

Working Family News, Activities, Meetings & Rally Information, 8-12-11

Please refer to the following website for more detailed information throughout the State

<http://local.we-r-1.org/weareone/events/search/state/MI>

Current Edition of the "Grand Valley Labor News," is available at:

<http://www.grandvalleylabornews.com/downloads/GV58.08aug11.pdf>

What	Where	When	Further Details
2011 - International Ironworkers Festival	Mackinaw City	Friday-Sunday August 12-14	Events are held over the weekend with the "Oldtimers" competitions conducted on Sunday. More information can be accessed at: http://www.ironfest.com/Ironfest/Home.html
Kalamazoo County Advocates for Senior Issues	Senior Services Inc., 918 Jasper St., is open to the public	1:15 p.m., Monday, August 15	U.S. Rep. Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, will discuss recent congressional actions, as well as the future of Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security and other programs affecting older and disabled adults at Monday's meeting of Kalamazoo County Advocates for Senior Issues. The audience will be able to ask questions. Refreshments will be available. KCASI is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to advocate for the improvement of conditions for older adults. For more information, call 269-373-5147.
Democratic State Reps. Roy Schmidt and Brandon Dillon 2 for 1 Coffee Hours	Fat Boy Burgers, 2450 Plainfield Ave. NE, Grand Rapids	8 a.m. to 9 a.m. Monday, Aug. 15	Democratic State Reps. Roy Schmidt and Brandon Dillon will begin offering their Grand Rapids constituents 2-for-1 specials when they hold informal coffee hours together on the first and third Monday of each month.
The Michigan State AFL CIO and Michigan HRDI Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Program Town Hall Meeting	UAW Region 1 27800 George Merrelli Drive, Warren, MI 48092	Wednesday - August 17, 2011, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm (lunch provided)	The Michigan State AFL CIO and Michigan HRDI are working with union representatives, employers, Federal, State and local entities, elected officials, and workers to help them better understand the necessity for the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program. This includes educating trade-affected dislocated workers who may not understand the TAA petition and what it means to be covered by a TAA certification. Keynote speaker, Rep. Sander Levin, the Ranking Member of the House Ways and Means Committee, which has jurisdiction over all tax, trade and economic growth policies and entitlement spending, including Social Security, Medicare, welfare and unemployment compensation. Town Hall Meetings are scheduled in Southeast Michigan and in Lansing. Mark your calendar today and plan on attending the meeting that fits your schedule. There is no cost to attend and invitees can bring up to three (3) guests. Seating will be limited so register early! Registration info to: taa@mhrdi.org
WE ARE THE PEOPLE Grass Roots Rally <i>Congressman Fred Upton, Where ARE the Jobs??!!</i>	157 S. Kalamazoo Mall, Kalamazoo, MI	Wednesday, August 17 starting at 10:00am	We have a question for Fred Upton: Whose side are you on? Are you on the side of the CEOs and Wall Street bankers who caused the economic meltdown or are you on the side of the rest of us? For further information on this event, contact: Brent Gillette MI State Political Director at 517-203-9068 or bgillette@miaficio.org
Town Hall Meeting with Representative Marcia Hovey-Wright	Stephenson Center Room 1100 at Muskegon Community College	Wednesday, Aug. 17, 7pm	Representative Marcia Hovey-Wright will also host a Town Hall meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 17 at 7:00 at MCC -- Stephenson Center, room 1100. The topic is school funding. Superintendents from her district will be discussing how the cuts to school funding will impact our schools. Everyone is encouraged to attend -- as well as spread the word about this event. If we do not let our leaders know how important education is, they could continue to make massive cuts. It is critical for us to get educated on this issue and to make a statement to our leaders.

