UAW Local 1268 President Matt Frantzen presented our UAW 1268 Brother and Region 4 Director Brandon Campbell with the Lifetime Achievement in Labor Award. Congratulations Brandon!

Stacey Davis Gates, President of the Illinois Federation of Teachers, was the Speaker of Honor at the banquet.

Alice Sutherland, AFSCME Local 448, presented the Labor Leader of the Year award to Tonya Burns, AFSCME Local 448.

## Lifetime Achievement in Labor Award

*Congratulations Brandon Campbell*



Stacey Davis Gates,  
President of the Illinois  
Federation of Teachers

Retirees from Local 1268 joined other  
UAW local retirees at the banquet.



## UNION LABEL COMMITTEE

As we reflect on 2025, the Union made products. We are always on Label Committee takes great pride in the lookout for new members to join another year dedicated to pro- in on the fun and welcome anyone promoting union made and American who would like to join. Thank you made products. Our Mother's Day for your continued support and and Father's Day giveaways were a look forward to a great 2026! total hit, and organizing the Labor Day Parade turned out to be a great success.

I really want to thank our committee for your hard work behind the scenes and always showing up for the membership. We are already buzzing about next year and are planning more giveaways and more ways to promote Union/American

Dawn Simms  
Chair



Union Label Committee: Ryan Hermann, Michelle Lopez, Prince, Dawn Simms and Trina Holmes.



Winners of Union  
Label's Mother's Day/  
Father's Day Raffle:  
Mary Bingenheimer  
and Jeff Celletti





# VETERAN'S COMMITTEE

Greetings brothers and sisters,

With still being idled and not having enough members on the committee to do the fundraising as in the past the Veterans committee has been staying financially afloat by holding raffles at the Veterans Spring and fall conferences by raffling off donated items. We know that it will change once we are back to work.

At the fall conference our elections for State and region levels were held. Horace Hubbard ran for the Veterans Region Chairperson position and I ran for the Veterans financial / recording secretary position for the region. We both ran unopposed winning the positions.

To help honor our fallen military hero's this holiday season we donated 12 wreathes to Wreathes Across America

to be placed at the graves of 12 military heroes at the Belvidere cemetery. Please keep our military hero's and their families in your thoughts and prayers this holiday season.

May you all have a Merry Christmas and A Very Happy New Year

Dawn Tree  
Chair



# WOMEN'S COMMITTEE

The Women's Committee hosted their fall craft show on October 4, 2025, with many vendors coming from our own Local 1268 membership. If you're interested in joining our vendor mailing list for 2026, please email [womcom1268@gmail.com](mailto:womcom1268@gmail.com).



On behalf of the UAW Local 1268 Women's Committee, thank you to everyone who has supported our Giving Tree donations each year. These contributions help many families provide holiday gifts for their children. Special thanks to those who donated through the 50/50 raffles at membership meetings, the Retiree's Chapter, Rockford Area Cap, Anderson Dodge, and all members who gave toys or monetary gifts. Your generosity keeps



this tradition alive. Wishing you a Merry Christmas and Happy New

Dawn Rogers  
Chair

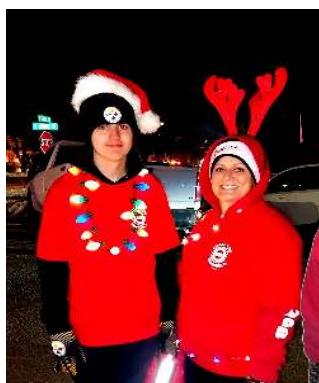
# HOMETOWN CHRISTMAS EVENTS



UAW Local 1268 Committees united to represent our local presence within the community where we work. Members participated in the Light Up the Night Parade, sponsored a family by decorating a tree and preparing gifts for the Giving Tree event at the Community Building, and finally, set up a light display at Doty Park.

The community donated their spare change to vote on their favorite tree. And UAW Local 1268's tree took 1st Place!





