

SEIU E-Former: September 2017



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Labor Day March in Detroit

Come march and celebrate the accomplishments of labor at the annual Labor Day March in Detroit on Monday, September 4th. Staging will begin at 7:00 a.m. and the step off time is 9:30 a.m. There will also be a "Fight for \$15 and a Union" rally prior to the Labor Day March. If you are interested in participating in either event, please contact Joey Combs at jcombs@seiu517m.org to register or with any questions.

Timeline for School Pension Service Credit Purchases

On July 12, 2017, Gov. Rick Snyder signed Senate Bill 401 into law as PA 92 of 2017. This legislation changes the retirement plans for teachers, administrators, bus drivers, cooks, para pros and other public-school employees.

Here are two things you should know about PA 92:

It allows some employees to retire earlier by purchasing service credits for a limited time. Under PA 92, current school employees who were hired before July 1, 2010 **will no longer be able to purchase most types of service credit after 5 p.m. EDT on September 29, 2017.**

If you're interested in purchasing service credits, you must submit payment to ORS or complete the tax-deferred payment agreement with your employer and submit to ORS before the closing date.

It doesn't change everything about the retirement plans.

PA 92 does not change retirement benefits or requirements for members who first worked for a Michigan public school before July 2010. It also doesn't change the Pension Plus retirement plan for those who first worked between July 1, 2010 and January 31, 2018.

How to reach the ORS

- Call them between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday at 517-322-5103 or 800-381-5111.
- Fax them at 517-322-1116.
- Visit their website at www.michigan.gov/orsschools/
- Write them at Office of Retirement Services, PO Box 30171, Lansing, MI 48909-7671

Pension Day of Action Set for September 26th

Join the fight back against major changes to public pension systems and retirement security. A Pension Day of Action is being organized by the Coalition for a Secure Retirement - Michigan for Tuesday, September 26, 2017. Registration begins at 8:30 am in the Mackinac Room of the House Office Building (124 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing).

RSVP to Courtney or Cara at Capitol Services, Inc. by calling (517) 372-0860.

Introduction to Labor Studies Certificate Program Offered

The MSU Labor Education Program is offering a new certificate program for Fall 2017: Introduction to Labor Studies. Six workshops will be held on Tuesday evenings from 6:15 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. with free parking available after 6:00 p.m. The class will run from September 19th to October 24th on the MSU Campus in Bessey Hall. You are welcome to attend one, some, or all of these sessions. Those who attend all six sessions this fall will receive the certificate. The cost is \$25 per person per week.

Topics:

Sept. 19: Intro to Labor Studies, Part 1: Overview of the current status of the labor movement in the US. Where are we now?: The role of unions in society; Wages and benefits for members; Unionization rates, Right to Work

Sept. 26: Intro to Labor Studies, Part 2: How did we get here?: Selected events in labor history; Impact of U.S. economic policy on working people from the Great Depression to the Great Recession; Income inequality

October 3: Member mobilization: How to represent and mobilize workers in the Right to Work environment

October 10: Representing workers: The role of stewards (Part 1): Role of the steward;
Introduction to the grievance procedure

October 17: Representing workers: The role of stewards (Part 2): More on the grievance
procedure; Duty of Fair Representation; Weingarten Rights

October 24: Introduction to Labor Law. We'll cover just the basics of this essential topic,
focusing on labor law as it relates to collective bargaining: Good faith bargaining; Subjects of
bargaining; Right to strike

For more information and to register, click here:
<http://hrlr.msu.edu/laborEd/events.php#.WZwz6emQwdU>

Fundraiser Walks for Alzheimer's and Breast Cancer Organized

SEIU Local 517M members have organized teams for upcoming fundraising walks for
Alzheimer's and Breast Cancer research. The information for the walks is below. Please click
on the link to register and walk with your fellow union members for a great cause. For more
information about walking with other 517M members, contact Joey Combs, HSS Unit President
at jcombs@seiu517m.org.

September 24th - Walk to End Alzheimer's in Lansing

Register here: <http://act.alz.org/goto/SEIU517>

Time: Registration at 11:30 a.m., Ceremony at 12:45 p.m., Walk at 1 p.m.

Route Length: 2 miles

Location: State Capitol, 124 W Allegan St, Lansing, MI 48933

Contact: Nicole Bebee, 517-999-3004, nbebee@alz.org

October 14th - Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk in Saginaw

Register Here:

http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/MakingStridesAgainstBreastCancer/MSABCCY17LS?px=45226270&pg=personal&fr_id=84759

Time: Walk at 10:30 a.m.

Location: Krossroads Park, 5650 Bay Rd, Saginaw

Contact: Jeff Larsen, (989) 895-1730, jeff.larsen@cancer.org

October 21st - Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk in Grand Rapids

Register Here:

http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/MakingStridesAgainstBreastCancer/MSABCCY17LS?team_id=2194492&pg=team&fr_id=84752

Time: Registration at 8:00 a.m., Walk at 10:00 a.m.

