

Badger Lodge News

Newsletter for United Lodge 66, Machinists Union, AFL-CIO

Chartered: November 30th, 1895

Vol. 24 No. 2

www.unitedlodge66.org

February 2022

United Lodge 66

Business Meeting

February 8th at 7:00 PM

1650 S 38th Street

Milwaukee, WI 53215

414-671-3800

All lodge members are encouraged to attend

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Office Hours:

Suspended until notice due to Covid-19 guidelines. See pg. 2

All Contract issues must be settled by your Business Rep at District 10. See Last Page

Milwaukee Carmen School of Science and Technology Educators On the Path to the IAM

They are doing it for their students. That's the sentiment that brought a group of nearly 200 dedicated teachers, social workers, and specialists from Milwaukee's Carmen School of Science and Technology to announce their intent to organize with IAM District 10.

"The biggest detriment to our students is the high turnover of teachers," said Alexis Garcia, a Social Studies teacher at Carmen High School of Science and Technology Northwest. "When teachers are valued and supported, it creates consistency for students and creates classrooms where both students and teachers can thrive. The pandemic only exacerbated the problem and if Carmen truly wants to follow its mission, they need to do right by their teachers."

Want to show your support? Sign the petition here:

<https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/support-neutrality-for-carmen-workers-collective>

Carmen Schools of Science and Technology are a network of charter schools with five campuses ranging from elementary to high school. According to their organizing campaign website, better working conditions will allow this group to provide the best educational experience for their students, creating an environment of growth that will be beneficial to all. It will also allow these educators to further protect those underrepresented on staff and in the classroom.

"These educators should only have to worry about taking care of their students' education and nothing else," said IAM District 10 Directing Business Representative Alex Hoekstra. "A union contract will do that. It speaks volumes that these educators are taking these steps to secure a brighter future, not only for their current students but for those who will come later."

See 'Carmen' on pg. 5



United Lodge No. 66

of the

International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, AFL-CIO

1650 S. 38th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53215 • Phone 414-671-3800

<http://www.unitedlodge66.org>

Lodge 66 Operations during Covid-19 Situation

The Executive Board of United Lodge 66 has made some decisions to protect the Membership and Office Staff of Lodge 66.

First of all we would like to encourage our members and their families to stay safe during this health crisis. Following the recommendations from the Federal, State and Local Governments is advised.

To protect our members and staff the office will be closed for drop-in traffic.

The office telephone will forward to Secretary-Treasurer Ivan Collins phone. The phone number for Lodge 66 is (414) 671-3800. The Lodge email is lodge66@gmail.com. The lodge address is 1650 S 38th Street, Milwaukee WI 53215. Mail can be put in the mail slot at the office. Members are encouraged to do as much as possible through the mail. Emails and communications will be monitored. If an appointment needs to be made we will try to accommodate on an Individual basis. Several of the offices within the Machinists Organization will be staffed with reduced workforce. During these critical times we want to express to the membership that we will serve to the best of our ability and you are our main concern. The Brothers and Sisters of the Machinists Union will get through this challenge. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this major event.

In Solidarity,

Hunter Scott

United Lodge 66 President

IAM Milwaukee Art Museum Employees Ratify First Agreement

From goiam.org

IAM District 10 members at the Milwaukee Art Museum (MAM) recently ratified a first agreement representing more than 75 employees.

The new three-year accord features guaranteed general wage increases in the second and third contract years of 2.75% and 2%, respectively, with a guaranteed minimum raise of 55 cents in these years for all bargaining unit employees.

The new deal includes job security improvements such as a clear and defined process for future layoffs and recalls based on seniority, and limitations on subcontracting when qualified employees are on layoff. Workers also secured increased access to health insurance through the Machinists Custom Choices Plan.



The success follows a long effort by museum management to deny workers efforts to unionize, or even have a vote. Workers endured an anti-union campaign leading up to their historic wall to wall organizing win.

“My thanks go out to the Bargaining Committee,” said IAM District 10 Directing Business Representative Alex Hoekstra. “The bargaining unit called for a focus on equity and fairness, and their new contract does just that.”

“We are thrilled to welcome this dedicated group of workers,” said IAM District 10 Organizer Anne Wi-berg. “By uniting together, they changed their work- place for the better. This contract reflects their com- mitment and persistence. They knew the value of be- ing in the IAM from the start.”



