

# DISTRICT COUNCIL 4 Update

October 2024

Painters, Tapers, Glaziers, Glassworkers, Billboard Posters, Wallcoverers, Printing Presswork and Pre-natal-Perinatal Workers

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My Brothers and Sisters,

This newsletter will undoubtedly upset half of its readers. So be it. Things need to be clarified, and it is past time.

I am going to lay out some facts that many won't know. Because too many have isolated themselves in bubbles and echo chambers of misinformation.

After a worldwide pandemic and worldwide inflation, the United States currently has the best economy in the world. Last month, the World Bank stated that the US is helping to buoy other countries' economies around the world. Inflation is down to 2.5% - the lowest in the world. Unemployment is at record modern low – the lowest in the world. Gas prices are down dramatically. Violent crime rates are at a 50-year low. Border crossings are currently at the lowest point in years. And if Harris-Walz win they will pass the Bi-partisan Border Security Bill - that Trump torpedoed months ago. The bill the Border Patrol Union said would be the biggest boost to border security ever. More Americans have health coverage today than ever before. Medi-

care and major drug prices have been capped by the Democrats. The stock market is hitting record highs weekly. The US isn't deployed in any foreign wars. Domestic manufacturing is stronger than it has been in 50 years. Manufacturing jobs have come back to the US in record numbers. Energy production is at an all-time high. We are no longer an oil importer. The US has become a leading oil exporter.

The current Democratic administration has once again picked up the pieces from the preceding Republican administration. Yet fickle Americans always get restless after 4 years and decide to vote for change – even when the progress is undeniable and strongly moving in the right direction. It would be madness to go back to the instability and daily chaos of the Trump administration after all the progress.

There have only been 6 presidents since 1946 to REDUCE the deficit (all Democrats):

1. Harry Truman: 92% top marginal tax rate. Reduced the deficit (from \$16B to \$6B) while paying down massive debt from WWII and the Korean Wars. Despite strong Republican opposition he expanded Social Security and disability benefits, established minimum wage, ended child labor and cut taxes on working middle class Americans.
2. John F. Kennedy: Kennedy reduced the deficit despite a recession (from \$7B to \$6B). He cut the top marginal tax rate to 70% and added credits for US investment. Expanded healthcare, Social Security and housing programs. Raised the minimum wage. Established the Peace Corps.
3. Lyndon B. Johnson: Reduced the deficit and left a surplus (\$1B deficit to a \$3B surplus). His "Great Society" programs funded education, scientific research, urban renewal, and fought crime, dramatically reduced poverty, and expanded social services, including Medicare for seniors.
4. Bill Clinton: Reagan had cut top tax rates from 70% to 28%, tripling the national debt, exploding deficits and income inequality. Clinton raised the top tax rates, reduced the deficit, and left the first surplus since 1969 (\$203B deficit to a \$128B surplus). His predecessor George W Bush's economic mismanagement and more trickle-down tax cuts for the wealthy left a record \$1Trillion deficit and a Great Recession.
5. Barrack Obama: Despite only 72 days of a filibuster proof majority, Obama passed stimulus stabilizing the economy and saving millions of jobs. He slightly raised taxes on the wealthy to ensure deficit reductions while also insuring 21 million Americans with the Affordable Care Act. He reduced the deficit by 2/3 at a record pace (from \$1.6Trillion to \$660Billion).
6. Joe Biden: Like Bush, Trump slashed taxes on the richest of the rich and squandered Obama's deficit reductions, leaving a \$3.8Trillion deficit. Biden's stimulus and policies saved the economy from recession and led to record job growth. By last year Bidens policies had already slashed the deficit by a record \$1.5Trillion.

For historical reference, in 2017 the Republicans passed a 10-year tax plan for America, signed by Trump. It heavily cut taxes on the richest of the rich and large corporations. It raised taxes on the middle class and small mom-and-pop businesses. It screwed all of us. It is set to expire in 2027. Trump has already told his billionaire buddy's his number one priority is extending that for another 10 years. That's what this is all about. Don't be distracted by the shiny object. All the BS social issues they use to distract and divide us: guns, gays, God, immigrants. They are used to make you angry and afraid. Distracted from the obvious. They are rigging the game against all of us hard working Americans.



IUPAT DC 4 of WNY & CNY

Here are some of the corporate tax rates before and after the 2017 Trump Tax Scam Law – Verizon: before 21% after 8%. Walmart: before 31% after 17%. AT&T: before 13% after 3%. Walt Disney: before 26% after 1%. FedEx: before 18% after 1%. Who had to pay more so those Republicans could so generously give money to their corporate masters? You and I, and all the hard-working middle class of America.

