

# Local 728



*Weekly Digest*

MAY 24, 2024 | VOL. 2 | ISSUE 21

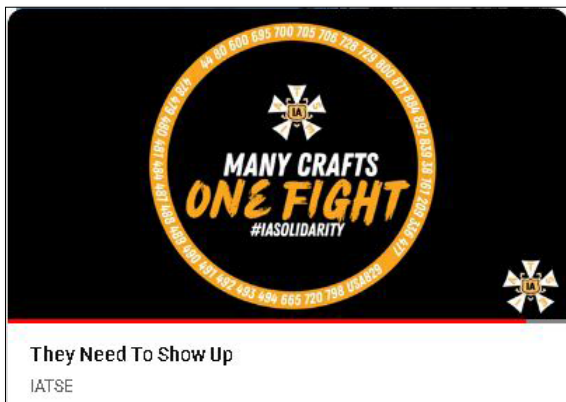
*In The Spotlight this week!*

**Bargaining Update:** Basic Agreement Negotiations to continue June 3-5! Please see the L728 and IATSE websites for more information.

## They Need To Show Up

As IATSE Local 728 members, we grind day in and day out behind the scenes to bring tv shows and movies to life for billions of viewers. The Hollywood Studios need to show up and offer IATSE workers the contract we deserve. Listen to Head of the West Coast IATSE office VP Mike Miller on Deadline's 'Strike Talk' Podcast discussing the ongoing negotiations between IATSE and the AMPTP. #IASolidarity#ManyCraftsOneFight

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DTaK1Cr9ILo>



Join the #OneFightFriday Campaign this May 24 and May 31. If you're working or waiting, show solidarity by posting a selfie in your union swag with the hashtag #OneFightFriday and #IATSELocal728.



# #IASOLIDARITY

ONE FIGHT FRIDAY | MAY 24 | MAY 31



## #OneFightFriday

Let's show our support for our IATSE Bargaining Committee by posting a selfie or crew photo on social media using #OneFightFriday.



# MANY CRAFTS ONE FIGHT #IASOLIDARITY

**Updates and Announcements available on the Basic Agreement Website:**

[IATSE 2024 Basic Agreement | Many Crafts, One Fight!](#)

## **2021-2024 Local 728 Basic Agreement Hard Copy**

While 2024 Basic Negotiations have not concluded, the current 2021-2024 Local 728 Basic Agreement is available on the L728 website along with all the agreements at:

<https://www.iatse728.org/resources/contracts-negotiations-wages>

If you would like to receive a hard copy in the mail, please respond to the survey link below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3K6VH5R>

## **Save The Date! Car Painting and T-Shirt Stencil Event**

Car Painting and T-Shirt Stencil Event on May 31 at L600 – More information forthcoming!



# MEMORIAL DAY

*Remember & Honor*

## **Memorial Day Holiday**

This memorial day we remember and honor all our members of our military personnel who gave their lives in service.

Have a safe holiday weekend and in observance of Memorial Day, the office will be closed on Monday, May 27, 2024.

## MPI-Mental Health and Wellness Resources

MPI has a variety of free and low-cost mental health and wellness resources. The list is available on the L728 website in the assistance section.

### **Log-in required to view content:**

[Assistance](#) | [IATSE Local 728 \(iatse728.org\)](https://www.iatse728.org)

If you have question about any of the resources, please contact Brenda Weiner, Wellness Program Manager at: [bweiner@mpiphp.org](mailto:bweiner@mpiphp.org)

## IATSE Local 728 Safety & Training Program -May

Please note: You need to be logged in to the website before you will be able to sign-up for the class.