What	Where	When	Further Details
The Michigan State AFL CIO and Michigan HRDI Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Program Town Hall Meeting	U.A. Local 333, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Lansing, MI 48911	Thursday - August 18, 2011 9:00 am - 3:00 pm (lunch provided)	<p>The Michigan State AFL CIO and Michigan HRDI are working with union representatives, employers, Federal, State and local entities, elected officials, and workers to help them better understand the necessity for the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program. This includes educating trade-affected dislocated workers who may not understand the TAA petition and what it means to be covered by a TAA certification.</p> <p>Invited speaker, Senator Carl Levin, whose top priority has been the economic well-being of Michigan families. He has been a consistent voice for support of American manufacturing, the backbone of Michigan's economy and the nation's. Town Hall Meetings are scheduled in Southeast Michigan and in Lansing. Mark your calendar today and plan on attending the meeting that fits your schedule. There is no cost to attend and invitees can bring up to three (3) guests. Seating will be limited so register early! Registration info to: taa@mhrdi.org</p>
"Muskegon County Voter Educational Forum"	Muskegon Community College's Collegiate Hall	Thursday August 18, 2011 from 5:30pm to 8:30pm	<p>Sponsored by the Muskegon County Clerks Association and the Muskegon Branch NAACP. Both organizations have agreed to collaborate to help educate the Muskegon County community on voting processes and procedures including voting ballots, absentee voting, voting day procedures, do's and don'ts of voters and how to become an election official, registering to vote, including persons with a felony, how to use the voting machine and much much more. Dr. Dale Nesbary, will be the special guest speaker. Arrangements have been made for those who will need transportation to this event if they have a disability. Contact Disability Connection before August 15, 2011 at 231-722-0088.</p> <p>Fore more information about this event, contact: Ann Oakes, President, Muskegon County Clerks Association at 231-777-2555 ext. 312 or Charles Nash, Mentor Coordinator, West Michigan Therapy at 231-728-2138.</p>
Working: Searching for the Dignity and Meaning of Labor – Panel Discussion	Grand Rapids Public Library, 111 Library St., NE, 2 nd Floor	Monday, August 29 starting at 7 p.m.	<p>Free Admission - In the past, work was the measure of worth. How do workers today assert dignity, find meaning in their work and gain mastery over the conditions of their labor? How is the work experience portrayed in the written word? Three Michigan authors, M.L Liebler, Lolita Hernandez and Gregg Shotwell, who have all written about work experiences, will attempt to answer these questions based on their work and research. The panel will be moderated by local labor historian Michael Johnston.</p>
MI State AFL-CIO Community Services Fall Seminar	Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center MSU 55 South Harrison Ave. East Lansing, MI 48824-1022	Tuesday, August 30, 2011	<p>Mobilize Your Community Service Network Strengthen Partnerships Get prepared for the Upcoming United Way Campaign</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keynote speaker Will Fischer, Community Services Coordinator, National AFL-CIO • United Way Community Impact Panel • Workshops featuring innovative, replicable community service project ideas <p>For further information contact MI AFL-CIO Community Services eluchenbill@uwmich.org, stanaszek5@aol.com, kiclc@sbcglobal.net, or phone (616)456-8233</p>
WEST MICHIGAN LABORFEST	Ah-Nab-Awen Park & Ford Museum	Labor Day, September 5, 2011, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.	<p>All day free attendance at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. Music, Arts & Crafts booths, Food vendors, Beer tent, Children's rides, Exhibits, Classic Cars and more. See Ben Franklin's "In Search of a Better World" Exhibit at www.benfranklinexhibit.org. LABORFEST IS IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS. Please contact Scott Barton at 616-862-0772 or s.a.barton@att.net.</p>

What	Where	When	Further Details
Mid & West MI Construction Alliances Annual Joint Meeting	Wagon Wheel American Grill-Oak Room 7888 E. Grand River Ave. Portland, MI 48875	Thursday, September 1, 2011 from 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Anticipated topics and updates include: * Various Political Updates * Building Code Cycle Changes * Lobbying New Legislators * Detroit River International Crossing (DRIC) * Power Plants * and More A detailed agenda will be send via email as we get closer to the event. Please RSVP to Ed Haynor, Consultant, WMCA at wmconstructionalliance@gmail.com or call 616-837-8080.
Progressive Democratic Women's Caucus Meeting "RENEW AMERICA"	Muskegon Holiday Inn Marriott Renaissance Center Detroit MI. Registration is \$75.00 which includes lunch and materials.	Tuesday, Sept. 6 th at 11:30 a.m. Sunday October 2, 2011 in conjunction with the Biennial Convention of the Michigan State AFL-CIO	For more information, contact Mary Valentine at: maryvalentine08@gmail.com Exhibitors are permitted to display and sell their Union-Made merchandise and services <i>ONLY</i> . We're excited to house exhibitors with exposure to the State Convention. We anticipate hundreds of delegates for this convention. Overnight accommodations at the Marriott are \$117.00 per night plus tax, which includes <i>wifi</i> and free parking. For room reservations please call 800 352-0831 and reserve under the code "AFL" group code. If interested in exhibitor's space is, it's \$325.00 per site for a skirted 6 foot table with two chairs for the three day event. Extra space is available with same criteria. Hotel special service assistance information is separate. Please contact the Union Label and Service Trades Council if you have any questions, need more information, or for Registration forms at 800 684-1256 (Patty) or 616 293-2823 (Jenni).

FOR ADDITIONAL UPCOMING MICHIGAN RALLY INFORMATION go to:

http://www.facebook.com/MIrallyinfo?sk=app_4949752878

For up-to-date news on anti labor legislation, go to: <http://www.miaflcio.org/legislative-action/legislative-report.html>

If you wish to participate in a Community Action Team in your area, please click below:

<http://www.miaflcio.org/component/content/article/298.html>

On-Line Petition opposed to Governor Snyder's budget at:

http://salsa.wiredforchange.com/o/1141/p/dia/action/public/?action_KEY=3578

Watch Highlights of the "Rebuild the Dream" at:

<http://www.rebuildthedream.com/launch-highlights.php>

Visit former MI House of Representative Mary Valentine's blog at: <http://politicsforabetteramerica.blogspot.com>. She has a very unique view of issues after having been in the legislature.