



# Lansing Labor News

VOLUME 68, NUMBER 4

VOICE OF 27,000 UAW MEMBERS



DECEMBER, 2012

## My take on the holiday season

By **Bill Reed, President, Local 602**

As you read this letter, the holiday season will be upon us and another year will have just about disappeared. It seems that time continues to pass more quickly with each year. As I write this, the cold of winter has just begun and there are still many things on my list that need to be done before snowfall.



At this time, I'm not sure I will get that list done. The holiday season fills our schedule with the hustle and bustle of finding the perfect gifts for our family and friends. A lot of attention goes to making plans for get-togethers, donating time to charities and finishing up all the odds and ends of last minute plans.

This holiday season, let's urge everyone to shop at their local downtown merchants. Supporting local businesses, whose owners may be our friends, neighbors or relatives, goes a long way in helping our local economy and besides, where else can you find those unique items or one-of-a-kind handmade gifts?

As we spend precious time with family this Christmas, let's not forget those who will be away from their loved ones. Let's give thanks to our veterans for their military service and let's be sure to wish them and their families a wonderful holiday season and a happy new year. Without their service and sacrifice, without their defending the freedoms we all enjoy, without the painful separations their families endure on the home front during their service, our lives would be much different.

We owe our veterans a debt of gratitude that can never be adequately paid.

Let us also keep our police, firefighters, ambulance drivers, nurses and 911 dispatchers—most of whom are union brothers and sisters—in our thoughts and prayers. May they all be safe while they are working this holiday

season, because emergencies don't take a holiday.

One of the most important things we can do before the year is over is to help someone less fortunate than ourselves. There are so many ways we can get involved and do something for those who have nothing to look forward to, those who would appreciate a meal, a visit, or even a phone call.

Sometimes the smallest gesture in our eyes is something life changing in someone else's eyes.

I wish all of you a peaceful and joyful Christmas, and I hope you have a very special time with family and friends. We have much to be thankful for!

**Local 602  
Hourly & Salaried  
Retirees  
Annual Florida Picnic  
March 5, 2013**  
(First Tuesday of March)  
11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
Duff's Original Buffet  
6010 14th St. W  
Bradenton, FL  
\$7.00 – \$8.00 per person  
Questions: Call Larry Miller at  
941/746-6968 (home)  
941-920-2988 (cell)

**Winterfest 2013  
February 22-24**  
Join the Oldsmobile Outdoor Club at their annual winter get-together!  
**Please note:** This year's outing will be held in Grayling on the **last weekend of February**, instead of the usual second weekend. We look forward to seeing you there! For more info, see the club's website: [www.oldsmobileoutdoorclub.com/](http://www.oldsmobileoutdoorclub.com/) or call 517-420-5335.



Members of local UAW unions took part in the annual Breast Cancer Awareness walk in November. UAW Region 1C had a large contingent in support, many of whom are shown here on the Capitol steps, including Local 652 President Mike Green and Local 602 President Bill Reed. Our thanks to all who helped.

## Thank you, thank you

By **Mike Green, President, Local 652**

I know by now everyone has heard all the political ads we want to hear. So thank you for getting out the vote for President Obama and all of our endorsed candidates. When our members turn out to vote we make a huge difference. When we vote we make sure union members' voices are heard!



*A message from Art Luna, Region 1C CAP Chair:*

First, I would like to thank everyone who helped in this election cycle. We all worked hard to try and make gains for working families. In the next few weeks we will be bombarded by Right to Work legislation in the lame duck session starting November 27.

I am asking again for your help to keep the Republicans in check from destroying our right to collective bargaining. So please be aware and ready when we call for your assistance. Can we count on you? – Art Luna

Let's hope Governor Snyder is true to his word that this is not the time to fight with labor.

### Breast Cancer Rally

Thanks to everyone who attended this year's event. Region 1C was well represented again this year.

The holiday season is here. Remember, please buy American- and union-made products and help support workers here.

This holiday season a lot of people will not have as good a holiday as our

own. Please help out those who are in need during the holidays.

### Toys for Tots

Thanks again to everyone who gave and also to those who went on the gates to collect your donations of gifts that the Marine Corps distributes to those families in need.

From my family to yours, have a happy holiday season!

## OLDSMOBILE FLORIDA PICNIC

**UAW LOCALS 652, 1618,  
1753 and LAFCU  
BOTH SALARY & HOURLY  
Tuesday,  
February 19, 2013**

**In Bradenton, Florida**  
American Legion  
Kirby Steward Post 24000 75th  
Street West  
(Between Cortez & Manatee Ave.)

**Register at 11 a.m.  
Eat at Noon**  
Meal and plastic tableware will be provided. Make plans to attend and see your friends from Lansing. Call Jere Auvenshine, (517) 626-2398, for information.

**Local 1753  
election notice  
on page 9**

## Big news

We hate to start off our Local update with bad news, but the local was informed that effective November 30, 2012 Bharat Forge would cease operations. There will still be a handful of members conducting some close-out related operations, but production will be over. This is extremely distressing as the membership has gone to great extremes in their contracts to make sure the operations were able to continue. There have been sacrifices in terms of wages, benefits, and other contractual considerations. As with all of our brothers and sisters who have experienced this we are working with the membership to help them through this transition. Bharat Forge, formerly Federal Forge, is the oldest unit of Local 724 and will leave a rich legacy in the history of UAW Local 724.



