

WE ARE BELVIDERE 2024

KEEP THE PROMISE



It has been almost two years since car #11,719,918 came off the end the line, shutting down production at Belvidere Assembly Plant. It has been two years since we lost brothers and sisters of eight units at the parts plants surrounding Belvidere, they left with severance packages, and it is unknown what part plants will come with the new product.

Last year was as big as a rollercoaster ride as 2023. We fought to stay relevant, using every tool and opportunity to keep Belvidere in the spotlight. If nobody knew where Belvidere was, they do now. The local entity has consistently achieved numerous significant firsts.

Throughout 2024 our members and former members continued to participate in the events at the Union Hall. Whether it was volunteering at the food distributions, attending health programs, donating school supplies, winter wear, toys, hygiene products for abuse shelters or just coming down and cleaning up the hall before hearing guest speakers, UAW members attended and participated, not as any particular local, but as We Are Belvidere members. This yearly edition highlights that participation. As members took the job opportunity, they did not forget where home was.

We must recognize our political allies. Belvidere Mayor Clint Morris has made calls on our behalf and has stood with us

every step of the way. Our state Representative Dave Vella, Senator Steve Stadelman, Congressmen Bill Foster and Eric Sorenson immediately went to work making calls even before the plant closed. They also helped secure land and money to make it hard for Stellantis to ignore. They also arranged for President Biden to meet our local President Matt Frantzen, asking him what we needed in June of 2023. President Frantzen told him to make calls, and he immediately got his administration on the phones with Stellantis to keep Belvidere open.

Stellantis continued, and always said Belvidere will reopen, just outside the contract. That was not acceptable, and our International Union went after them for not following the contract. UAW was not alone going after Stellantis; car dealerships and stockholders had their own grievances. CEO Carlos Tavares announced he would leave the company when his contract expires in 2026, but there had to be a push out the door as we all woke to headlines in December reading "Stellantis CEO Carlos Tavares Has Abruptly Resigned" Stellantis finally fixed their biggest obstacle, call it retirement if you like but they shitcanned Carlos.

Without the effort mentioned above, the assembly plant would not be on schedule for 2027. We are smiling, but we will not be excited until we see progress in the plant and our brothers and sisters are coming home.

INDEX

UAW Local 1268 Leadership

Page 2—Matt Frantzen, UAW 1268 President
Page 4—Stacey Dahle, 2nd Vice President
Page 8—Michelle Lopez, Recording Secretary
Page 15—Mike Moe, Financial Secretary

Events

Page 5—Health Fair
Page 6—Keep the Promise Rally
Page 7—Labor Day Parade
Page 9—Hard Rock Casino

Page 10—Rally With the working Class
Page 12—Serving the community, NIFB
Page 18—Rockford United Labor
Page 19—UAW merchandise on sale

UAW LOCAL 1268
MATT FRANTZEN
PRESIDENT

Well, 2024 has been a busy year for our Local. Maybe not in the way all of us would have liked but once again we have made our mark on the community and the country. It has been years since we have had a chance to breathe and be comfortable where we are at. Through all of the ups and downs, more downs than up, we have continued to move forward. We

continued to help the community, when all we wanted to do was get back to work. We continued to hold rallies when all we wanted to do was get back to work. We continued to attend other rallies at various locations when all we wanted to do was get back to work. This unfortunately has been our part in this movement. Definitely not the part we wanted, it's the part we were forced into. We excelled at it and kept our membership, this Local and this community RELEVANT in all that has gone on.

We are a part of the greatest Union in the world. The reason for this is the membership. Not only ours here locally, but all of those that stood up for us and continue to stand for us to ensure we are not forgotten. This opinion may vary amongst the membership, this too, makes this the greatest Union in the world. If you take a step back and look at what has been done for us in Belvidere as far as our sub pay and medical, the membership of our Union got this taken care of for us. The fight that we are all taking on to ensure that product is loaded into our plant. This would not happen if we did not have our Union. To be a part of an organization that accepts you for being active in your Union or if you choose not to be active at all, you have a place in this Union. Love this Union or hate it, that is your choice; Belvidere would not be here if not for the UAW. We all have the right to vote on what is important in our contracts, I am thankful this membership decided that our fate was important to them.

As we move into 2025, we have started to hear some good news about our plant. Again, we have been here before. It is ok to be excited and it is ok to be hesitant about the news. Our position here is that we have to wait and see the steps that are being taken by the corporation to follow through with their commitment on our product. Although I am hesitant, I truly believe we will get a product and be up and running again. I look forward to seeing everyone that has stayed here waiting or those that put in transfers to be back in the plant. I cannot wait for the days when the membership is angry about mandatory Saturdays, forced daily overtime and being scheduled for a holiday weekend, putting everything we've gone through in the rear-view mirror.

In Solidarity, Matt Frantzen, President, UAW Local 1268

UAW LOCAL 1268
ELECTION COMMITTEE
VOTES & ELECTIONS

UAW 1268 Election Committee continued to serve the membership throughout 2024. The committee held strike authorization votes, contract votes, and elections for changes in leadership.