<https://www.iatse728.org/members/lms>

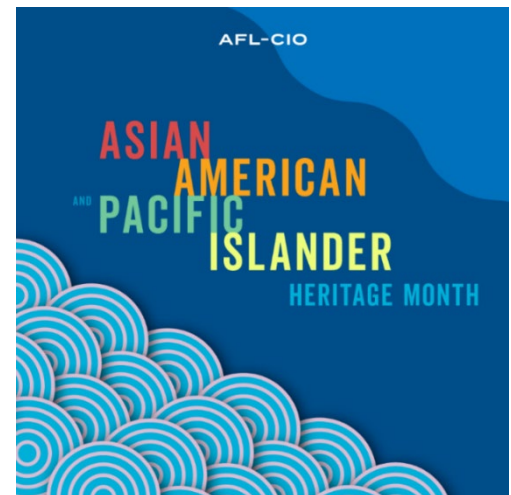
| IATSE LOCAL 728<br>SAFETY & TRAINING PROGRAM<br>Upcoming Classes in May 2024<br><a href="https://www.iatse728.org/members/lms">https://www.iatse728.org/members/lms</a> |                   |                        |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|
| Rigging & Electrical Math (ETCP)  | 5/6/24            | (as of April 25, 2024) |
|   | Now Open          | No Lottery             |
| Rigging & Electrical Math (ETCP)  | 5/9/24            |                        |
|   | Now Open          | No Lottery             |
| Industry Rescue Awareness   | 5/14/24           |                        |
|   | Now Open          | No Lottery             |
| Vectorworks Spotlight   | 5/20/24 - 5/23/24 |                        |
|   | Opens 4/27/24     | Lottery 5/02/24        |
| Ethernet Protocols 101  | 5/25/24           |                        |
|   | Opens 4/27/23     | Lottery 5/01/24        |
| Ethernet Protocols Lab  | 5/26/24           |                        |
|   | Opens 4/27/24     | Lottery 5/01/24        |
| Introduction to Luminex Networking  | 5/28/24           |                        |
|   | Opens 5/04/24     | Lottery 5/07/24        |
| EOS Family Lighting Consoles  | 5/30/24 & 5/31/24 |                        |
|   | Opens 5/04/24     | Lottery 5/07/24        |

## AAPI Heritage Month

History of AAPI Americans in the labor movement:

[The Enduring Legacy of Asian American Pacific Islander Workers and Union Leaders](#) | AFL-CIO ([aflcio.org](http://aflcio.org))

Heritage Month Profiles: [Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month Profiles](#) | AFL-CIO ([aflcio.org](http://aflcio.org))



## Do you want to play a role in a better contract?

728's Contract Action Team (CAT) needs your help. The CAT is a web of members interested in getting the latest information on our contract negotiations and sharing it with other members.

You can find more information by emailing [local728cat@gmail.com](mailto:local728cat@gmail.com) or hoping our discord: <https://discord.gg/TzEXPdQufe>



# Upcoming Events

## Save the Date! WeHo Pride Parade

New Tradition Alert! IATSE Local 728 has marched in the MLK Parade for the last 12 years, and now we're adding the WeHo Pride Parade. Stay tuned for details!

**When:** Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Time:** 12:30pm.

Local 728 has a spot in this years parade. Come join in the fun and show your UNION and LGBTQIA+ Pride by marching in the WeHo Pride Parade.

Please **RSVP by Friday, May 24<sup>th</sup> (EXTENDED)** with the number of people attending. This is open to Local 728 members and their families.

**RSVP:** [community@iatse728.org](mailto:community@iatse728.org)

<https://www.wehoprider.com/>

## San Fernando Valley Pride Parade

Local 33 has invited us to walk with them for the <https://www.sfvpride.org/> parade on June 29<sup>th</sup>. Please reach out to the Local if you'd like to attend.

**Email:** [community@iatse728.org](mailto:community@iatse728.org) and include in the subject line: **SFV Pride Parade**

## IATSE Latinx Caucus Taco Fundraiser Event

Bring your family and friends to the IATSE Latinx Caucus Taco Fundraiser Event at Lake Hollywood Park.

**When:** Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Time:** 11AM- 3PM

**Location:** 3160 Canyon Lake Dr. | Los Angeles, CA 90068

**RSVP:** [IATSE Latinx Cafecito & Taco Plate Fundraiser in the Park Tickets, Sun, Jun 2, 2024 at 11:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)

If you are interested in donating items for the raffle, please email: [iatse.latinx@gmail.com](mailto:iatse.latinx@gmail.com)

[IATSE Latinx Caucus- Labor Unions](#)



## Cine Gear Expo LA 2024

Cine Gear Expo is the premier event for professionals engaged in the film and entertainment technology industry. Taking place June 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> with exhibits June 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> at Warner Bros. Studios, Cine Gear features exhibits, new product and service introductions, complimentary seminars led by industry leaders, and ample opportunity to network with peers, all within a comfortable studio environment.