It's been a while since a Local 724 update, so here we go. The building projects have been completed with just a few minor adjustments that need to be made. This will hopefully make the hall more member-friendly, energy efficient and dry going forward. Once the ground settles over the fall, winter and spring we will make some outside improvements. Thanks for your patience.

I debated about starting off first on the recent elections, but instead gave a Local building update. Now that is out of the way, we can discuss the recent elections.

First, a big thank you to all the members who worked the election outreach on all levels. It was truly a team effort and everyone needs to be applauded. We can be thankful for four more years for President Obama versus "Mr. Let Detroit Go Bankrupt."

Let's hope that Congress can truly get to working for the betterment of the American people and not continue to engage in the negativity we have encountered.

In Michigan, the odds were evened up in the State House slightly. However, the Republicans still control the Governor, Senate, House, Attorney General, and Supreme Court. We must also monitor the right-wing attacks on unions with their actions. So stay tuned.

**Toys for Tots**  
Now back to the Local 724 front. The holiday season is upon us so that means we get busy with some things at the Local. The annual Toys for Tots drive is underway. There is a donation box at the hall, so please bring your new, unwrapped item to the Local. They are asking that we refrain from stuffed animals again this year. The hall is open from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on Monday through Thursday and from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm on Friday. We will collect donated items until December 7.

**Tree of Warmth**  
The Women's Committee Holiday Tree of Warmth will again be up at the hall. Please bring your new or handmade hats, gloves, mittens, and scarves and hang them on the tree. We will continue



**The UAW Region 1C CAP Council worked very hard to help get labor-friendly candidates elected this November. Shown here at the autumn CAP Conference are: Local 602 President Bill Reed, Region 1-C Director Norwood Jewell, UAW International President Bob King, and Local 602 Shop Chairman Rick Martinez.**

to collect these until December 21. In the past we have donated these to area agencies that see an increase in need during the cold weather. We have tried to get items for kids as well as adults.

On December 6 many of our worksites will participate in the sale of the spoof Old Newsboys paper. The proceeds from the sale help deserving children get shoes and boots in the immediate area. So when you see one of your co-workers with an orange newspaper bag and a donation jug, please give what you can.

Switching gears slightly, the membership of Local 724 stepped up again when it came to donating to the annual Capital Area United Way campaign. Although the campaign is still running in many worksites, the majority of the outreach is concluded for our Units.

The Alliance, Bridgewater, Dakkota, and Woodbridge Units finished their drives with the highest totals of donations since they have participated in worksite United Way drives. Thanks to everyone who has donated in support of the community.

### Local 724 will soon be 75 years old

In 2015 Local 724 will be celebrating seventy-five years of existence. We will be planning to recognize this milestone in a celebration. We are asking that if you or a family member has something they would like to share, please contact the Local. Starting in January we are also asking for volunteers for a 75th Anniversary Committee to start the planning. The event will celebrate our past, present and future.

As we have mentioned before, the organized labor community is more than the pundits and the haters have categorized us as. We raise our families, practice our faith, work, pay our taxes and contribute to the community. Whether we collect money for shoes for deserving kids, donate a toy to make a child smile, provide a pair of mittens to someone who is cold, or donate of our paycheck or time, we have a lot to be thankful for by our social conscience.

Thanks for allowing us to be a mighty force in our community. From this humble unionist who joined a union forty years ago, I am proud to be Union. May you and yours have a blessed holiday season. May the wind be at your back and peace and joy within your soul.

### LOCAL 724 Debra Mills, Financial Secretary

## Happy holidays

Hello Brothers and Sisters, it is that time of year again, the wonderful holiday season!

By the time you read this article, the Thanksgiving dinner is past history. I hope you and your family had a wonderful day and enjoyed the Thanksgiving feast.



UAW Local 724, along with the Women's and Recreation committees, is having our Christmas Party on December 15 from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. Santa will be here too! Please come and join us—there will be desserts, punch and coffee as well as activities and surprises for the children.

Each year our Holiday Warmth Tree has been a big success because of all of you, so we need all your donations again this year to provide our families in need with new hats, mittens, gloves, and scarves to put on the tree. We will get these gifts to the needy people in our community.

Please drop off your items from December 3 to December 21 at the 724 hall during these hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or drop at your worksite.

Our sincere thanks ahead of time; I am sure that with your help we will have another successful drive.

I know everyone will be out shopping soon. Let's just remember to buy American and buy union. With so many of union brothers and sisters out of work, let us help our own this holiday season!

You will be amazed at the number of things that are union-made: from butter to cars. Some good sites to check: [www.unionlabel.org](http://www.unionlabel.org) [www.unionplus.org/buy-union-made](http://www.unionplus.org/buy-union-made) <http://www.labor411.org/>

### Local 724 Meetings

Local 724 meets the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. The executive board meets the same Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.