“I couldn’t be more proud of what these new members accomplished,” said IAM Midwest Territory General Vice President Steve Galloway. “Securing a first contract is the ultimate, true win of a successful organiz- ing campaign. The IAM members at MAM took their future into their own hands bargaining and ensur- ing guaranteed raises and procedures that protect workers. I congratulate them on ratifying their first agreement.”

Museum employees work in various departments in- cluding Art Preparation, Conservation, Curatorial, De- sign, Development, Education, Facilities, Food & Beverage, Information Systems, Library, Marketing, Registrar, Museum Store, and Visitor Services.



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Will Infrastructure Investment Pave the Way to a Stronger Economy?



This large injection of funds is likely to affect how many Americans commute, travel, transport goods, access the Internet, power homes and buildings, and more.

In November 2021, Congress passed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, a roughly \$1 trillion package that reauthorized existing programs and provided more than \$550 billion in new funding over the next five years to help upgrade aging U.S. transportation, water, power generation, and communication systems.¹ The American Society of Civil Engineers applauded the bipartisan legislation, calling it a significant down payment on the \$2.5 trillion in deficiencies identified in the industry group's 2021 Report Card for America's Infrastructure.²

The Act aims to improve public safety and grease the wheels of commerce by making a historic federal investment in physical infrastructure. This large injection of funds is likely to affect how many Americans commute, travel, transport goods, access the Internet, power homes and buildings, and more, with implications for communities, businesses, industries, and the economy.

Where the Money Goes

The new spending is a combination of targeted funds for overdue repair projects and forward-looking programs intended to make the nation's critical infrastructure assets more resilient to climate risks.³ Here's an overview of the Act's allocated funds:

- **\$110 billion** to fix deteriorating roads and bridges, and other major surface-transportation projects
- **\$66 billion** to pay for passenger and freight railway maintenance, modernization, and expansion, primarily to overhaul Amtrak and make rail travel a reliable alternative to driving or flying between more U.S. cities
- **\$65 billion** to build out broadband Internet in underserved areas and subsidies to help lower-income households pay for high-speed Internet access
- **\$65 billion** to update the electric grid and help protect it from severe weather and cybersecurity threats
- **\$55 billion** to help ensure access to clean drinking water, remove lead service lines, and upgrade wastewater systems (another \$8 billion goes toward addressing dwindling water supplies in the West)
- **\$47 billion** to help states and cities prepare for and defend against more frequent and destructive storms, droughts, wildfires, and other climate impacts
- **\$42 billion** to expand and upgrade airports, ports, and border-crossing stations, measures that are sorely needed to shore up supply-chain weaknesses
- **\$39 billion** to repair and revamp public transit and make it more accessible to the elderly and disabled
- **\$21 billion** to enhance public health and create jobs by cleaning up abandoned mines and oil and gas wells, polluted waterways, and contaminated superfund sites
- **\$11 billion** to improve highway and pedestrian safety and support research
- **\$7.5 billion** to build out a network of electric vehicle charging stations plus **\$7.5 billion** for low-emission school buses and ferries
- **\$1 billion** to reconnect communities negatively affected by past infrastructure projects



Anticipating the Impact

Transportation funds are normally allocated to states according to a formula based on population, gas-tax revenue, and other factors, and each state typically decides how to spend the money. Most of the new funding will be distributed under this traditional formula, but \$120 billion will be awarded through dozens of new competitive grant programs.⁴ The Transportation Department will select recipients from applications submitted by state and local governments, and Congress will have direct oversight, so lawmakers can monitor projects and call hearings to assess the results. It's likely to take at least six months to pass out the money, finalize plans, and kick off projects — and timelines could run longer for grant programs.