- March: Ryan Schultz, resigned as UAW 1268 Guide and accepted the work opportunity becoming a UAW Local 1178 member. Mary Bingenheimer won the position of UAW Local 1268 Guide.
- John Stanfill resigned from his position, UAW Local 1268 Skilled Trades Committeeman and accepted a position for International UAW as International Servicing Representative. Tony Montalvo won the position of UAW Local 1268 Skilled Trades Committeeman.
- Unit 9, SBM Management ratified their contract.
- July: Vice President Joey Szakalski retired. Tony Cavallo won the position of Vice President.
- November: Unit 1, Belvidere Assembly Plant approved a Strike Authorization vote with 91% YES vote.

Congratulations to everyone who won leadership positions and a thank you to all the candidates that stepped up and ran for a position.



Thank you UAW 1268 Election Committee for making sure our members have a voice during this time.

Merilee Underwood—Chair

Lisa Cole	Ryan Hermann	Reginald Hereford
Trina Holmes	Celena Malvesti	Sonja Penrod
Jeanette Curry	Mark Ricks	
Justo Diaz	Arline Simmons	

COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM

UAW CAP CONFERENCE

JANUARY

The UAW 2024 National CAP Conference was held January 21st - 24th in Washington D.C. The delegates attended general sessions hearing from International Leadership, Regional Directors along with leadership from UAW departments and special guests. Region 4 Director Brandon Campbell met with members in Region 4 sessions.

The days were lengthy and busy; the most significant aspect of conferences is meeting members from various regions. This is where members share their stories. When we mentioned that we were from Belvidere, Illinois, it required no further explanation about our identity or activities; everyone was already familiar with us. A lot of congratulations, along with curiosity and questions about our story. And our delegates, on your behalf and ourselves, thanked and gave gratitude, over and over to those who were called to Stand Up and fought for us.

The Veterans Council displayed colors at the 2024 National CAP Conference. Brother Horace Hubbard, being UAW Region 4 Veterans Chairperson, participated. The council prepared for the 2024 UAW National Veterans Conference that was held in August, marking the 30th anniversary of the first conference in Washington.

The Council also attended the wreath ceremony at Arlington Veterans Cemetery to support a couple of NVAC members who participated in the ceremony. The honor guard not only performed at the wreath ceremony, but the changing of the guard. Horace recommends it is something everyone should see. The Veterans visited the eternal flame, where President John F. Kennedy, his wife Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, and their two infant children are laid to rest.

The Citizenship and Legislative Committee, most often referred to as the Community Action Program (CAP), is the worksite political legislative arm of the local union. The things a CAP Committee does are assist in voter registration, publicizing the issues and positions of public officials and most importantly, we support candidates who support and fight for working people. Thank you for the opportunity to attend.

In Solidarity,
Mary Bingenheimer
UAW 1268 CAP member



Left: Mike Moe, Stacey Dahle, Joey Szakalski, Mary Bingenheimer enjoyed dinner with our 1268 Sister, Assistant Director, UAW Education Department, Maria Medina. **Right:** Joey Szakalski, Stacey Dahle, Congressman Eric Sorenson's staff assistant Nate Blevins, Mike Moe and Mary Bingenheimer. Nate was a former assistant to Representative Dave Vella and Nate was a huge help to our members dealing with their IDES issues.



UAW Color Guard led by Local 1268 Member Horace Hubbard Jr. Veteran Photos from UAW International Union Facebook page



Second Vice President Stacey Dahle, Financial Secretary Mike Moe and former Vice President Joey Szakalski head out to the capitol. Former Vice President Joey Szakalski and former Ohio Senator Nina Turner.



UAW LOCAL 1268

STACEY DAHLE

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

standing strong and staying active, while we wait for good things to happen. So glad we are seeing the needle moving but can't wait to see the needle pointing straight to Belvidere!

These last two years have not been easy, but we have been busy. I am so proud of all our committees, our members and their families and our members that have taken job opportunities and come back to 1268 to continue to serve. Staying active, volunteering, donating time and resources helping the people in the Boone County area. The solidarity of these events provides what is wanted and is needed. I am utterly amazed to be a part of it. Solidarity forever...Thank you UAW family!

Let us take a moment to look back at all you have done. When I reached out to Northern Illinois Food Bank about

It is hard to believe how fast time goes by. 2025 is here!

Thank you all for

doing distributions at the Union Hall, I was looking for some help for our members and the community, so the first one was held in September 2023, and we have been going strong every month since. It would not have continued without the great volunteers that come every month. In 2024, we served 1,469 families and approximately 5,100 people with food assistance.

The Women's Committee Giving Tree has been going on for over 40 years. Many members donated toys and groups donated cash for toys. The Community Service Committee collected school supplies and winter coats, gloves, and scarves for the community. The Local also aided in donations of personal hygiene products for the Women's Shelter during Domestic Violence Awareness in October.

Thank you for your involvement over the past year. We have been doing some really important things for others and making a difference, while we continue to fight for our future.