In 2023 General Electric boasted \$7Billion in profits. How much do you think they paid in taxes on those profits? If you guessed \$1 that would be way too high. They got a refund of \$423Million.

This is what corporate welfare giveaways look like. 90% of all welfare goes to large corporations. The majority doesn't go to people in need. It doesn't help the hard-working middle-class, blue-collar workers like us. It goes to corporate welfare.

I am done with patience for members that get mad the unions support Democrats. You can vote for Republicans because you are afraid for your guns. Because you are afraid of the gays. Because you are afraid of people of color. Because you mistakenly think America was founded on Christianity and see a secular government that scares you. That is your prerogative and God bless you, you've got the right. But don't come at me and say you are doing it for the economy or the good of the working people of America. That my friends would be a lie.

Don't be duped. Don't fall prey to fear and loathing. That's all Trump is selling – hate and fear. He has no plans. He appeals to the basest of your emotions. If you aren't leading your life and every day with love and compassion for your fellow humans, you are wasting the day and your life.

God Bless You and God Bless America.

In solidarity,

Michael Hogan BM/ST DC4

In solidarity,



Michael Hogan  
Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer  
IUPAT District Council 4



## MARC BRAUNSTEIN

### *Director of Training*

I hope all of my DC 4 Brothers and Sisters were able to spend time this summer with family and friends! As the busy construction season starts to wind down, The FTI of W&CNY's busy season is starting to ramp up. We are preparing for our Apprentice School and the busy training season. I am looking forward to seeing all of our Apprentices and Journey-people at our Training Centers throughout the Fall and Winter Seasons.

Our DC 4 Apprentices will be receiving their school schedules soon. The New York State Department of Labor (NYS-DOL), who our 13 Apprentice programs are registered with, requires a minimum of 144 hours of classroom related instruction each year for apprentices. Our Apprentices will come in for 1 week per month, for 4 months to fulfill the NYS-DOL requirement. While in school, the Apprentices will complete the required curriculum, required Health and Safety classes, and get hands-on training that relates to their craft. The apprentices are the future of our Organization. We need to mentor, educate, train, and treat our Apprentices, and all our Members, like our pensions depend on them... because they do! It is our duty, as Union members, to help and train our brother and sister members. Help us build our

leaders of tomorrow through mentorship.

The FTI of W&CNY is currently working on the Health and Safety and Journeyman upgrading training schedules for WNY and CNY. Please check [dc4.org](http://dc4.org) for training schedules and keep a look out for text blast with updates. If there are any classes you need or would like to see us put on the schedule, please call the FTI Office at 716-565-0112.

Text messages are the best way for us to get information to all of our members. Text messages are also becoming the main source of communication. If you are not receiving text messages from DC 4, I highly suggest you opt back in to receive them. There is a lot of valuable information and important updates that are sent out through text messages, and I would like to see all of our members receive those. If you have opted out of DC 4 text messages in the past, and you want to opt back in to receive the text messages, you need to text the word UNSTOP to 1-844-390-2380.

I had the honor to attend the 33rd IUPAT General Convention in August 2024. This is where the Delegates of the Convention set the course of the IUPAT for the next 5 years. The theme of the convention was One Union - One Family - One Fight. As leaders in the labor movement, we need to have the same priorities for all workers, and we are looking forward to building a future where we work together as ONE.

I am looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our Training centers this Fall/Winter. Get involved, educate yourselves, take training to enhance your skills, work safe, and be the best DC 4 member that you can be!



## BRIAN LIPCZYNSKI

### *Director of Service Representative*

As Summer comes to a close, it was not the best year work wise in Western New York. In Central New York it was better as Cornell has multiple projects going on. Luckily, the Bills Stadium will be coming up in the fourth quarter for all of our trades and the demand for manpower in Western New York will be full go. We have been missing the large project in Western New York to take on a bunch of journey people. It is all small quick jobs and it is just keeping our head above water. With the end of this year, I am looking forward to more work and more job opportunities for our members. As an organization we are looking and thinking outside the box to try and create work opportunities for membership. With work being slow and people being low on unemployment, try and pick up our brothers and sisters any way you can.

With our General Convention wrapped up, I have a few takeaways. Our General president Jimmy Williams Jr. is one of the best speakers I have ever heard. There were many speakers throughout the week and Jimmy Williams was right up there with the best of them. It was an honor for me to sit on the Resolutions Committee. The overall theme

of our convention and the Resolutions were unity and acceptance. Please be courteous and kind to ALL of our members. We might not agree on politics, sexual orientation, or any other of the many social issues but, we need to create an environment that is not toxic to work in. We have to accept Women, Minorities, The LGBTQ community, and all other people who may look or act different than you. It is 2024 and the times are changing whether you like it or not. In order for our Union to thrive and grow we need to be a cohesive unit and firing on all cylinders.

The Buffalo Bills and Turner Construction put on a Mental Health Awareness course that I was more than happy to attend. It was a really heavy/informational course that I would love for every rank and file and staff member to take to be aware of warning signs, and how to deal with a person going through a Mental Health Crisis. You never know what people are going through and what is going on in their head. This is why it is always crucial to be nice to ALL people.

I am still getting calls on people confused and not knowing that we switched Health Insurance companies. This happened many months ago, and was written about in the newsletter, many mailing were sent out, and it was spoke about at every local meeting. Please read our mailings, be involved at your local meetings, and be informed. This will make our Union stronger! We don't send things to just send them. I get the irony that most people who are reading this are not the people that need to hear it. Please stress this on the jobsites.

As always reach out to me (716-429-7489) with any questions or concerns. Treat everyone as an equal and be kind. Life is too short for hostility in the workplace. Work safely and get home to your families unharmed.



## FRANK STENTO

*Director of Business Development*

Brothers and Sisters of District Council #4,

One Union, One Family, One Fight: One thought that sticks out to me from the 33rd General Convention is that we have some real power collectively. There was an abundance of talented leadership on display from our rank-and-file delegates up to our IUPAT General President James Williams Jr. We had a well-planned and intentional agenda that will steer the course for our next 5 years as an International. The resolutions passed will support us in adapting and growing as a union family. The speakers brought in from around the world were fierce labor advocates. What I have personally witnessed over the past 5 years is that politicians on both sides are leaning further into labor and that's because 7 out of 10 Americans are in approval of labor unions. District Council #4 has a responsibility to capitalize on this trend and provide more opportunities for our members and contractor partners. This influences every decision throughout our day and is at the core of what we aim to achieve in the organizing department.

The efforts DC4 has taken in our career fairs, digital marketing and overall outreach have had a positive impact on our numbers into the apprenticeship. The lists have become plentiful, and the Organizing Dept. has worked alongside FTI to help streamline the abundance of applicant interviews. In some areas we have put out record numbers of apprentices while we are flat in others. We need to continue pushing to our contractors the importance of employing and helping train the future of our workforce. Our industry, our livelihoods, and our retirement depend on it. If you look around our ranks the vast majority of our highly skilled men and women have come through our registered apprenticeship program. We continue our work with pre apprenticeship programs and bringing awareness to the careers in a skilled trade. DC#4 is leading the charge with our state and local officials establishing working programs throughout our jurisdiction. We had our 2nd "signing day" for Local 677 new apprentice Aiden Sullivan at Southern Glass. Starting a career in the Skilled Trades should be celebrated and we are happy to participate in acknowledging this life changing decision to join DC4 Glaziers. This Summer as a District Council we still faced shortages in qualified journey workers, but they were more manageable than prior 2 seasons. It is always a balancing act trying to sort supply and demand with workforce and upcoming projects however working across departments and with our contractor partners we will continue narrowing that gap.

October 18th is rapidly approaching which means our annual Glass & Glazing Forum is upon us. We have added an association meeting in the afternoon which will increase our contractor attendees. Our Glazier Reps, the FTI, & Organizing Depts. have been working together to make sure this is a successful event. It takes a lot of coordinated effort and constantly looking to improve turnout, quality and substance. We have participation from other DC's and IU staff that have interest in replicating what we do. As I've reported out in the past, one of the reasons we host these is to promote the Installer and Contractor (AGMT & NACC respectively) certifications in the industry. The specification has grown exponentially in NYS through our relationships and education. We are actively campaigning to push this language at the County level and have been working with our Executives and Legislatures to get them up to speed.

We will be kicking back into high gear with our Volunteer Organizing Committee & our monthly meetings after a short Summer break. This is an easy way to get involved with our Council & engaged in our communities. If you have interest in getting more active, please inquire with any FTI or DC4 staff and they will point you in the right direction. Joe Guza has done a great job in crafting digital newsletters, updating our membership with important events, and highlights in each area.

As Summer comes to an end, and the changing of the seasons is upon us, I encourage all of us to make some positive changes in our lives and for those around us. With the divisiveness of a federal election season, we should remember that we all have more in common than is perceived. I support any candidates that champion labor unions. Supporting and building relationships with these candidates is only the first step though. We need to hold them accountable in improving our market share, work conditions and economic security. Proud to be IUPAT. God Bless.



## DAN LAFRANCE

*Director of Political Action*

I believe the election this year has a lot at stake for not only you and your family but what is at stake for workers and more importantly construction and the projects that are coming out throughout the country and more importantly in our jurisdiction for our members and contractors. In the last four years the bipartisan Infrastructure Bill was passed which will create many mega construction projects including the \$112 billion Micron Plant (20 yr. PLA) in the Syracuse Region and many other projects. There was also the Butch Lewis Emergency Pension Plan Relief Act which saved many multi-employer pensions including some of our own members pensions. As always, we have all candidates that seek endorsement from us fill out a questionnaire and then meet in person with them and pick the best candidate that supports our issues that will help our members and contractors with more work opportunities and enhance laws that strengthen our union by including apprenticeship language, local hire language, protect prevailing wage or even add special requirements to specs like NACC/AGMT certifications. We only make recommendations after interviewing candidates that we feel will best suit us and the membership we represent by

supporting that type of language or legislation and/or special requirements. We have many Republicans and Democrats that we support as they have a proven track record proving they support such language and legislation previously stated.

# ENDORSEMENTS 2024

Here is a list of candidates that we have already endorsed by Region:

## Buffalo Region

President/Vice President	Kamala Harris/Tim Walz	NYS Assembly District 144th	Michele Roman
US Senator	Kirsten Gillibrand	NYS Assembly District 145th	Angelo Morinello
US Congress District 26	Tim Kennedy	NYS Assembly District 146th	Karen McMahon
NYS Senate District 61st	Sean Ryan	NYS Assembly District 147th	Darci Cramer
NYS Senate District 63rd	April Baskin	NYS Assembly District 149th	Jon Rivera
NYS Assembly District 140th	William Conrad	Erie County District Attorney	Michael Keane
NYS Assembly District 142nd	Patrick Burke	Cheektowaga Town Council	Walter Burgett
NYS Assembly District 143rd	Monica Wallace	Erie County Family Court	Kara Buscaglia

## Rochester Region

President/Vice President	Kamala Harris/Tim Walz	NYS Assembly District 135	Jen Lundsford
US Senator	Kirsten Gillibrand	NYS Assembly District 136	Sarah Clark
US Congress District 25	Joseph Morelle	NYS Assembly District 137	Demond Meeks
NYS Senate District 55	Sama Brokk	NYS Assembly District 138	Harry Bronson
NYS Senate District 56	Jeremy Cooney	Monroe County Clerk	Jamie Romeo
NYS Assembly District 130	Brian Manktelow	NYS Supreme Court	John Bringewatt
NYS Assembly District 134	Josh Jensen		

## Oswego Region/Watertown Region

President/Vice President	Kamala Harris/Tim Walz	NYS Senate District 50	Chris Ryan
US Senate	Kirsten Gillibrand	NYS Assembly District 120	William Barclay (unopposed)

## Syracuse Region

President/Vice President	Kamala Harris/Tim Walz	NYS Assembly District 126	Ian Phillips
US Senate	Kirsten Gillibrand	NYS Assembly District 127	Al Stirpe Jr.
US Congress District 22	John Mannion	NYS Assembly District 128	Pamela Hunter
NYS Senate District 48	Rachel May	NYS Assembly District 129	William Magnarelli
NYS Senate District 50	Christopher Ryan		

## Ithaca Region

President/Vice President	Kamala Harris/Tim Walz	NYS Senate District 52	Lea Webb
US Senator	Kirsten Gillibrand	NYS Assembly District 123	Donna Lupardo
US Congress District 19	Marcus Molinaro	NYS Assembly District 125	Anna Kelles
NYS Senate District 51	Michelle Frazier		

# IMPORTANT DATES to Remember

<b>Oct. 26th – Nov. 3rd</b>	Early Voting
<b>October 26th 2024</b>	Registration deadline at local election office or online
<b>October 26th 2024</b>	Registration Deadline received by mail
<b>October 26th 2024</b>	Request for Absentee Ballot received by date
<b>November 5th 2024</b>	Absentee Ballot return date postmarked by
<b>November 5th 2024</b>	Last Day to Deliver an Absentee Ballot to the Local Board of Elections
<b>November 5th 2024</b>	Election Day voting in person

# 2024 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Local 43 and 112 James Wolford Jr. Scholarship. Bella Woolston,  
Johnraymond Hasfurter Jr., Haleena Haddad, Riley Dorolek (not pictured)



