

VOLUME 1, 2026

LOCAL 840

**REVOLUTIONIZING
WORK
ZONE
SAFETY**



LiUNA! *Feel the Power*
MISSOURI AND KANSAS LABORERS DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Union Meeting Dates

2nd Wednesday of every month at 7:00pm in the union hall.

April 8

May 13

June 10

July 8

August 12

September 9

E-Board meets at 6:30pm

Interested in volunteering?

The VOC Meets on Union Meeting Dates at 6:00pm

Out of work list sign up available immediately following general meeting.

Project Spotlight

Manufacturing Protoplex Approaches Finish Line

The Protoplex building for Missouri S&T that Local 840 has been hard at work on is finally nearing the finish. We can't wait to see students utilizing this state-of-the-art facility. Paric was the general contractor on this project.



2026 MKLDC Member Events

Join your fellow union members for a great lineup of upcoming events. These events are a fun way to relax, enjoy the outdoors, and connect with brothers and sisters from across our union. Do not wait to get involved. Mark your calendar, save the date, and be sure to register early. We look forward to seeing you there and strengthening the bonds that make our union strong.

Scan QR Codes to Pre-Register



Sporting Clay Shoot *Blackhawk Valley Shooting Preserve*

Bring your own shells. Shotguns only. Ear and eye protection required. Juniors must shoot with adult.

April 11, 2026



Crappie Tournament *Mark Twain Lake*

Two anglers per boat and two rods per angler. Ten fish maximum. Valid Missouri Fishing License required. Boats late for weigh in disqualified.

May 9, 2026



Golf Tournament *Warrenton Golf Course*

Four person teams. Cart, beverages, and food provided.

June 6, 2026



Archery Tournament *Laborers Training Center*

No range finders, no scopes, no stabilizers over 12 inches.

August 15, 2026



Labor Day Picnic *Location To Be Announced*

Please check back later in the year for updated information.

Later this Year

The Value of a Union Laborer

Being a Union Laborer means more than just punching a clock or earning a paycheck. It means standing on a foundation built by generations of working people who believed that dignity, safety, and fairness on the job are worth fighting for. It's knowing that the hard work we do every day matters not just to us, but to our families, our communities, and future generations of workers in our trade.

The value of being a Union Laborer starts with honest, hard

work. We put in full days and take pride in what we build. But just as important as the work we do is the ability to go home safely at the end of the day. Thanks to strong union standards in training and safety protections, we do not have to choose between earning a living and protecting our lives.

That commitment to training, safety, and professionalism does not just benefit workers; it benefits the entire industry.



"You see our productivity compared to a lot of the non-union, it is impressive the product that the Laborers Union produces for the industry."

Union laborers are recognized across the country for their productivity and skill. Contractors who work side by side with union laborers see the difference firsthand. James Morgan, President and CEO of Subsurface Constructors, a LIUNA signatory contractor, put

it plainly:

"Our relationship with the Laborers here in Eastern Missouri has been long and good. When you get to other parts of the country, and you take our union laborer with us, and you see our productivity



Jim Morgan
President of Subsurface

When you are a Union Laborer, you are never alone. You are backed by more than 530,000 Union Laborers across North America who stand together in solidarity. That collective strength is what gives us real power at the bargaining table, on the job, in Jefferson City, and in Washington, D.C. It is what ensures our voices are heard and our rights are protected. No individual worker could ever achieve that alone, but together we are strong.

Those rights did not come easy. They were not handed out by generous employers or won overnight. The wages we earn, the benefits we rely on, and the protections we expect were paid for through the blood and

compared to a lot of the non-union, it is impressive the product that the Laborers Union produces for the industry. And I would say that is probably one of the things we are most proud of. We have been able to grow while keeping this a really great place for people to work.”

That pride is earned every day on the jobsite.

sweat of the laborers who came before us, our forefathers and foremothers who organized, marched, struck, and sacrificed so future generations could have a better life. Honoring their legacy means standing up today to protect what they fought so hard to win.

Union labor provides more than just a paycheck. It provides security. Our work delivers quality healthcare that protects our families when they need it most. It provides pensions and retirement benefits that allow us to retire with dignity, pride, and our health intact. That peace of mind is invaluable, and it is something non-union workers are too often denied.

Being in a union also gives us something less tangible, but just as important: Pride in our craft. Pride in our career. Pride in our union. Pride in knowing we belong to something bigger than ourselves. We do not just fight for better contracts and expanded market share for our own benefit. We do it for future generations of laborers and for workers we may never even meet.