Stacey Dahle

2nd Vice President, UAW Local 1268

UAW 1268 REPRESENTED AT THE STATE OF THE UNION

MARCH 7, 2024

STATE OF THE UNION — 2024 GUEST —

Matt Frantzen
President of
UAW Local
1268

Congressman
BILL FOSTER
11th Congressional District



Bill Foster

President Biden said it himself tonight: The great comeback story is Belvidere, Illinois.

Working with the President to save the Belvidere Assembly Plant was one of the proudest accomplishments of my congressional career.

I could not be prouder to have Matt Frantzen, President of UAW Local 1268 in Belvidere, in DC with me tonight.



President Joe Biden

Dawn Simms attended my State of the Union this evening.

She's a proud third-generation UAW member from Illinois – and someone I had the honor of to picket alongside as she fought for her auto plant and the jobs it provides.



Photo credit: Bill Foster Facebook page

UAW Local 1268 President Matt Frantzen attended the State Of The Union as a guest of Congressman Bill Foster, 11th Congressional District of Illinois. Congressman Foster has been a staunch advocate for the reopening of Belvidere.

UAW Local 1178, and former Local 1268 member Dawn Simms was the guest of President Joe Biden and First Lady Jill Biden representing all the members affected by the closure of Belvidere Assembly Plant.

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

As we start a new year I would like to thank and encourage everyone to “keep the faith”. The fight for workers’ rights has never been easily won. However, by working together and forming relationships with other likeminded organizations has always brought us progress over the years. Walter Reuther stated:

“The strength of the labor movement lies in its unity and the power of people united is stronger than any force that tries to oppress them”.

Please, let us start out 2025 by attending our Membership Meetings.

Also, I want to thank those members from 1268, 1761, and 1178 who participated in the NARCAN, CPR trainings, the Health Fair, donating to the Remedies Women’s Shelter for domestic violence month.

Lastly, starting on January 1st, 2025 we will be switching to Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) for our behavioral healthcare services. As I get more information I will share it with the membership. I pray everyone has a safe and healthy 2025!

Yours in Solidarity,
Mike L. Williams, EAP Rep.

815-547-2340—Office

815-315-3207—Cell

Michael.williams5@stellantis.com

LOCAL 1268 UNION HALL

CPR & NARCAN TRAINING

MAY & JULY



On Saturday, July 20th a CPR & Narcan training class was held. Attendees received education on what Narcan is for and how to use it, they received free Narcan to keep on hand or to share for someone in need. Attendees also had training on how to perform CPR on adults and babies and became CPR certified.

Thank you Boone County Fire District 2, Belvidere Fire Department, and the COAR Team.

On Saturday, May 18th, 2024, we had our first NARCAN training at the hall. NARCAN nasal spray is designed to rapidly reverse the life threatening of opioid emergencies. It is used to revive someone during an overdose from prescription medications and illegal drugs (cocaine & heroin) which are cut with fentanyl.

Thank you to Community Outreach Officer Michelle Schwartz, of the Belvidere Police Department, and to both COAR’s Program Navigator Sydney Ponitz, and Program Manager Adam Hartzell.



LOCAL 1268 UNION HALL

HEALTH FAIR

OCTOBER

On Thursday, October 3, 2024 the Union Hall held a Health Fair for our area UAW locals. Attendees also could receive a flu shot and take a moment for a chair massage.

Thank you to the organizations that came out with resources for UAW members.

- UAW Benefit Representatives
- BACA (Bikers Against Child Abuse)
- Recovery Center of America
- Recovery Ways
- Rosecrance
- ABD Credit Union
- Counseling Associates
- Biometric Health Screenings
- Chiro-One Wellness Centers
- Officer Michelle Schwartz and COAR (Community Outreach Advocacy & Recovery)



Retiree Cale Steines is now at Recovery Ways



Jeremey Endress is a volunteer at BACA

OCTOBER AWARENESS

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

DONATIONS COLLECTED

Union Hall during October for Domestic Awareness.

UAW 1268 Mary Bingenheimer, Michelle Lopez & Prince, Mike Williams and President Matt Frantzen gave the donations to Community Outreach Officer Michelle Schwartz.

THANK YOU: UAW 1268 Women’s Committee, Retirees, and all our members who donated to this collection.

If you or anyone else you know is in need of assistance for domestic violence, please call 800-799-7233 or text START to 88788.



IUAW PRESIDENT SHAWN FAIN
KEEP THE PROMISE
AUGUST



UAW International President Shawn Fain speaks to UAW 1268 members and guests at UAW Local 1268 Union Hall.



Left: UAW 1268 Financial Secretary Mike Moe, Congressman Bill Foster, Representative Dave Vella, IBEW Illinois State Organizing Coordinator Charles Laskonis and 1268 President Matt Frantzen. Right: UAW 1268 Recording Secretary Michelle Lopez and Congressman Bill Foster



UAW Region 4 Director
 Brandon Cambell.



