

Local 728

Weekly Digest

JUNE 13, 2025 | VOL. 3 | ISSUE 74



In The Spotlight this week!



Regarding Retirement Concerns

While we continue to advocate for filming incentives at all levels of government, I would like to clarify retirement for those who are concerned about making their hours for health and pension.

The Golden Ticket (30 years and 60K hours) is a milestone for early retirement but is NOT a requirement for you to get full retirement benefits. Regular retirement age is 65 and members will get the full benefit you have accumulated at regular retirement age. If you plan to retire early and do not have the 30 years and 60k hours then you will have a reduction to your monthly pension benefit.

As of today, MPI call volume is low, so reach out to them for clarification on your specific case or give us a call.

Be well and stay safe.

In solidarity,



Greg Reeves
Business Representative - Secretary
Lighting Technicians IATSE Local 728

Juneteenth

The hall will be closed on Thursday, June 19th per the provisions of the 2024 Basic Agreement.



“Outside The Frame” Podcast Episode 2 | Caleb Dewart (Hungry Man Productions)

Episode 2 of ICG Magazine's "Outside the Frame" Podcast is now available.

The conversation with Caleb Dewart covers the challenges and importance of keeping commercial production in Southern California following the January wildfires, the depth of experience union crews bring to commercial shoots, and their commitment to donating a percentage of Hungry Man's profits from projects shot out of the country to support local industry workers.

Available to watch or listen here:

[YouTube](#)

[Apple Podcasts](#)

[Spotify](#)



Happy Father's Day

Go union on Father's Day! Our exclusive gift guide will help you find a great gift while supporting good jobs. If you don't see what you like, search our full list 11,000+ union products [here](#).



Union-Made Father's Day Shopping Guide



Tools

- Armstrong
- Black & Decker
- Chancelock
- Craftsman
- Klein
- Rigid
- SnapOn
- Stanley
- Wright



Sporting Goods

- American Athletic
- Louisville Slugger
- Nordic Track
- Spalding
- Standard Golf
- Top-Flite



Bourbon

- Basil Hayden
- Benchmark
- Blanton's
- Bulleit
- Eagle Rare
- Elijah Craig
- Four Roses
- Jim Beam
- Knob Creek
- Van Winkle



BBQ Grills

- Weber





Happy Father's Day!



Save the Date

Palos Verdes ~ An Old Fashioned 4th of July | Honoree Pete Villani (HW 728)

Join us for the 60th Annual Palos Verdes 4th of July Celebration! This year, our very own Hometown Hero Pete Villani (HW 728) will be honored for his bravery in the Altadena fires.

Time: Begins at 9:30AM

Location: Malaga Cove School | 300 Paseo Del Mar | Palos Verdes Estates

Admission: Free

Details: <https://pvjuly4.org>

The poster is framed in red and features a large red '4' with 'PALOS VERDES' arched above it and 'An Old-Fashioned 4th of July' written across it. To the right, a blue bell icon is shown with the words 'CIVIC AWARDS', 'MUSIC • FOOD', 'BIKE PARADE', 'FAMILY GAMES', and 'APPLE PIE CONTEST' listed below it. The text 'FREE ADMISSION' is also present. At the bottom left, it says 'Our 60th Annual Event' and 'BEGINS 9:30 AM at MALAGA COVE SCHOOL 300 PASEO DEL MAR • PVE'. A blue banner at the bottom reads '= HOMETOWN HEROES = 2025 Honoree Pete Villani Saved neighbors' homes in Altadena Fire'. Below this, it says 'Remembering Palos Verdes' community leader Les Fishman'. On the right, there is a photo of Pete Villani wearing a white shirt and glasses, with a Malaga Cove School (MCS) logo on his sleeve. Social media icons for Facebook and Instagram are also shown.