That is the true value of being a Union Laborer. It is about strength, solidarity, sacrifice, and pride. It is about building a better life for ourselves today and a stronger union for tomorrow.

Laborers-Contractors Training Center Meet Your Instructor

Watch the full **Subsurface Contractor Spotlight** on our Youtube Channel



Chris Goff Local 662

Instructor

Construction Math, First Aid, OSHA 30, Power Tools I, Power Tools II, Hoisting & Rigging, Cutting Torch, Concrete Placement, Concrete Formwork, Concrete Finisher I, Concrete Finisher II, General Scaffold, Demolition Hazard Awareness, Skid Steer, Masonry Forklift, Asbestos Worker, Lead Worker, Elevation Control Building and Site, Blueprint Reading Building and Site, Arc Welding, 80hr Hazardous Waste, FAA-107 Drone License, Asbestos Refresher, Lead Refresher, Hazardous Refresher.

Chris Goff hails from local 662 in Jefferson City. The son of a Laborer, he was always destined for construction. Chris started working at eight years old, helping his family build houses and pour concrete throughout his adolescence. Chris decided to join the union after starting a family and needing the benefits and insurance for his family. He hasn't looked back since.

Chris loves a challenge, and jumped at the opportunity to become an instructor, especially based on his experience training apprentices in the field. Work ethic is incredibly important to Chris, and he encourages new students to be put in the work and create upward mobility for themselves in their career and lives. Investing in the brotherhood and the collaboration inherent in the laborers has been transformative to Chris and he hopes to pass that on to the next generation of laborers.



"Respect Missouri Voters"

The Foundation of Power

The Missouri Constitution begins with the rights of the people, not the politicians. Article I, Section I states that "all power is vested in and derived from the people" and the government is "founded upon their will only." In simple terms, the people are the boss, and the politicians are the employees.

The framers of the Constitution, updated in 1908 and 1945, anticipated that special interests might cause our "employees" in the state capital to stop listening. To counteract this, they created the initiative petition process, enshrined in Article III, Section 49, giving the people the power to pass laws "independent of the general assembly."

"Independent" means the people don't need the legislature's permission. Yet, the legislature has repeatedly acted like it has a veto over the people's vote, whether

through the repeal of the Puppy Mill Cruelty Prevention Act years ago or the sick leave repeal last year. They are acting as the boss, claiming that 163 politicians in Jefferson City have more power than millions of Missourians at the ballot box.

The Game of Deception

When the legislature isn't busy undermining laws that we passed, they are busy trying to trick us. They now weaponize "ballot titles," attempting to bury the true meaning of a measure in confusing legal jargon or misleading, "patriotic" language designed to sway and trick voters they are elected to serve.

We saw this with Senate Bill 22 which was an attempt to let politicians write deceptive summaries even after courts found them unfair. While the Missouri Supreme Court stopped that specific power grab, the legislature is trying again with new bills

like HB3146. They are constantly trying to move the goalposts, making the petition process so difficult and expensive that only the wealthiest special interests can afford to put an issue on the ballot. If politicians cannot win an argument on its merits, they should not be allowed to win by engineering confusion.

A Promise of Restoration

This is where the Respect Missouri Voters campaign comes in. It is a simple, non-partisan fix to this massive structural problem.

This amendment creates a "shield" for the people's will. It mandates that if the voters pass a law, the legislature cannot repeal it unless they achieve a massive, 80% bipartisan supermajority in both the Missouri House and the Senate. This prevents your vote from being undone with a casual, backroom deal.

The campaign also mandates that ballot language must be "clear,

fair, and accurate." No more tricks or "poison pills," just the facts, allowing citizens to make up their own minds. Finally, it freezes the rules of the game, stopping politicians from making the petition process so difficult that it becomes exclusive to wealthy special interests.

The Opportunity

Signing the petition for Respect Missouri Voters isn't about partisan politics; it's about restoring the fundamental principle that the "boss" (the people) should be in charge.

The initiative petition is our state's "safety valve," the tool we use when those in the capital stop listening. We have a historic opportunity to move Missouri back to a place where the people's word is final. It is time to remind Jefferson City who they work for (hint: it is us). It is time to sign the petition and put the power back where the Constitution said it belongs: in your hands.

Part 2 – Training Center Launches Drone Course and Collaborates with MO LECET to Provide Drone Resources to Contractors.