- **June 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>** - Exhibits, Premier Seminars, Screenings Special Events, Awards Presentations
- **June 9<sup>th</sup>** - Master Classes

Updates to the exhibitor list, event map, schedule, presentation topics, and speakers will be posted to the website regularly. <http://www.cinegearexpo.com>

**Attendee Registration is open.** All attendees must complete the Cine Gear Badge online registration process.

<https://www.cinegearexpo.com/la-expo/registration/>

**Registration is free until 11:59p.m. PDT on Tuesday, May 28th, 2024.**

[LA Expo](#) | [Cine Gear Expo](#)



## MPTF's Veterans Benefits Assistance Program

### Did You Know?

- MPTF's Veterans Benefits Assistance program assists entertainment industry military veterans, surviving spouses, and industry members' parents who served in the military in securing disability, Aid & Attendance, and caregiver stipend benefits.
- Program staff walk clients through the claims process from beginning to end and act as liaisons with the Veterans Administration, thus eliminating confusing and frustrating paperwork burden and minimizing the need for clients to interact with the VA directly.
- A member does not have to be a combat veteran in order to qualify for benefits. In fact, MPTF has secured significant amounts of benefit funds for peacetime veterans and veterans who served during wartime but in non-combat roles.
- The program has secured over \$268K in retroactive monies for L728 members since they began tracking outcomes in 2015. This figure represents almost 30% of all retroactive monies secured on behalf of IA members.
- Interested clients should contact the **MPTF intake line at (323) 634-3866.**  
[Veterans Benefits Assistance | MPTF](#)

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## Mental Health Tools and Resources

Many of us are dealing with a lack of work for as long as a year in what may be a new normal. If you are in need of mental health assistance, don't feel ashamed. It's natural. Please utilize some of these tools from our website or call us at the hall.

MPTF Intake Line: (323) 634-3888

[Mental Health Resources \(iatse728.org\)](http://iatse728.org)

[Mental Health Tools and Resources with Behind The Scenes | IATSE Local 728 \(iatse728.org\)](#)

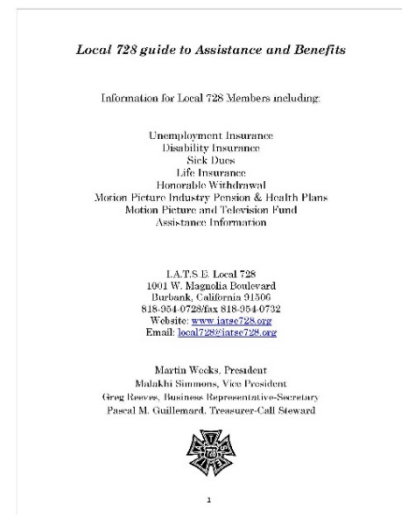
## Local 728 Guide to Assistance and Benefits

Information for Local 728 members, including:

- Unemployment Insurance
- Disability Insurance
- Sick Dues
- Life Insurance
- Honorable Withdrawal
- MPI (Motion Picture Pension & Health Plans)
- Motion Picture & Television Fund
- Assistance Information

**Log-in required to view content:**

[Assistance | IATSE Local 728 \(iatse728.org\)](#)



## The Local 728 Food Pantry

Many of your colleagues are still hurting from the slowdown in work. The Local 728 Food Pantry is still open.

Please review the union resource link and reach out to the Local.