PALOS VERDES

An Old-Fashioned 4th of July

Our 60th Annual Event

BEGINS 9:30 AM at MALAGA COVE SCHOOL
300 PASEO DEL MAR • PVE

CIVIC AWARDS
MUSIC • FOOD
BIKE PARADE
FAMILY GAMES
APPLE PIE CONTEST

FREE ADMISSION

= HOMETOWN HEROES =
2025 Honoree Pete Villani
Saved neighbors' homes in Altadena Fire

Remembering Palos Verdes'
community leader Les Fishman

Follow us

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THIRD QTR 2025 Dues can be paid by check, ach, debit/credit card or on the website.

Website payments can be made if you log in to your account at www.iatse728.org

Quarterly Due Dates: January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1



IATSE LOCAL 728 SOLIDARITY FRIDAYS!
WEAR YOUR IATSE LOCAL 728 UNION SWAG ON FRIDAYS



NEW! Production List available on the Local 728 website Dashboard!
Thank you to Local 600 for compiling and sharing this resource.



PROTECT OUR INDUSTRY, OUR JOBS, AND OUR FUTURE.

#KEEPCALIFORNIAROLLING

HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED RIGHT NOW:

WRITE A LETTER: We are re-launching our letter writing campaign to address the urgency of the moment and target Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas, Senate Pro Tempore Mike McGuire, Senate Budget Chair Scott Wiener and Assembly Budget

Chair Jesse Gabriel and your own representatives in the Senate and Assembly.

- We sent over 200,000 back in April and we will need to surpass this number as we approach the week of June 9th which will be our key target week.
- If you already wrote a letter, WE NEED YOUR VOICE AGAIN.
- Share on Social Media and with your friends, family members and colleagues. We will need everyone's voice in this fight. Deadline to submit a letter for maximum impact is June 12th

[Write a Letter](#)

- **SHARE KEEP CALIFORNIA ROLLING: Reel Jobs Need Real Action Video**

- Not only is the letter embedded in every single letter you send to your elected officials, help use this video to inspire others to support our industry.
- We have just released our Keep California Rolling video highlighting member stories about what our California Film and Television Jobs Program means to our members, small businesses and our community.

[Watch the Video](#)

My Connex Reporting Tool | Webinar

Join us for a webinar event to discuss the My Connex app. The recording will be made available after the webinar on the IATSE Local 728 website.

Link will be forthcoming.

When: Thursday, June 26

Time: 12 PM

Location: via Zoom

**The MyConnex Reporting Tool is
for workers from the following
organizations:**



AMAZON MGM STUDIOS

NETFLIX



Connect to what you need. Choose what's next.

The MyConnex Resources & Reporting Tool and Ombuds Office for safer workplaces. Explore resources, learn your rights, and access reporting procedures to choose your next steps.

By entertainment workers, for every entertainment worker.

Join us to learn more about this innovative tool that is now available to you as a member of IATSE. The presentation will review the key features of the reporting tool, services you can access through the Ombuds and answer any questions you may have.

Action: Sign the IATSE Local B-192 Petition in Favor of Dodgers Tour Guides Receiving Fair Wages & Benefits

Despite Dodger tour guide's essential role, they're being underpaid and unfairly treated. The Dodgers are trying to take away existing benefits - benefits that were promised as part of the job - simply because the guides voted to unionize.

Signing this petition means standing up for fairness, decency, and the workers who make the Dodgers experience great.

[Sign the Petition](#)



Do Not Sign the Boss's Phony Petition | Unite Here!

For the next 30 days, if anyone at the grocery store, park, or in the neighborhood asks you to sign something, DO NOT SIGN IT! The hotels and airlines are circulating a petition to take away the Olympic Wage passed by LA City Council.

DON'T SIGN



NO FIRME

PAID FOR BY UNITE HERE LOCAL 11 PAC, 464 S. LUCAS AVE. LOS ANGELES, CA 90017, FUNDING DETAILS AT ETHICS.LACITY.GOV.

Upcoming Events

Celebrate Pride Month

June 2025



Stamp Out Hunger | Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to sort out the food that was collected during this year's Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive!