# Happy Holidays!!



**Matt Frantzen**  
President

**Tony Callavarro**  
Vice President

**Stacey Dahle**  
Second Vice President

**Michelle Lopez**  
Recording Secretary

**Mike Moe**  
Financial Secretary

**Dawn Tree**  
Trustee

**Linda Montes**  
Trustee

**Horace Hubbard**  
Trustee

**Ron Sodko**  
Sargeant-at-Arms

**Mary Bingenheimer**  
Guide

**Unit 1-Belvidere Assembly Plant: Cliff Graham-Unit Chair/Material Committeeman**

**Tony Montalvo**  
Committeeman  
Skilled Trades

**Mike Campa**  
Steward  
Tap Representative

**Darla Franklin**  
Safety  
Representative

**Mike Williams**  
EAP Representative

**Dawn Rogers**  
Benefit Representative

**Deanna Viel**  
Benefit Representative

**Unit 9-Caravan Janitorial: Brent Walker-Unit Chair**

**Kenny Bass**  
Committeeman

**Kris Pearson**  
Alternate  
Committeewoman

**Unit 12-Boone County Clerks: Heather Austin-Unit Chair**

**Giselle Lenover**  
Alternate Chair

**Unit 16-Boone County Recorders: Laura Bettis-Unit Chair**

**Carlos Mendez**  
EAP-TAP-Attendance  
Representative

**Unit 17-Belvidere PDC: LeGarrett Reed-Unit Chair**

**UAW Local 1268 Retiree Chapter: Dave Woody-Chair**

**Marilyn Spradling**  
Vice-Chair

**Cherie Bartelt**  
Recording Secretary

**Bill Tratnik**  
Financial Secretary

*Let the spirit of Unity and Solidarity  
guide us for success in 2026*

# Happy New Year



## Executive Board

President: Matt Frantzen  
 Vice President: Tony Callavarro  
 2nd Vice President: Stacey Dahle  
 Recording Secretary: Michelle Lopez  
 Financial Secretary: Mike Moe  
 Trustees: Dawn Tree  
     Horace Hubbard  
     Linda Montes  
 Sergeant-At-Arms: Ron Sodko  
 Guide: Mary Bingenheimer  
 Unit 1 Chair: Cliff Graham  
 Unit 9 Chair: Brent Walker  
 Unit 12 Chair: Heather Austin  
 Unit 16 Chair: Laura Bettis  
 Retiree Chapter Chair: Dave Woody

## Social Media

UAW LOCAL 1268 OFFICIAL SITES  
ARE TITLED UAW 1268  
 Website: [uaw1268.org](http://uaw1268.org)  
 FB Page: UAW 1268  
 Instagram: UAW 1268

### \*\*\*\*NOTICE\*\*\*\*

#### UAW Local 1268 on Facebook is a group for members only

The private group on FB, UAW Local 1268, will be cleaned out and people no longer affiliated with UAW 1268 will be removed. You must be a member, retiree, or transfer with intentions to return home to UAW 1268 to remain in the group.

UAW members supported casino workers during their vote to join UAW.

The vote failed.



## 60 MINUTES

UAW 1268 President Matt Frantzen, Recording Secretary Michelle Lopez and Second Vice President Stacey Dahle were interviewed in December of 2024 by 60 Minutes Anchor Scott Pelley on the possible effect of tariffs.



The segment, episode 19 of season 57, aired February 2 2025

## WE ARE BELVIDERE PUBLICATION

This is our third yearly publication since Belvidere Assembly Plant has been down. I wish to thank all our unit chairs, committee chairs, and leadership for submitting articles and photos on this publication..

To see all the publications, visit [uaw1268.org](http://uaw1268.org), scroll on main screen and click on the link: *Publications*

We also have been archiving photos to a memory drive of UAW Local 1268 photos. If anyone has photos they would like to share with the hall of events you attended or with co-workers, recent or old, please share with us!!

In Solidarity,

Mary Bingenheimer, Editor

[marybingenheimer@uaw1268.org](mailto:marybingenheimer@uaw1268.org) or  
[mrbing4uaw@aol.com](mailto:mrbing4uaw@aol.com)

Dawn Simms: [grumpee2@aol.com](mailto:grumpee2@aol.com)

Michelle Lopez: [michelleoropeza@uaw1268.org](mailto:michelleoropeza@uaw1268.org)



LOCAL UNION COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION