

SEIU E-Former: April 2018



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Whitmer Accepts Challenge to "Walk-A-Day" In My Shoes



Michigan Gubernatorial Candidate Gretchen Whitmer accepted the challenge to "Walk-A-Day" in the shoes of an SEIU 517M Member. On Friday, March 23rd, she joined Allegan County Road Commission Unit President Pete Anderson at his job. Candidate Whitmer worked with Pete as part of a pot hole patching crew on an Allegan County road.

Political candidates are asked to "Walk-A-Day" in the shoes of a member as part of the SEIU Member

Endorsement process. SEIU was excited for this opportunity to show Candidate Whitmer the work our members do on behalf of the citizens of Michigan everyday to provide safe roads and keep our economy moving.

2018 Gubernatorial Endorsement Process

This election cycle SEIU 517M after feedback from members and leaders will look a little different. ALL gubernatorial candidates have been asked to participate in our process which includes completing a Vision and Values questionnaire on issues important to our membership, participation in our Walk-A-Day in my shoes program and in our member Town Hall meetings. **The first Town Hall with the candidates is scheduled for MONDAY, APRIL 16th, from 7pm-9pm at the Wayne County Community College Atrium, 1001 W. Fort Street, Detroit.** Please join us for the opportunity to talk with the candidates about your issues and concerns.

Official Notice of Union Election and Calendar

SEIU Local 517M will be holding elections for officers and board members this year. If you are interested in running for a union office, the [Candidate Petition Form](#) with the offices up for election are available on the website and through links in this story. Petition forms will be accepted between April 1, 2018 and Noon on May 1, 2018. The election calendar is stated below:

- April 2, 2018 - Notice of Election in April E-Former with Link to [Candidate Petition Form](#)
- May 1, 2018 Deadline for Return of Candidate Petition Forms & Photos
- May 18 - 31, 2018 Electronic Voting Period. Voting begins at 8:00 a.m. on May 18th and concludes at 5:00 p.m. on May 31st.
- May 23, 2018 Deadline for requesting a paper ballot
- June 4, 2018 Paper Ballot Deadline at Noon
- June 4, 2018 Ballots Counted and Election Certified by Election/Tally Committee
- July 1, 2018 Newly Elected Leadership takes office

[Candidate Petition Form](#)

If you have questions about the election process, contact Dave Corrie at corried@seiu517m.org

Equal Pay Legislative Day is April 10th



The Michigan Equal Pay Legislative Day will be held at the State Capitol in Lansing on Tuesday, April 10, 2018, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. bringing awareness to the continuing pay gap between women and men. SEIU 517M is a founding member of the Pay Equity Coalition and continues to fight every day for equal pay for all our members.

Equal Pay Day symbolizes how far into the year a woman must work, on average, to earn as much as a man earned the previous year. (Tuesday is the day on which women's wages catch up to men's wages from the previous week.) Because women earn less, on average, than men, they must work longer for the same amount of pay. The wage gap is even greater for most women of color. Did you know that full-time earnings for women are approximately 80.5 percent of earnings for men? The White House also reports that the pay gap is greater for African-American and Latina women, with African-American women earning 62.5 cents and Latina women earning 54.4 cents for every dollar earned by a white, non-Hispanic male.

Those who register for the morning event and lunch at the Central United Methodist Church starting at 9:30 a.m. (register on-line [here](#) or download a registration form to send in [here](#)) will attend together the House Commerce and Trade Committee meeting in 519 House Office Building, right across the street from the Church. This Committee is where all the Pay Equity House bills have been assigned. We may be able to make a presentation about pay equity that day or in the future, so we need a show of force **dressed in red**. Rep. Erika Geiss, a member of the Committee, will introduce all organizations who are in our Coalition. Afterwards we will visit targeted House member offices in the same building to deliver information about pay equity.

Attorney Deborah Gordon, a specialist in sex discrimination law who recently brought two equal pay claims in federal court, has agreed to be a featured speaker at our **Equal Pay Day Rally starting at 12:30 p.m. on the Capitol** steps in Lansing. We will hear from legislative sponsors of the Pay Equity bills as well. This event is free and open to the public. After the rally we will be visiting the new Senate office building and delivering information about pay equity to Senate offices.

Register Now for Lobby Day on May 9th



The SEIU Local 517M COPE Committee invites you to join with them and your fellow members on Wednesday, May 9, 2018, as a day set aside to speak with our legislators in Lansing. The event will run from 8:30 am - 3:00 pm and will begin in Room 402/403 of the State Capitol in Lansing. Lunch will be provided, and legislators and their staff will join us to discuss issues in a more informal setting.

There are many issues which affect you and your job such as pension protection, privatization, and retiree health care, and the legislature needs to hear from you on those issues. The Union will schedule appointments for you to meet with your Senator and Representative. If there are hearings, or legislation that is being voted on, you will get a chance to watch the proceedings. It is a great way to be a part of the process that affects all of us – both at home and on the job. **You must use vacation time to attend!**

Registration is now open so register today at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GRJJO9M>

Member Night at the Lansing Lugnuts!



SEIU Local 517M Night at the Lansing Lugnuts will be held on **Thursday, May 3, 2018** when the Lugnuts take on the Kane County Cougars at 7:00 p.m. SEIU Local 517M is joining with the Clerical-Technical Union of MSU to offer a great night at the ballpark for our members and invited guests.

That night there will be a Tribute to Mike Sadler and the Sadler Foundation. Join us in honoring former Michigan State punter, Mike Sadler, with a night dedicated in his memory. The first 1,000 fans will receive a Michigan State-Green Lugnut #3 jersey. Hey Diddle Diddle, a craft beer dedicated to Mike, will be available for sale courtesy of Atwater Brewery. Proceeds from the game will go to the Sadler Foundation.

Members and their families will be able to purchase tickets for \$20 per adult, and \$15 per youth ages 3-12. Non-members can join us by purchasing tickets through an online link (once activated) for \$26 per adult, \$21 youth ages 3-12.

The ticket includes: Box Seat, All-You-Can-Eat Picnic Buffet and Soft Drinks in the Chevrolet Terrace.

Thirsty Thursday beers (\$1 each) are on your own. We will conduct a 50/50 Raffle for the SEIU 517M Scholarship Fund.

Please watch for additional announcements when the tickets are available for purchase in our Lansing office!

Grand Haven Euchre Tournament

The Grand Haven Schools unit of SEIU Local 517M will be holding a Euchre Tournament on Saturday, April 21, 2018 from 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m at the Grand Haven VFW post located at 20 North 1st St, Grand Haven, Michigan.

All funds collected will go to community projects such as the Community Food Truck, Holiday Adopt a Family, and the Back To School Clothing program.

Registration before April 16th is \$20 per player. After April 16th the cost is \$25 per player.

Cash prizes will be awarded as follows: \$100 for 1st place, \$75 for 2nd place, \$25 for 3rd place. There will also be door and raffle prizes given!

Register at:

https://signup.com/Contribute?accesskey=6775657374&activity_id=2262038#/invitation

Members Give Back to Lansing Food Bank



Five state employee members used some of their Community Leave Time at the Greater Lansing Food Bank Warehouse on February 28th. They put together hundreds of "back packs" for kids. These were large baggies filled with a variety of food that were packed in boxes. They packed 92 boxes with four baggies each, which totals 368 bags of



food! The group enjoyed working towards this important cause of feeding those in need! There will be additional events to volunteer with the Food Bank throughout the year.

"I would just say that I don't always use my community/school leave and appreciated the opportunity to learn a little more about the Lansing Food Bank," said Sue Maul, a Scientific and Engineering Unit member from DEQ. "It felt good to help a local agency that helps others in our community."

Watch for information in the E-Former and Did You Know emails for our next community volunteer event or contact Cindy Mason at cmason@seiu517m.org if you have ideas for future community involvement opportunities. (Pictured: Joel Colosky, MDOT Technical Unit, and Sue Maul, DEQ Scientific and Engineering Unit)

SEIU Scholarship Applications Are Still Available

SEIU Local 517M is proud to offer our very own scholarship program! With the discontinuation of the SEIU International scholarship program, the Local 517M Executive Board established a scholarship program to help members in good standing and their children with college expenses.

The funding for the scholarship comes from the Annual Scholarship Golf Outing and other fundraising activities which include raffles and fundraising events throughout the year. Please check our SEIU Local 517M website for our calendar of events.

Eight \$500 non-renewable scholarships will be awarded this year to students based on successful completion of the application process and meeting certain criteria. Awards will be made via a lottery system from all eligible submissions.

Scholarships are awarded without regard to gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, disability, or political affiliation of the applicant. Scholarships are limited to one per household for each academic year.

Applications are already coming in and they must be received by May 14, 2018. The winners will be notified July 2, 2018.

For full details and the application, please click here: <http://www.seiu517m.org/wp-content/blogs.dir/40/files/2018/02/2018-Scholarship-App-21518.pdf>

New Member Benefit - Auto and Home Insurance Program

Beginning March 26, 2018, SEIU members have access to a new automobile and homeowner's insurance program, available nationwide.

In a new partnership with MassDrive, the SEIU Auto and Home Insurance program allows SEIU members to obtain quotes on their personal automobile and/or home, renter, or condominium insurance needs. Members will also be provided special group pricing from Liberty Mutual Insurance Company, a respected insurance company with over 100 years of experience. Members can obtain a quote through an interactive website or over the phone with a licensed agent.

For more information about the new SEIU Auto and Home Insurance program, please visit the website at www.seiumb.com. You may also contact the SEIU Member Service Center toll-free at 1-844-836-7348 (Mon-Fri: 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. ET, Sat: 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. ET) or via email at ask-us@seiumb.com.

Student Debt Clinics Scheduled for May

One of the biggest expenses we hear members talk about is the cost of their own or a family members student debt and its influence on making other financial decisions. SEIU Local 517M is in the process of scheduling several Student Debt Clinics throughout Michigan to help members find solutions to alleviate their student debt costs. The first event is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 15th** from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Lansing SEIU 517M Office (1026 E. Michigan Ave.)

Locations and dates for clinics in Grand Rapids, Saginaw and the Detroit area will be announced when finalized. Check www.seiu517m.org for more information on the new locations.

Email Cindy Mason at cmason@seiu517m.org to register for the clinic. Seating is limited so register today!

Save the Date for the August 10th Scholarship Golf Outing



The Annual SEIU Local 517M Scholarship Golf Outing will be held on Friday, August 10, 2018 at Wheatfield Valley Golf Course in Williamston. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. with a shotgun start at 9:00 a.m.

Please mark this day on your calendar and plan to be with us for a day of fun golf, good friends, and a great cause!

Contact Dave Corrie at (517) 267-2090, or e-mail at corried@seiu517m.org for any questions.

Calendar of Upcoming Union Events for April, 2018

April 2: Scientific and Engineering Unit Board Meeting, Lansing
April 7: Leadership Academy Session 2, Lansing
April 12: Technical Unit Board Meeting, Lansing
April 16: SEIU Gubernatorial Candidate Town Hall, Detroit
April 20: SEIU Local 517M Executive Board Meeting, Lansing
April 24: School and Local Government Region 1 Board Meeting, Saginaw
April 27: Human Services Support Unit Board Meeting, 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 and is intended for members in good standing of SEIU Local 517M.

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