When: Various Dates through July 2025

Time: 8AM – 1PM and 1PM – 4PM (2 shifts)

Location: Salvation Army | 5600 Rickenbacker Road, Bldg 1D | Bell, CA 90201 (Take Mansfield Way & Continue on the road to destination)

Sign-Up: [Here](https://lcs-la.org/stamp-out-hunger)



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Help Labor
Community Services
sort out the donated
food that was collected
during this year's Stamp
Out Hunger Food Drive!



MONDAY - SATURDAY

MAY 20TH - JULY 1ST

2 TIME SHIFTS

8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

**SALVATION ARMY
5600 RICKENBACKER ROAD, BLDG 1D
BELL, CA 90201**

**TAKE MANSFIELD WAY & CONTINUE
ON THE ROAD TO DESTINATION**

**To Sign Up To Volunteer, Please Sign Up At
<https://lcs-la.org/stamp-out-hunger>**

**For Organizations and Groups Who Would Like To
Volunteer, Please Contact Marcos Juan at
(323) 620-3030 | marcos@lcs-la.org**

Union Resources

IATSE Local 728 Guide to Assistance and Benefits

Information for IATSE Local 728 members, including: Unemployment/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 \(iatse728.org\)](#)

Mental Health Tools and Resources

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 First Aid Resources](#)

[Mental Health Tools and Resources with Behind The Scenes Video](#)

[Behind the Scenes - Supporting Mental Health and Wellness](#)

Log-in for access to the following:

[MPI's Mental Health and Wellness Resources](#)

[Wondr Health- Cope Better, Stress Less](#)

[CALM Subscription Information](#)

[Optum- Tools and Videos related to Mental Health](#)

Behind The Scenes | New Mental Health Survey

Working in this industry is hard – physically and mentally. Behind the Scenes has launched a survey to aid in developing new tools and resources for our industry during these changing times. We want to hear your thoughts on what you need now. If you're in the US or Canada please take this brief survey and share it with your colleagues.

btslink.org/survey



Take the survey today!
btslink.org/survey

What tools and resources
can support your mental health?

Entertainment Health Insurance Solutions- EHISCA

If you are in need of alternative to employer provided health insurance, please reach out to Entertainment Health Insurance Solutions at MPTF. Their staff is trained to assist members of the entertainment community navigate the complex California health insurance marketplace.

ehisca.com

IATSE- Los Angeles Fires Relief and Response

iatse.net/socal-fires/

Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA)

Available to independent contractors who are often employed in the entertainment and other LA industries. Check eligibility guidelines for details.

[Disaster Unemployment Assistance \(DUA\) Now Available to Los Angeles County Workers Impacted by California Wildfires and Severe Winds](#)

First Entertainment Credit Union Promotion

You can receive up to \$500 by joining First Entertainment Credit Union. Details below.

First Entertainment Promotion

PROMOTIONS: RECEIVE UP TO \$500 BY JOINING FIRST ENTERTAINMENT CREDIT UNION

- Obtain **\$400** by opening a Value Checking account with a direct deposit of at least \$1,000 per month within the first 90 days
- Receive another **\$100** when you open a First Entertainment Credit Card and spend \$500 within the first 90 days



ACT NOW!

Get **\$500¹**
When You Join
First Entertainment.



Scan the QR code
to get started!