UAW Local 1268 President Matt Frantzen, Region 4 Director Brandon Cambell, International President Shawn Fain and UAW Stellantis Department Director Kevin Gotinsky



WE ARE BELVIDERE
LABOR DAY PARADE
SEPTEMBER

UAW Local 1268 was back at the Labor Day Parade in 2024. The members wore their "We Are Belvidere" shirts and tossed out candy, which UAW 1268 Retiree Chapter deserves a huge THANK YOU for supplying the candy. Everyone enjoyed seeing each other and walking in solidarity as UAW Local 1268 and doing it with all the area unions. We had members in the crowd watching and other parade watchers cheering us on as we walked by. We appreciate all the support we received.



UAW LOCAL 1268

MICHELLE LOPEZ

RECORDING SECRETARY

the year, we have been anxiously awaiting updates regarding the reopening of Belvidere and the arrival of new products, while many of our members remain on layoff, hoping for that crucial announcement of the opening date. Additionally, our fellow members across the United States are also waiting to submit their return to "home" plant, adding to the stress and difficulty of planning for the future.

We were encouraged when Stellantis made the commitment in our 2023 international agreement to reopen Belvidere, promising not only a new vehicle but also a parts depot and a battery plant. However, as we continued to wait for confirmation and a timeline for our return, Stellantis ultimately failed to uphold its commitments from the negotiations, they wanted the date pushed back to 2028. This necessitated intervention from International to defend the terms we fought for in our contract. It is important to recognize that this struggle extends beyond Belvidere; it also involves the Durango at the Detroit Assembly Complex as outlined in the agreements made. As a union, we cannot allow the company to disregard our national agreement. The existence of our contract is crucial; if we permit them to violate it, we risk opening the door to further transgressions.

As of January 3, 2025, Stellantis has reported FCA US LLC reported sales of 320,743 vehicles in the fourth quarter with a total of 1,303,570 vehicles for the entire 2024 calendar year. The fourth-quarter U.S. sales saw a decline of 7 percent and the full-year results reflected a 15% decrease, but retail sales in the fourth quarter and for the full year increased by 1 percent.

FCA US has achieved the largest market share at 41% for plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs) in the industry for the 2024 calendar year. The company occupies three of the top five positions among the best-selling PHEVs in the United States. The Jeep Wrangler 4x4 ranks as the top-selling plug-in hybrid vehicle in America, followed by the Grand Cherokee 4xe in third place and the Chrysler Pacifica Hybrid in fourth place.

In the context of ongoing negotiations, International continues to advocate for the commitments made by Stellantis in our agreement. Following a change in leadership at Stellantis, the union has observed renewed

Dear members,
The year 2024 presented numerous challenges for us. Throughout

progress, resulting in a reaffirmation of commitments regarding the return of vehicle production at Belvidere, along with the Durango going back to the Detroit Assembly Complex. International is diligently working to ensure that the agreements reached with the company are honored, striving to avoid any drastic measures such as a strike. While we await the official reopening date for Belvidere and the resumption of operations, there is optimism that this will occur in the coming years, as Stellantis has committed to reinstituting production at the facility.

As we anticipate the reopening of Belvidere, I urge you to support our international leadership. Our strength lies in our unity; without our collective effort, the union cannot compel Stellantis to adhere to the terms of our contract. It is imperative that we, as union members, stand together in solidarity to uphold the agreements established in our international accord. Allowing the company to evade its commitments could set a concerning precedent for future negotiations. Ultimately, we face significant challenges in the coming years as we advocate for our jobs and the principles of union membership. It is essential that we remain united and resolute in our efforts. Belvidere will not be forgotten.

Michelle Lopez

Recording Secretary, UAW Local 1268

UAW LOCAL 1268 AMALGAMATED MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Time:
12:00pm

Day:
**Last Saturday of the month
(unless otherwise specified)**

Location:
**UAW LOCAL 1268 Union Hall
1100 West Chrysler Drive,
Belvidere, IL 61008**



ROCKFORD UNITED LABOR HARD ROCK CASINO ORGANIZING



**We're often asked,
"What union is organizing
the Hard Rock Casino?"**

The answer is none.
No ONE union is organizing
the Casino. Workers at the
Casino are coming together
to join six unions total,
depending on their job
classification.

Every worker gets a union,
with representation from
IATSE (stagehands),
Teamsters, Unite Here,
UAW, Operators and SEIU.

Wall to Wall.

#ItsBetterInAUnion
#rockfordcasino



A coalition of unions under the banner of Rockford Casino Workers United came out on Friday, October 25th, 2025, for a Rally of Respect. The casino has hired anti-union lawyers and using tactics in an effort persuade workers not to form unions. The coalition of unions came to show support to the workers for their right to organize. The unions organizing the casino wall to wall are IATSE, Teamsters, Unite Here, UAW, Operators and SEIU.

State Representative Dave Vella and Senator Steve Stadelman also attended and spoke to the crowd today.

UAW 1268 President Matt Frantzen said these are the people that work hard, every day, to enhance our experience at the casino. If it were not for them, this casino would not be a success. They are organizing for respectable wages/benefits and a voice in their workplace.