Moody's Analytics projects that the law's economic impact will peak in about five years and fade as spending tails off, creating an estimated 556,000 jobs and raising U.S. output by 0.5% by year-end 2026. Other projections vary, but economists tend to agree that greater infrastructure spending eases worker mobility and the transportation of goods, providing a boost to labor productivity, business efficiency, and economic growth.⁵

The additional infrastructure spending will be partially paid for by new revenue and unspent COVID-19 relief funds. However, the Congressional Budget Office found that the Act would add \$256 billion to budget deficits over the next decade, so borrowing to cover the difference could offset some of the law's economic benefits.⁶

1, 5) *The Wall Street Journal*, November 6, 2021

2) American Society of Civil Engineers, 2021

3) *The New York Times*, August 10, 2021; White House Fact Sheet, November 6, 2021

4) *The Wall Street Journal*, November 7, 2021

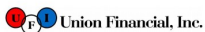
6) Congressional Budget Office, August 9, 2021

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‘Carmen’ from pg. 1

“We agree with the educators of Carmen. The best way to take care of the students is to make sure the teachers have everything they need to do their job,” said IAM Midwest Territory General Vice President Steve Galloway. “An IAM contract that outlines items like equity, pay and workload rules is going to benefit everyone in the Milwaukee community. We are proud of this group for going above and beyond to take care of the children in their care by joining the Machinists Union.”

To learn more information about this organizing campaign and support their effort, you can log onto carmen-workerscollective.org.

You've Never Housecalled before? Neither Had I

By Jon Zancanaro

Union activism isn't necessarily something we grow up thinking we want to do but union activism comes in a multitude of forms. From running for positions to volunteering for events there is a broad range of activities that make our union work. I was recently able to help in something I had never done before: housecalling. In the first week of January District 10 went public with a campaign to organize teachers at The Carmen Schools in Milwaukee and I was able to donate my time for the housecalling activities the first weekend in January.

I had never housecalled before and I didn't really know what to expect other than my own anxieties about talking to strangers. I felt well prepared to talk about the benefits of our union having been a union member for the last 17 years, however the nerves of talking to complete strangers or potential confrontations with individuals who are anti union had me extremely nervous my first day.

District held an orientation at the Lodge 66 hall to give us more insight on what the workers at Carmen are experiencing and why they were seeking to unionize. They were able to equip us with good practices for housecalling and what we should look out for further bolstering my confidence to start knocking on doors. Our union does a great job at training and educating before we go out and execute.

The first day I was paired with one of the Midwest Territories Organizing reps and we were given names and addresses of potential workers at Carmen that we were going to contact and talk with them about the campaign and the importance of having a union in their workplace and to listen to and answer any questions they may have. Being paired with a seasoned organizer really calmed my nerves and before I knew it I felt comfortable knocking on complete strangers doors and talking with them about our union. That day we went to a dozen or so addresses with varying degrees of success. We returned to the hall for a de brief with the other teams and what we all experienced.

The second and third days transpired much the same way as the first with an informational meeting before hitting the streets and a de brief after. As the weekend went on the teams efforts were beginning to show as cards were being signed and inquiries were coming in from potential supporters. I was able to see that hard work paying off and it sure is a good feeling! I could also see a change in my anxieties and comfort level with each door we knocked on. By the end of my time housecalling I was feeling confident and excited for future housecalling opportunities to help grow our union.

All in all I had a very good experience housecalling for my first time, so much so that I wanted to right this article to share my experience with all of you. I look back and wonder why I felt so anxious and intimidated in the first place. I had a great time talking with workers about the benefits of our union and answering the questions they had. It was a positive experience for me and showed more benefit for our union as the campaign petitioned for a vote the very next week. If you're considering getting involved with our union I would urge you to give it a try, even if you fell nervous at first. The time you give can make a big difference to our union and will give you lasting memories.



Interested in attending courses at the William W. Winpisinger Center?

Visit:
winpisinger.iamaw.org
to see available classes
and contact Lodge 66
Educator Mike Stark via
email:
mikestark12@gmail.com
and get signed up for

Attn: Wisconsin High School Students

Cash prizes offered for essays on Wisconsin's labor and worker history

The Wisconsin Labor History Society announces its **Kenneth A. Germanson Essay Contest** for the 2021-2022 School Year for Wisconsin high school students (Grades 9-12). Win cash prizes up to \$500. Write essays of about 750 words on the topic:

“Unions have been important to my family and my community because . . .”

Students could win cash prizes!

First place - \$500 Second place - \$300 Third place - \$200

Honorable Mention (up to five) \$100.

What to write about . . .

All Wisconsin high school students have ready access to labor history. Check with parents, grandparents, uncles and aunts. Also, neighbors and family friends. Ask to interview them and then write your essay. Only 750 words. Also you may do independent research on topics of labor history. Check the Wisconsin Labor History website (www.wisconsinlaborhistory.org) for resources and other ideas.