## LOCAL 150 NEW MEMBERS

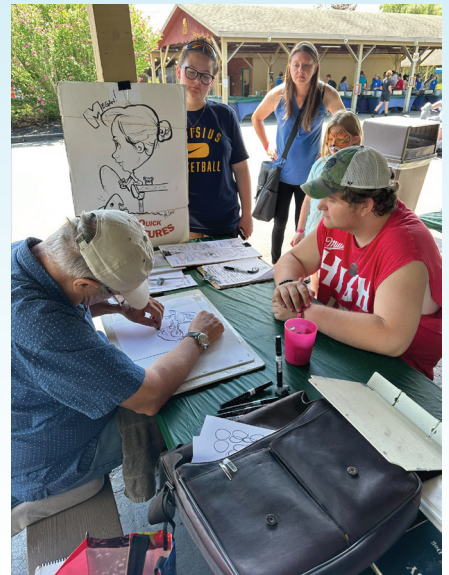
Chad Lewis  
Ashley Mackey



## LOCAL 112 NEW MEMBERS

Josh Lorenz - Works for RW Painting  
Isabella Nieves - ColorTech Painting

# DARIEN LAKE FAMILY PICNIC



# MEMBERS AT WORK





# MEMBERS AT WORK



# MEMBERS AT WORK



## MEMBERS AT WORK



## HOLIDAY SCHEDULE FOR CHECKS

### Thanksgiving Holiday:

The office will be closed on Thursday November 28th as well as Friday November 29th in respect of the Thanksgiving Holiday. Requests for checks need to be made by **Monday November 25th BY 12:30PM**.

The checks will be available for pickup on Wednesday, November 27th from 8:30AM until 4:30PM.

### Christmas Holiday:

The office will be closing at 12:00PM on Tuesday December 24th and will be closed on Wednesday December 25th in respect of the Christmas Holiday. Requests for checks need to be made by **Monday December 23rd BY 12:30PM** for the week of Christmas. Checks will be available for pickup on Thursday December 26th as well as Friday December 27th from 8:30AM until 4:30PM.

### New Year's Holiday

The office will be closing at 12:00PM on Tuesday December 31st and will be closed on Wednesday January 1st in respect of the New Year's Holiday. Requests for checks need to be made by **Monday December 30th BY 12:30PM** for the week of New Year's. Checks will be available for pickup on Thursday, January 2nd as well as Friday, January 3rd from 8:30AM until 4:30 PM.



International Union of Painters  
and Allied Trades of America and Canada, AFL-CIO  
585 Aero Drive  
Cheektowaga, NY 14225

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

*Proudly Serving Western  
and Central New York in the  
counties of Allegany, Broome,  
Cattaraugus, Cayuga,  
Chautauqua, Chemung,  
Chenango, Cortland,  
Delaware, Erie, Genesee,  
Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis,  
Livingston, Madison,  
Monroe, Niagara, Oneida,  
Onondaga, Ontario, Orleans,  
Oswego, Otsego, Schuyler,  
Seneca, Steuben,  
St. Lawrence, Tioga,  
Tompkins, Wayne,  
Wyoming and Yates*



## D.C. #4 LOCAL MEETING NIGHTS

	MEETING HALL LOCATIONS	MEETING NIGHT	CITY/TOWN
#11	701 West State St.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 5:30pm	Ithaca
#17	585 Aero Drive	Meets Quarterly	Cheektowaga
#31	615 West Genesee St.	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday, 6:00pm	Syracuse
#38	216 Cayuga St.	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 7:00pm	Fulton
#43	585 Aero Drive	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 6:00pm	Cheektowaga
#112	585 Aero Drive	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday, 6:00pm	Cheektowaga
#150	244 Paul Rd.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 4:30pm	Rochester
#178	701 West State St.	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 5:00pm	Ithaca
#660	585 Aero Drive	2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday, 6:30pm	Cheektowaga
#677	6605 Pittsford Palmyra Rd.	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday, 5:00pm	Fairport
#1203	625 Delaware	Meets Quarterly	Buffalo

## LOOKING FOR WORK?

### Call the Regional Business Representative:

#### Buffalo/Niagara Falls/Jamestown/Olean

Dominic Zirilli (716) 393-7915  
dzirilli@dc4.org

Brian Lipczynski (716) 429-7489  
blipczynski@dc4.org

#### Ithaca/Elmira/Binghamton

Dan Jackson (315) 744-5280  
djackson@dc4.org

#### Oswego/Watertown/Syracuse

Dan LaFrance (315) 396-3301  
dlafrance@dc4.org

#### Rochester

David Chaffee (585) 413-8699  
dchaffee@dc4.org

#### Rochester/Syracuse/Binghamton

Joe Comfort (585) 727-6228  
jcomfort@dc4.org