RALLY WITH THE WORKING CLASS OCTOBER 11, 2024

UAW **RALLY WITH THE
WORKING CLASS**

FEATURING..

- Senator Bernie Sanders of Vermont
- Shawn Fain, UAW President
- Brandon Campbell, UAW Region 4 Director
- Matt Frantzen, UAW Local 1268 President
- and UAW members!



UAW LOCAL 1268 LEADERSHIP

60 MINUTES

INTERVIEWED

UAW 1268 President Matt Frantzen, Recording Secretary Michelle Lopez and Second President Stacey Dahle were interviewed by 60 minutes anchor Scott Pelley on Friday, December 6th.

The episode aired on Sunday,
February 2nd, 2025.



UAW LOCAL 1268

BYLAW COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

The regularly schedule union meetings are a sign of a democratic and organized union. The union meeting has many purposes. It provides members with the opportunity to come together as a group, get accurate and updated information, meet with the leadership and fellow members, debate and make decisions, air gripes, members can make proposals, receive input, and learn of upcoming events.

Our members elect thirteen executive board members who administer the local union business between membership meetings. Then at the meeting, members may approve or disapprove of any expenditure or board requests. Here at UAW Local 1268, our bylaws states that seventy members must be in attendance in order to conduct the business of the local. Unfortunately, we have not been able to meet that seventy member attendance for many months. As members, by not attending, are removing your voice in the business and direction of our local.

At the time of writing this, a proposed bylaw change has been submitted, unfortunately, we have not been able to have a first reading or a vote on this proposal by not meeting the quorum attendance. This is exactly what the proposed bylaw is on, the quorum number. ARTICLE (6)-Membership Meetings-Section 5

Please review the proposed bylaw change. You can find it at uaw1268.org and click on Membership Details and you can find the link to the proposed bylaw to view. You may also find a copy of UAW Local 1268 Bylaws on website.

Whether you support or are against the proposed bylaw change, let your voice be heard and let the majority (members) direct the direction of our local instead of the minority (13 Board Members). Please attend your meetings whenever possible.

This is no disrespect to our 1268 Board Members, as I am one of them. But I have a strong belief that the membership is our highest authority and needs to participate and be a voice in the business of our local monthly.



In Solidarity,
Mary Bingenheimer
CAP Chair, UAW Local 1268



SERVING THE COMMUNITY
NORTHERN IL FOOD BANK
DISTRIBUTIONS



**NEIGHBORS.
EMPOWERED.**

UAW Local 1268 Second Vice President Stacey Dahle started volunteering at food distributions in 2020, when Northern Illinois Food Bank partnered with City First Church. The volunteers were requested to assist at the Kennedy Middle School Distribution on a certain day. It was not hard for Stacey to get more involved as he is so grateful for the opportunities to give back by seeing people get tangible needs met.

When quite a few of our members started losing pay and benefits, Stacey thought maybe the hall could hold a distribution for our members in need and the community. Stacey reached out to NIFB Food Bank Mobile Market Manager Ken Madden. Ken responded before Stacey could finish the sentence, knowing what was going on with the plant and NIFB was more than willing to help. The next step was to reach out to 1268 Community Service Committee to see if they would partner in the distributions, and they were all in. The first NIFB Distribution event took place on September 9, 2023.

Our 1268 committees did more than volunteer. At the time, Nichelle Cruz, Chair of Community Service, and the members wanted to do more. The committee held drives for school supplies, all sizes of diapers, coats, scarves, and gloves for the recipients of the distribution throughout the months. The Paranormal Committee also held a pet food drive in 2023. Paranormal Chair, Linda Montes was astonished by the donations received from area pet stores and others.

It is not unusual to see State Representative Dave Vella and his aides volunteering with us along with organizations joining in. Former Local 1268 President George Welitschinsky, now the Relationship Manager for United Way of Rock River Valley along with President & CEO, Julie Bosma, brought books to a couple of distributions. Rockford United Labor also came together and asked area unions at a meeting if they would consider making a donation to NIFB and checks came in.

Some members go above and beyond. Linda Montes and her friend, Cody, donate reusable bags for the recipients of food. In September, Linda gave the kids a small backpack with a stuffed animal inside. Many smiles were made that day. Deanna Veil and her son Colton went all out at December 2024 distribution. They gave out gifts, which Colton picked Barbies, Hot Wheels, and activity books. They also handed out Little Debbie Christmas trees, candy, fruit snacks, and chips. Linda Montes also added ChapStick, glow sticks and chocolate straws. They even got Santa Claus to stop by and hand out candy canes. All the kids, recipients, and volunteers enjoyed the morning. Nichelle Cruz took a job opportunity for Local 1178, but that has not stopped her from continuing to participate in the distributions, helping Stacey at every turn, along with being our MC on the mic.

