

LOCAL 1089

# THE BEACON



February 2019

On September 5, 2018, Michigan's Republican majority legislature adopted a ballot proposal on paid sick leave. With that step, legislators removed the proposal from the November general election ballot and retained the ability to amend the law with a simple majority vote (instead of the three-fourths vote required to amend a ballot initiative if it were passed by voters in November). The Michigan Legislature has signaled its intent to amend the law before the **March 2019 effective date**.

The mandatory paid sick leave proposal gives employees **one hour of paid sick leave for every 30 hours worked**. All employees (full-time or part-time), temporary workers and independent contractors would be entitled to use 72 hours in a year.

There are some other issues with the legislature which are outlined from (some) employers perspective at <https://www.michamber.com/paid-sick-leave>.

Our contract bypasses some of these issues and AFSCME will be paying close attention to any attempts to change the law by advocating on your behalf.



## YEAR IN REVIEW

FAITH WORMSBACHER

2018 was a successful year for AFSCME 1089. Communication with the membership was enhanced by the launch of new website, [www.my1089.org](http://www.my1089.org). A 2% raise was gained for the hard working members of AFSCME 1089.

AFSCME 1089 co-hosted an AFSCME Region 5 meeting. It was held at the conference room of the St. Clair County Library. This meeting was attended by AFSCME Council 25 Executive Officers and AFSCME members from Lansing, as well as, Genesee, Lapeer, Sanilac and St. Clair Counties.

Your elected officers attended a number of workshops throughout the year. Vice President, Debbie Morgan and Secretary, Julie Alef attended the AFSCME International Convention this summer. These trainings are on their personal time. I thank them for their dedication in building their knowledge of union matters.

We had a gigantic win in Lansing during the Lame Duck session at the years end. Attempts for Union Decertification (SB 1260) and (SB 796/6474) were blocked. These bills focused on making Public Sector Union Representation time illegal. Thousands of calls, letters and e-mails by AFSCME members like you put the pressure on our representatives to turn these bills down!

Officers were elected for a two year term (2019-2020) at the December General Membership Meeting, Faith Wormsbacher - President, Debbie Morgan - Vice President, Julie Alef - Secretary, Barbara Barnes - Treasurer, Lisa Fountain - Sargent-at-Arms. Each of your officers are looking forward to another year of success for AFSCME 1089.

### General Membership Meeting Dates

- 1/13 - 5:30 pm at Landfill  
6779 Smiths Creek Rd.  
Smiths Creek
- 2/13 - 4:30 pm at the  
Health Dept. 3415 28th  
St., Port Huron
- 3/13 - 5:30 pm at St.  
Clair Public Library



**LOCAL 1089**

President - Faith Wormsbacher  
Vice President - Debbie Morgan  
Secretary - Julie Alef  
Treasurer - Barbara Barnes  
Sargent-at-Arms - Lisa Fountain

**We're on the web  
My1089.org**

## Preventative Health Care Means More

Deb Morgan of the Health Department recommends Heart and Vascular screening at McLaren Port Huron. The screening tests for things they don't or can't at your doctor's office.

- Carotid artery ultrasound*
- Abdominal aortic aneurysm ultrasound*
- Peripheral artery disease screening*
- Body mass index or BMI*
- Cholesterol and hemoglobin A1C*

While the charges for the seven tests could amount to hundreds of dollars, the special Heart and Vascular Screening cost is only \$50. To schedule a screening at McLaren Port Huron, please call 810-989-3270. For more information go to [www.mclaren.org/ph7for50](http://www.mclaren.org/ph7for50)



## Get an Associate Degree Completely Online - For Free!

Union Plus Free College is now enrolling for Spring Term. New focus areas in the Business Management Degree have been recently added and students can now choose Cyber Security, Digital & Social Media, Programming & Development, Data Science and more.

Brought to you in partnership with AFSCME, the Union Plus Free College program offers union members and their families the opportunity to earn an Associate Degree for FREE, completely online.

Classes are offered through Eastern Gateway Community College, an accredited, public and

**January**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

**FREE COLLEGE Spring Registration!**

**Spring 2019 START**

**1/14/19**

In Partnership With  
**EASTERN GATEWAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
Part of the University System of Ohio

## ST. CLAIR COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT OFFERS FREE RADON TEST KITS

January is National Radon Action Month – an opportune time for St. Clair County residents to test for radon in their homes. Testing is the only way to know if you and your family are at risk for health issues caused by radon, an invisible, odorless gas. Free radon test kits are available to residents during the month of January at the St. Clair County Health Department, 3415 28th Street in Port Huron.

Radon is a naturally-occurring, radioactive gas that comes from the breakdown of radium, found in soil and rock. Outdoors, radon is diluted by the atmosphere to safe levels. However, radon can concentrate in indoor air and lead to elevated and harmful radon levels. Radon enters buildings through openings in the foundation floor or walls (sump openings, crawlspaces, floor/wall joints, cracks, etc.) and can become trapped inside.

Environmental Health Director, Steve Demick, encourages residents to take advantage of this opportunity to learn about radon and test their home for this gas. "Radon exposure is considered the second-leading cause of lung cancer after smoking," Demick said. "Fortunately, testing is easy and high radon levels can be lowered."

"You can't see or smell radon, so people tend to ignore the possibility that it might exist at high levels in their homes," said Kevin McNeill, Sanitarian. "Winter is the ideal time to test for radon because the windows and doors are closed."