Location: Rosa Parks Park, 1 Monroe Center St NW, Grand Rapids

Contact: Susan Brogger, (616) 551-4049, GrandRapidsMIStrides@cancer.org

Walk to End Alzheimer's at the Detroit Zoo



SEIU 517M participated in the Walk to end Alzheimer's at the Detroit Zoo on Saturday, August 26, 2017. There were approximately 20 people (9 members and 11 family members) who participated from the Human Services Support Division. The participants were Joey Combs, HSS President, Janice Cosey, HSS VP/Grievance Consultant, Gloria Steward, Liability Examiner, Ellina Simmons, Liability Examiner, Kristina Dalton, Bankruptcy/FOC, Patricia Miller, Detroit PRO, Joann Smith, VIPR, Darlene Thomas, VIPR, and Chelsea Gill, VIPR. The fundraising goal of \$100 was met. Please come and walk with your union at the remaining walks in September and October listed in the previous article. Help make a difference in your community.

Building Relationships, "Member Engagement Picnic" Success in the City of Detroit



SEIU Local 517M members in Detroit have been thinking of ways to strengthen member engagement. The Engagement Committee has worked on several community projects including park clean-ups at local Detroit Parks. Palmer Park in Detroit is one of the city parks that the City of Detroit Environmental Enforcement bargaining unit adopted and was

the venue for the first annual "Membership Picnic" on August 1st. Twenty-eight unit members brought their families for an afternoon of Fun and Solidarity.

The committee planned activities for the kids and adults including, Bounce Houses and a Horse Shoe Tournament. "It's important that we come together now, more than ever", said Daryl Buchanan, President of the City of Detroit bargaining unit.



Inaugural Scholarship Golf Outing a Success!



Over 50 golfers participated in the 2017 SEIU Local 517M Annual Golf Outing on August 11th. The event was held at the Wheatfield Valley Golf Course in Williamston. There was a three-way tie for first place with a winning score of 60. Tie-breakers were used to figure out the winner and runner-up. The winning team named RRD1 (pictured left) was comprised of Andrew Santini, Joe Walczak, Keith Krawczyk, and Dave

Benit. The runner up team named Inland Press consisted of Steve Sugayan, Steve Bianchi, Mark Moody, and Craig Williams (pictured with Dave Corrie (2nd from Right, receiving their award). Several hole prizes were also awarded for Closest to the Pin, Longest Putt, and Long Drive. But the big winner was the SEIU 517M Scholarship Fund which raised over



\$6300 at the event! Details on how you can apply for the scholarship will be coming in the October E-Former.

A huge thank you for our sponsors who stepped up and contributed to make this event so successful. We would like to thank our sponsors for their support of this great cause:

Gold Level Sponsor:

SEIU Local 517M Executive Board

Bronze Level Sponsors:

Hall and Romkema, PLC

Health Alliance Plan (HAP)

United Technical Employees Association, Division of SEIU Local 517M

Hole Sponsors:

Dave Berridge, Scientists and Engineers

Gary Roe, Benefits Specialist, Workplace Benefits

Inland Press

John Eck

Lighthouse Insurance Group

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Union Staff Association

Prizes Generously Donated by:

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Health Alliance Plan (HAP)

Inland Press

Lighthouse Insurance Group

Metro Agency

We hope to see more people at next year's outing on August 10, 2018!

From the Archives: A Lesson in Labor History from the Reuther Library

SEIU Photographs Collection

By Gavin Strassel, SEIU Archivist

The Walter P. Reuther Library, the official archives of SEIU, is proud to announce the opening of the [SEIU Photographs](#), a massive collection of images that spans the union's proud history from 1915 to 2012. The majority of the collection originated from the Communications Department at SEIU's international offices in Washington D.C. Most of the photos have been taken for SEIU's various publications and informational literature (posters, pamphlets). These photos capture pivotal moments in the union's history, ranging from massive demonstrations of [thousands of nurses marching across the Golden Gate Bridge](#) to the [International Executive Board making key decisions](#) that charted the trajectory of the union. Other images simply document more day-to-day aspects, such as workers at their place of employment. Arranged together and housed

across 263 archival boxes, these thousands of photos form to comprehensively narrate the story of a union and its members who have put in the work, day in, day out for almost 100 years.

SEIU Local 517M is well represented in the SEIU Photographs. Scenes of 517M members politicking for the 2000 presidential election, portraits of its past leaders, and even behind-the-scenes images from a union television commercial shoot reside in the collection. This collection, the largest of its kind, is free and open to Local 517M members as well as the general public, and many of the photos have been digitized and are available at the [Reuther Library's website](#).



SEIU's living wage rally versus Detroit Mayor Archer at Hart Plaza, 1998.

Local 517M members campaigning for Al Gore, 2000.



Michigan corrections officer's video for Local 517M and 26M, 1989.



Gavin Strassel is the SEIU Archivist at the Walter P. Reuther Library of Labor and Urban Affairs at Wayne State University, the official repository for SEIU and the largest labor archives in North America. If you are interested in performing research with the SEIU collections, please contact Gavin at strassel@wayne.edu.

To learn more about SEIU and Michigan labor history click here: <http://reuther.wayne.edu/index.php>

Calendar of Upcoming Union Events for September, 2017

September 4: Labor Day March in Detroit

September 15: Human Services Support Unit Board Meeting

September 24: Walk to End Alzheimer's in Lansing

September 26: Pension Day of Action in Lansing

For more information on the above events, consult our on-line calendar at:
<http://www.seiu517m.org/events/month/>

The monthly subscription for the E-Former is included in your membership dues payment and is intended for members in good standing of SEIU Local 517M.

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