The volunteers that come do an amazing job. They come and direct the traffic, unload the truck, unpack boxes, display the food, register recipients at the door, hand out the food, and help the recipients carry the food to the car. Whether they come every month, or a few times a year or it is their first time. Our volunteers make this process flawless. They genuinely appreciate those few hours helping the community and doing it with old friends from work along with making new friends, the local could not do this without them.

We initially averaged one hundred families a month, but this number has recently increased to 150 in the last few months. In 2024 we had 1,469 families that came through the monthly food distribution.



Second Vice President Stacey Dahle



Pet Food donated for in 2023.



Deanna Veil's son, Colton choose the distribution to give back at Christmas



Second Vice President Stacey Dahle and Nichelle Cruz

SERVING THE COMMUNITY
NORTHERN ILL FOOD BANK
VOLUNTEERS



THANK
Volunteers
YOU

Every month the volunteers make everything work like a finely tuned machine. We have retirees, members, their families, neighbors and youth groups that volunteer.

Every person is making a difference in the community

Every one of you makes Local 1268 proud. Thank you!

We can never have enough volunteers, please join us if you have not yet.



January



February



March



May



June



July



August



September



October



November



December



UAW 1268 President Frantzen and 2nd Vice President Stacey Dahle presents Northern Illinois Food Bank Mobile Market Manager Ken Madden a check from donations collected from local area unions.

At this time UAW Local 1268 can only donate the use of our hall and supply the volunteers, but our brothers and sisters from various unions collectively made a **\$5,000.00** donation to support Northern Illinois Food Bank.

UAW Local 1268 President Matt Frantzen, Vice President Joey Szakalski and 2nd Vice President Stacey Dahle along with the volunteers presented the check on Saturday, May 4th during the Food distribution.

THANK YOU to these unions in supporting NIFB, who has been a support to UAW Local 1268 and to the community of Belvidere and beyond.



UAW 1268 2nd VP Stacey Dahle, Fin. Sec. Mike Moe, UAW 1178 Nichelle Cruz, State Representative Dave Vella and his aid, Joan Velazquez and UAW 1268 President Matt Frantzen.



President of Rockford United Labor, Sara Dorner and her children joined us at the May distribution.



United Way of Rock River Valley joined us at May's NIFB Distribution and created smiles by distributing books for children.

Julie Bosma, President & CEO, George Welitschinsky, Relationship Manager (and former UAW 1268 President) and Cherice Ullrich, Community Engagement Manager from United Way of Rock River Valley.



UAW LOCAL 1268

MICHAEL MOE

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Brothers and Sisters, 2024 definitely ended on a high note for us when it was announced that Stellantis would be moving on

immediately from CEO Carlos Tavares. It has been no secret that Carlos was unhappy with what was negotiated in the 2023 agreement and was actively doing everything he could to get out of what the membership agreed to. We now step into 2025 with a renewed sense of hope for the future of Belvidere. Don't lose sight of what the reopening of BAP will mean. Never in the history of the Big 3 North American auto manufacturing has an assembly plant been idled and then reopened under the same owner. We are back on track for that to happen sometime in 2027 and it will be a historical event.

It has been a very difficult past couple of years, and I would

like to commend the membership for staying involved. Whenever we have put out the word, this membership has answered the call. From rallies to strike authorization votes and everything in between, we are only as strong as our combined membership. I am truly honored to be able to represent a Union which continues to showcase its' fortitude.

We're not in the clear yet, we still have to keep the pressure on Stellantis to make sure they honor the commitment they made to us. Your Leadership is putting pressure where it can be applied on a daily basis. Just know that at some point we will need to put out the call for help to the membership again. I am more than confident that call will be answered just as it has been in the past. Here's hoping for some big news for Belvidere in the near future.

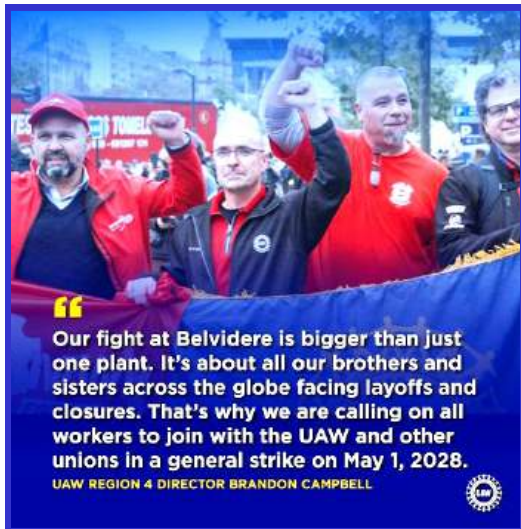
United We Stand Strong;

Michael G. Moe

Financial Secretary, UAW Local 1268



STANDING UP STELLANTIS RALLIES KEEP THE PROMISE



UAW Local 1268 President Matt Frantzen and International Servicing Rep. John Stanfill attend the Stellantis Keep the Promise Rally in Sterling Heights, MI on October 3rd, 2025 at UAW Local 1264 representing UAW Local 1268



Thousands of Stellantis workers hit the streets in Paris and Rome in October fighting plant closures and layoffs. UAW Stellantis workers sent a delegation including UAW Region 4 Director Brandon Campbell and UAW Local 1268 President Matt Frantzen.