Contest Rules

Essays should be approximately 750 words in length. They will be judged on understanding, evidence of original research, writing style and significance. Essays must be submitted by email in Microsoft Word or as PDF file. Submissions must include a cover sheet with the following information: Your name, address, home telephone number, your email address, your grade in school, name and address of your school, and, if you were encouraged or assisted by a teacher, the teacher's name. (Also, list your family's union membership, if applicable.) If you have any questions, contact: Harvey J. Kaye at kayeh@uwgb.edu.

Deadline for submissions is Feb. 15, 2022.

Send your essays to the following email address: info@wisconsinlaborhistory.org.

Put “essay contest” in subject line.

SPONSORED BY: WISCONSIN LABOR HISTORY SOCIETY

(Affiliated with the Wisconsin Historical Society; endorsed by Wisconsin State AFL-CIO)

6333 W. Bluemound Rd., Milwaukee WI 53213

email: info@wisconsinlaborhistory.org website: www.wisconsinlaborhistory.org

Seniors Corner: IAM Vows to Keep Fighting to Protect Voting Rights

From goiam.org

The recently unsuccessful opportunity for the U.S. Congress to thwart the rising attacks on our nation’s voting rights is unfortunate, but that will not stop the Machinists Union from continuing to advocate for means to restore the voting rights to protect the democracy of this great nation.

Despite aggressive advocating from the IAM and scores of other labor unions, the Senate recently failed to get enough votes to pause the filibuster rule, which is the 60-vote threshold to advance most legislation. The action failed in a 48-52 vote with Sens. Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ) and Joe Manchin (D-WV) joining all Senate Republicans in the opposition of the rules change.

That essentially halted the advancement of the House-passed Freedom to Vote Act and the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, two pieces of legislation that would restore and strengthen parts of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

That includes:

- Require early voting in all fifty states
- Create a national standard for mail voting
- Give Americans a public holiday to vote
- Establish clear federal redistricting standards to stop gerrymandered districts
- Create automatic voter registrations

The right to vote for whom we want to represent us is the foundational cornerstone of our democracy. Our ability to cast our ballot each Election Day is fundamental to our system of government. Yet, in 2021, at least 19 states passed 34 laws restricting access to voting. American democracy is under attack.

“Despite the disappointing vote in the Senate, our only recourse is to keep battling and organizing to protect our basic democratic right, the freedom to vote,” said IAM International President Robert Martinez, Jr., who previously wrote a letter to U.S. Senators. “This fight is far from over. The Machinists will continue to lobby for this vital legislation because our democracy is too important for us ever to relent.”

Also, IAM members contacted their Senators, asking them to end the filibuster procedure and support the Freedom to Vote Act and the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act.

<h2>Upcoming Events and Important Dates:</h2>		<p>Milwaukee Area Labor Council Delegate Meeting Wednesday, February 2nd at 6:30 PM Milwaukee Labor Temple 633 S. Hawley Rd. Milwaukee, WI</p>	<p>District 10 Organizing Committee Meeting Monday, February 14th at 10:30AM AND 5PM Local Lodge 66 1650 S. 38th Street Milwaukee, WI</p>
<p>District 10 Business Meeting Monday, February 14th At 7 PM Satellite Meeting @ Lodge 66 1650 S. 38th Street Milwaukee, WI</p>	<p>Lodge 66 Business Meeting Tuesday, February 8th at 7 PM Local Lodge 66 1650 S. 38th Street Milwaukee, WI</p>	<p>Deadline to submit articles for the next Badger Lodge News is February 21st Submit articles by email: lodge66@gmail.com</p>	

District 10 Office Directory:

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Call 920-219-4919 followed by the ex-
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- Jeremy Terlisner 6
- Todd Humleker 5
- Joe Terlisner 7
- Greg Pursell 8
- Brandon Mortenson 9
- Anne Wiberg, Organizer: 414-305-8486
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to United Lodge 66, 1650 S. 38th Street,
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www.unitedlodge66.org

www.YouTube.com/badgerlodge

**Do you have any concerns, complaints or congratulations you would like to
bring up to those representing you in Government? Give them a call or send
them a note and let your voice be heard**

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[https://www.ronjohnson.senate.gov/
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