1. Funds available
for 90 days after account opening.
2. Funds available for 90 days after
first \$500 in card spend.

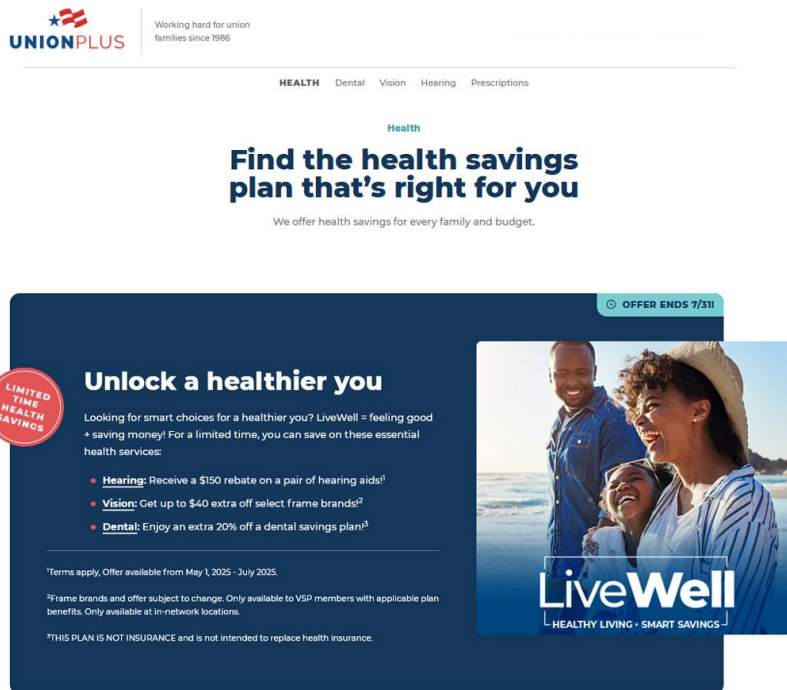




Union Plus | Health Discounts for Union Members

Check out the list of Union Plus Health Discounts for Union Members and their families.

unionplus.org/benefits/health



The banner features the Union Plus logo on the left, which includes a red star and the text "UNIONPLUS" and "Working hard for union families since 1966". To the right of the logo is a navigation bar with links for "HEALTH", "Dental", "Vision", "Hearing", and "Prescriptions". Below this is a headline "Find the health savings plan that's right for you" with the subtext "We offer health savings for every family and budget." The main content area has a dark blue background. On the left, a red circular badge says "LIMITED TIME HEALTH SAVINGS". Next to it, the text "Unlock a healthier you" is followed by a paragraph: "Looking for smart choices for a healthier you? LiveWell = feeling good + saving money! For a limited time, you can save on these essential health services:". Below this are three bullet points: "Hearing: Receive a \$150 rebate on a pair of hearing aids¹", "Vision: Get up to \$40 extra off select frame brands²", and "Dental: Enjoy an extra 20% off a dental savings plan³". At the bottom left, there are three small footnotes: "¹Terms apply. Offer available from May 1, 2025 - July 2025.", "²Frame brands and offer subject to change. Only available to VSP members with applicable plan benefits. Only available at in-network locations.", and "³THIS PLAN IS NOT INSURANCE and is not intended to replace health insurance." On the right side of the banner is a photograph of a smiling family (a man, a woman, and a child) with the "LiveWell" logo and the tagline "HEALTHY LIVING · SMART SAVINGS" overlaid. A small badge in the top right corner of the banner says "OFFER ENDS 7/31".

IATSE PAC

IATSE PAC

The IATSE PAC is about access to politicians regardless of platform on behalf of ALL members.

While the work stoppage last year impacted you and your colleague's financial wellbeing, the fights we take on with PAC resources continue for our industry, benefiting ALL U.S. members and Local Unions whether they contribute or not. Donate today! L728.co/iatsepac

[What is the IATSE PAC? Play Video](#)



In Memoriam

Celebration of Life for Brother Shane Crowl

A Celebration of Life for Shane will be held on Saturday, June 14 in Stow, Ohio.

Time: 2PM - 5PM (Eastern Time)

Location: Acker-Moore VFW | 3733 Fishcreek Rd | Stow, Ohio

<https://www.adamsmason.com/obituaries/shane-crowl>

[Notice of passing: Brother Shane Crowl](#)

IN MEMORIAM

Brother Shane M. Crowl



A member since March 9, 2013

Passed away on March 4, 2025

He was 49 years old