[Union Financial Resources Guidev5.1.pdf \(iatse728.org\)](#)

Check the link below for upcoming Food Distributions through LCS:

[Events — Labor Community Services \(lcs-la.org\)](#)



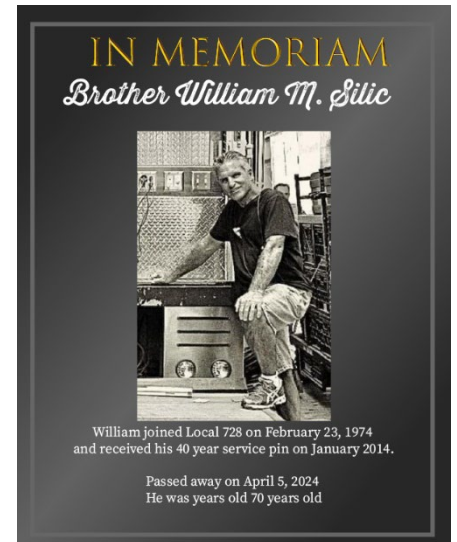


# *In Memoriam*

## **Celebration of Life- Brother William “Bill” Silic**

Brother Silic passed away on April 5, 2024. Information regarding the Celebration of Life scheduled for Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup> is available on the website:

[Update: Celebration of Life and Notice of Passing: Brother William M. Silic | IATSE Local 728 \(iatse728.org\)](#)



## **Information regarding the passing of Local 80 member Rico Priem**

We received this information from Local 80 and they requested our help combating the disinformation regarding the accident that led to Rico's death. The rumors are disrespectful, full of assumptions, and hurtful to the family and friends of Rico. Please find attached a letter from Rico's sister Karen addressing what is known about the accident.

Here are some useful links.

**Memorial Service RSVP Link:** <https://forms.office.com/r/cWHFKXbYqK>

**GoFundMe:** <https://gofund.me/c2e353ed>



May 15, 2024,

To Rico's extended family and the Local 80,

In the early morning hours on May 11, 2024, my heart shattered to pieces. My brother, Ric, AKA RICO, was pronounced deceased in a single vehicle roll over collision and was pronounced dead at the scene. To me, this news was surreal. I just saw him on May 4<sup>th</sup>, and we were laughing and talking about his retirement. I was so looking forward to seeing more of him and hanging out! As many of you know, Rico was not only a loving, caring and funny man, he was also the most loving, caring, silly and protective brother, my sister Meg and I could have wanted.

Over the years, at family gatherings, Rico would make us laugh, and tease my sister and me, as well as our children. Rico was a great uncle to my sons, Michael, and Timothy and to my sister's daughter, Michele. As life went on, Rico would continue to tell us stories of being a Grip in Hollywood and all the people he worked with and for. He never had a bad thing to say, he loved his job and especially the people he worked with, work was his happy place!!

As news spread of Rico's death, the media, in its usual fashion, started posting false narratives. I will address this issue, to clarify the reference that alcohol was involved. On May 13, 2024, Rico's brother-in-law, Bill, also retired Law Enforcement, spoke to the CHP Officer handling the investigation. During the conversation, the CHP Officer told Bill, although there was UNOPENED alcohol found in the vehicle, the CHP Officer would have to investigate that possibility as well. Which in that line of work, he is correct. However, the CHP Officer also told Bill, the path Rico's car took in the course of the collision and where it came to rest, that it was most likely a medical emergency.

On May 15, 2024, I emailed the CHP Officer. The following is an excerpt from that email: "As you know I did 24 years in Law Enforcement to include my last 8 years as the Family Protection Sergeant of Investigations. I understand completely not ruling that out, however when it comes to the media, the more appropriate response would have been - "At this point in the investigation, it is undetermined." If a reporter asked follow up questions, as they always do in hopes of fueling a false narrative, the response could have been, "there was UNOPENED alcohol, however it is too early to say in this investigation!"

I know my brother had a medical emergency, which caused his demise. The truth will come out in the end, as an Investigation and Autopsy are in progress.

As days went by and I saw more and more news about Rico's death, an initial Instagram post by Nina Moskol, started an avalanche of support for Rico. As I read, heard, and saw the enormous amount of love, comradery and brother and sisterhood, I was amazed and understood why Rico loved you, his profession and called you family!!!

My family and I can't even begin to thank each one of you for wrapping RICO in your arms, loving him, and showing the world who he really was! While my heart is still in a million pieces, you have restored a piece of my heart.

Thank you, with all my broken pieces of heart! I have immense respect for you and what you do! Stay safe and God Bless You!

Karen Priem