All of Stellantis workers across the world have one message; Workers around the globe are united in our common fight to make Stellantis keep the promise. We won't back down.



All the above photos credit belongs to UAW International Union on Facebook

UAW LOCAL 1268 RETIREEE CHAPTER NOVEMBER MEETING



It is always a great day to stop by the Union Hall to see some familiar faces on the last Thursday of the month. This is when our 1268 Retiree Chapter have their meeting.

These members have been through so many ups and downs throughout their careers, it is their legacy Stellantis is messing with. The retirees always ask about the plant and show so much support for our future.



Left: Retiree Chair Dave Woody

Right: UAW 1268 Retiree Chapter Board pose with Boone County Health Department Public Health Administrator Amanda Mehl, RN, MPH. Amanda educated the retirees on Narcan. There has been an increase in seniors overdosing and should have Narcan on hand.



WOMENS COMMITTEE

CRAFT SHOW

APRIL & OCTOBER

After a few years of a hiatus, the UAW 1268 Women's Committee held its Spring and Fall Craft Shows. Many of our own members and families joined us as vendors.

If you are interested in information for 2025 Craft Shows, please contact Committee Chair Dawn Rogers at lqkyhere2@gmail.com or follow UAW Local 1268 Women's Committee page on Facebook.



UAW LOCAL 1268

VETERANS COMMITTEE

SERVING VETERANS



The 1268 Veteran's Committee has continued to serve veterans during our down time.

The committee raised money from several committee members who personally donated items for raffles held at our Spring and Fall Veterans conferences and along with items for "Christmas with the Vets" that is held at the Zablocki Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The committee donated \$100.00 to each of the four Vets Days held within Region 4, they were:

Iowa Vets Day held at Marshalltown Veterans Home in Marshalltown in June
Wisconsin Vets Day held at Union Grove Veterans Home in Union Grove in July
Illinois Vets Day held at Manteno Veterans Home in Manteno in August
Minnesota Vets Day held at Hastings Veterans Home in Hastings in September

Along with the donations, the UAW 1268 Veterans members volunteer at the Wisconsin, Illinois, and Minnesota Vets Day events.

UAW 1268 Veterans & Paranormal Committees each donated \$300.00 to the VAC of Boone County. (Veterans Assistance Program) to their food pantry.

If you are Veteran in Boone County, please check out the services at VAC.



**130 S. State St.
Suite 212
Belvidere, IL 61008
815-544-6464**

**For more information, Please visit:
Website: vacbc.org
Facebook: VAC of Boone County IL**

COALITION OF UNIONS

ROCKFORD UNITED LABOR

OCTOBER 27



International President Shawn Fain was the Speaker of Honor at the banquet.

Rockford United Labor (RUL) held their fifth Annual Labor Recognition Banquet at the IBEW 364 Union Hall on Saturday night. RUL represents more than 50 local unions with over 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, Brandon Campbell, Director of UAW Region 4 and Tim Drea, President of Illinois AFL-CIO. And International UAW President Shawn Fain was the Speaker of Honor at the banquet.

Labor recognition awards were also presented to Jean Lythgoe, AFSCME Local 3350, for Lifetime Achievement in Labor and Alice Sutherland, AFSCME Local 448 for Labor Leader of the Year.

Congratulations Jean and Alice.



UAW Region 4 Director, Brandon Campbell was a guest speaker.



Rockford United Labor is coalition is state and local labor councils of the AFL-CIO representing more than 25,000 unionized workers in the Greater Rockford Area. The council mobilizes members and community partners to advocate for social and economic justice and strive daily to vanquish oppression and make our communities better for all people.

The members are the working people who construct our buildings, transport and educate our children, maintain our city and county infrastructure, manufacture our automobiles, care for our community's children and elderly, deliver our packages and mail and so much more. On behalf of the more than fifty local unions that make up Rockford United Labor.

The committees of the council are very involved in the area throughout the year. The Labor Day Committee of Rockford United Labor are the ones who brings you the largest candy parade of the year, the Labor Day Parade.

Every year on May 25, Workers' Memorial Day, A ceremony is held for observance to remember those who have suffered lost their lives due to workplace incidents. This year's remembrance honored Local 150 operator Roger Stambaugh, who died in a worksite accident in August, and Branch 25 letter carrier Jay Larson, who was killed in a mass stabbing in March while he was walking his route.

The committees also work throughout the city creating flower displays throughout Rockford, holding an Art Gallery featuring union artists in the Greater Rockford area, rallying when called upon, along with collecting donations for those in need and much more.

Your delegates representing UAW Local 1268 on the council are 1268 President Matt Frantzen, Monica Sago and Mary Bingenheimer. Along with Financial Secretary Mike Moe who is a delegate representing UAW Rockford Area CAP.