In December of last year, the Missouri LECET teamed up with the Training Center to host a lunch-and-learn event to help bring our signatory contractors up to speed on the new drone technology and how Laborers are prepared to utilize the new technology to generate more productivity for them.

With the likes of Kolb Grading, NB West, and Millstone Weber in attendance we had a great event where we were able to announce more about our training investments and educate contractors about the impacts of the technology on their business. Contractors had their questions answered and Laborers Training had

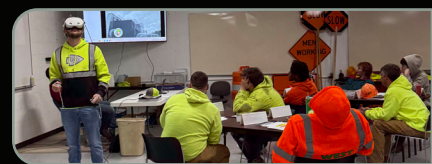
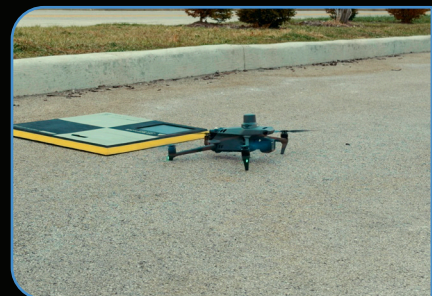
productive conversations on how to continue to meet the needs of the industry.

In February, the Laborers-Contractors Training Center held its first official prep course for the FAA Part 107 Aeronautical Knowledge Exam. The course is designed to introduce drone piloting basics while preparing Laborers for the exam required to take become a fully certified drone pilot. In order to pass the exam, prospective pilots need to prove aptitude in FAA regulations, airspace identification, meteorology basics, among other relevant subjects. Brad Dockler and Chris Goff, both licensed drone operators,

taught the course with two Laborers in attendance. The class is currently being provided on a contractor referral basis.

We were pleased with the success of this first class and the feedback from our contractors. Another lunch-and-learn event for contractors will be held at the end of March. We're excited to bring this new technology and the skill set required to utilize it, to more of our signatory contractors.

This is yet another example of how the Laborers Union continues to make our signatory contractors more competitive in the construction industry.



Revolutionizing Workzone Safety

The Missouri Laborers-Contractors Training Center is excited to roll-out a new virtual reality learning experience for our traffic control safety course. In this new simulation, made in

collaboration with **Transfr**, Laborers can actively learn traffic control and flagging on a virtual job site. This VR experience allows us to make the risk of road work demonstrable for apprentices without putting them in any real danger. It's a chance to heighten the learning experience, allowing our Laborers to learn from mistakes before ever stepping foot on a

job site. According to data from the *National Safety Council*, an average of 800 people die every year from work zone traffic accidents. With National Work Zone Safety Awareness Week beginning April 20th this year, we believe this new asset for training is arriving at a perfect time to continue helping our members stay vigilant as construction season gets underway.



LOCAL MATTERS

A Message from Jeff Watson

Brothers and Sisters,

Hope your holiday season was filled with joy and memories were made with your family and friends. Mother nature has not been on our side this winter with extreme cold temps and the major snowstorm that hit most of us. Remember if you are outside to layer your clothes and take warm up breaks when needed. With all that being said Spring is right around the corner and looks like it's turning out to be a busy season. If you are currently off work I would like to encourage you to go to take a class or two. When the temps change so do the demands of needing flaggers, pipe hands, concrete hands, and grade checkers to name a few. I look forward to seeing you all on jobsites this year.

In solidarity,

Jeff Watson
Business Manager



Local 840 Laborers Build Emergency Room

We're excited to see the hospital expansion at Phelps Health in Rolla moving along. They are adding a new emergency department. We're proud to work alongside McCarthy on projects like this that will save lives.



Laborers Work on VA Expansion

A new, expanded Department of Veterans Affairs outpatient clinic is under construction in Rolla. This facility, replacing smaller, older locations, hopes to provide specialized and primary care services for veterans, including mental health, physical therapy, and diagnostics. Here's a peek at the ongoing work happening. Block and Brick work is about to start with John J. Smith Masonry.





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**Official Publication
of Laborers' Local 840**
P.O. Box 461
Rolla, MO 65402



Laborers on Route 66

Don Maggi Construction was hard at work in February, building a new retaining wall and sidewalks along Route 66 in Waynesville. We love to see our contractors improving all pieces of our infrastructure, big and small.

Find us on Social Media



Find us on social media
Facebook: LIUNA 840
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Twitter: @liuna840