UAW LOCAL 1268

WOMENS COMMITTEE

GIVING TREE

This 40+ year tradition is the heart of UAW 1268 Women's Committee. When we went down in 2023, the committee designated majority of funds to be used throughout the next couple years to The Giving Tree.

But the committee still cannot do it alone. They count on your toy donations that were collected at the hall. And along with the committee funds, UAW 1268 Retiree Chapter and Rockford Area CAP make sizeable donations each year. The committee also sells 50/50 tickets at the monthly membership meetings, 50% goes to the winner and 50% goes to the Giving Tree fund. Thank you to everyone who purchases the tickets throughout the year and congratulations to the winners.

This year the committee was able to go shopping for toys with \$3,000.00. A huge Thank you goes to Blain's Farm & Fleet of Belvidere and Sandy, Front Desk Manager. Every year they go the extra mile and set up our own checkout lane to shop till we get to that magic number, and then give us a discount, so the committee can buy more!



Salvation Army wants everyone to know that all we do is truly appreciated and will be a blessing for the families they have this year.



President Matt Frantzen with Salvation Army Majors Marcelo & Monica Orbe along with volunteer Linda Merrole as they accept the donations

Thank you to everyone that supports the Giving Tree year around!

UAW LOCAL 1268

UNION LABEL COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIP RAFFLE



Congratulations Winners!

At the November/December Membership Meeting, 1268 Union Label has held raffle giveaway to the members to highlight Union Made and American Made products.

At the Membership Meeting all members attending received a raffle ticket to for a chance to win a large and small smoker, along with house plants.



PRICE REDUCED

Chaplaincy Committee Baseball Hats

WAS \$30 NOW
\$25



MARKED DOWN 50% OFF

Union Label Committee Zip Up Hoodies



WAS \$50 NOW
\$25

Sizes Available:

Small	X-Large
medium	2X-Large
Large	3X-large

HURRY BEFORE THEY ARE GONE!
Low inventory on all sizes

AVAILABLE At UAW 1268 Union Hall

UAW 1268 AMALGAMATED

EXECUTIVE BOARD

MEMBERS

President: Matt Frantzen
Vice President: Tony Callavaro
2nd Vice President: Stacey Dahle
Recording Secretary: Michelle Lopez
Financial Secretary: Mike Moe
Trustees: Dawn Tree
Horace Hubbard
Linda Montes
Sargeant-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

VISIT OR FOLLOW US

UAW 1268

SOCIAL MEDIA SITES

UAW LOCAL 1268 OFFICIAL SITES ARE TITLED UAW 1268

Website: uaw1268.org

FB Page: UAW 1268

Local 1268 has several ways members can stay informed. Members can request e-mails from Local 1268 President Matt Frantzen or for general information visit our website or social media sites.

Matt Frantzen:

matthewfrantzen@uaw1268.org

Add to subject line: **Add me to email**

For members only!

After being verified, you will be added

UAW LOCAL 1268

COMMUNICATIONS

IS EVERYONE'S JOB

Another year of difficulties at UAW Local 1268 in 2024. However, members collaborated throughout the year and represented the local in various capacities. In my 28 years as a member, I do not remember a high profiled senator coming to our union hall, nor do I recall ever having a UAW International President come either. But I did see that this year. I do not know anyone that has ever attended a State of The Union Address, now I know two. Nor did I know anyone interviewed for a 60 Minutes segment, now I know three. Never has my local president traveled to Europe to speak to thousands on our behalf and to stand in solidarity with our European counterparts demanding change.

Alot of firsts just as 2023 was. I wished none of this happened, I wish we were working and none of that would have been necessary. But it was. No matter how you feel about these events, it all was necessary. Our political allies, guest speakers and interviews are all necessary. We must fight to stay in that spotlight. A great deal of effort by numerous individuals has brought us to this point, and we should not become complacent.

I am proud to present this magazine of highlights of 2024. I could not have done it alone. Thank you, President Matt Frantzen, Michelle Lopez, Dawn Simms, Stacey Dahle, Deanna Veil, Justo Diaz, Dawn Tree, Nichelle Cruz, Dawn Rogers, and Linda Montes, for your contributions to this edition.

For 2025, we will be looking for members who are contributing to the community. If you volunteer for organizations, participate in building houses, walk dogs at shelters, visit with seniors, or raise money and items for various organizations, your contributions are invaluable. We want to hear how you or members are making a difference. Please contact one of us; Dawn Simms (grumpee2@aol.com), Michelle Lopez (michelleoropeza@uaw1268.org) or me at one of the emails below.

If you attend any UAW 1268 events and would like to share photos, please send to us at any of the emails. Include your name, event, and any names in photos if possible.

In Solidarity,
Mary Bingenheimer
marybingenheimer@uaw1268.org
or mrybing4uaw@aol.com



LOCAL UNION COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION

******NOTICE****** The private group on Facebook, UAW Local 1268, will be cleaned up. 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. If you are a member and get removed, request again with answers to the questions.

UAW LOCAL 1268 UNION HALL ~ 1100 WEST CHRYSLER DRIVE ~ BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS 61008 ~ 815-544-2111