## Many thanks

Victory! What a great feeling. I would like to thank our members who stepped up to volunteer during the elections.



Each of you should be proud to say "I am a member of the UAW." All of our hard work paid off with the re-election of President Obama.

Thank you to everyone who worked tirelessly on Proposal 2 to help protect collective bargaining and working families in Michigan.

Although we were unsuccessful in the passage of Proposal 2, our efforts during this campaign brought union awareness to our communities and showed them the need to protect the basic rights of workers.

We should use this as a stepping stone to grow stronger in solidarity and strengthen our commitment to labor issues.

During this holiday season more than ever, my thoughts turn toward those who have made our progress possible. And in this spirit, I give special thanks for all your support and friendships.

Warmest wishes for a joyous holiday and happy new year.

### LOCAL 1753 Ray Whitford, President

## Work on local agreement

The general election (for the U.S. president, vice-president, etc.) is behind us. The phone calls and the knocks on your home door are also gone until the next election. Our congratulations to Barack Obama and Joe Biden on their reelection.

The bickering between the two parties never stops. Let them get down to working together for the American people and take into consideration making our country a better place to live, create the many jobs we need to have. America still needs the middle class, not just the rich or poor.

As of this writing, the Shop Committee is still trying to negotiate a skilled trades local agreement. Until they get a tentative agreement and it's ratified by the skilled tradesmen, the non-skilled portion is affected. This portion is being held up.

At the October general membership meeting the one concern was rolling the overtime hours back to zero.

Once the new local agreement is in place, keep a concerned effort on management charging overtime hours to the people that turn down the available overtime.

If you wait until later and there's an error, it makes it difficult for the committeeman to get it sorted out and corrected.

Keep an eye on the bulletin boards. Our local must have an election for trustee. It is in the hands of the Election Committee to set the dates and times to vote, plus the voting areas.

## Happy holidays!

Best wishes to you, members of Local 652. After a grueling, and seemingly never-ending election cycle, a new car launch that is best described as hectic and a period of sometimes excessive overtime, it will be nice to have a few days off during the holidays to spend with friends and family. The automotive business has historically been feast or famine and during the last couple of years these situations have come with exclamation points!



Since General Motors' bankruptcy we have seen more than our share of famine, but things are looking up. In the past year we have been blessed with a great number of new hires, many of them in our GM Unit, something we have not experienced in a long, long time.

As we go into this holiday period we should give thanks for the good things. As the old saying goes, "It's always darkest before the dawn." We here at UAW Local 652 hope that your darkest hours are behind you, and that together we can enjoy the dawn of a bright, new day!

### Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

#### Skilled Trades Meeting

Local 652 Skilled Trades Christmas Meeting will be held at the Local 652 union hall on Thursday, December 13 from 3:00 to 7:00 pm. All active and retired trades are welcome. Food and beverage provided with a \$3.00 donation. Hope you can make it!

#### Winterfest 2013

Don't forget to join the Oldsmobile Outdoor Club for their annual winter get-together. This year's outing will be held in Grayling on February 22, 23 and 24. We look forward to seeing you there! For information call 517-420-5335.

**Benefits Reps** are available at Local 652 on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 7:00 am to 4:00 pm, and Fridays 7:00 am to 3:00 pm. Lunch hour is 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. Phone number for Benefits is 517-372-7581 ext. 500.

Don't forget that our union meetings are the second Sunday of the month, 6:00 pm at the union hall.



Local 652 members helped collect donations for Toys for Tots. Shown with the Marine are: Joe Cantin, 652 President Mike Green, Jill Bowen, and Jennifer Sykes.

#### LOCAL 652 Randy Freeman, Vice President

## Doing good

Every year the Marine Corps sponsors a Toys for Tots campaign. This aims to collect money and toys to distribute to children who need a little help to make their holidays brighter.



Several Lansing-area locals seek donations on the gates and in the local halls. This year, Locals 652, 602, and 1753 raised just over \$16,000. Thanks to everyone who donated and to every one who helped collect toys and funds.

The Making Strides For Breast Cancer for Lansing area UAW Region 1C raised approximately \$12,000. This is a very well-attended annual event that raises awareness of breast cancer and funds for research. It was a great event to attend and see all the UAW members who participated.

Claude Browne was the first Fair Practices Chairperson at Local 652. (Fair Practices is now called the Civil and Human Rights Committee.) Mr. Browne recently turned 90 and we had a cake for him at the local! Many happy returns of the day, Claude!

Happy holidays, everyone!

#### LOCAL 652 Scott R. Lounds, Recording Secretary

## The widening gap

Before I launch into my topic for this month I would first like to wish all of you a safe and happy holiday season. During this season of giving please take a moment to think of those less fortunate than ourselves, and to remember just how lucky we are to live in the United States of America.

During the last couple of years, and during the campaign, there has been an ongoing discussion about the wealthiest 1% of our fellow citizens, and their economic stranglehold on the other 99% of the American people.

But you do not even have to break it down to 1% and 99% to see an increasing problem with income inequality. A recent study by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities showed that in the United States today the top 20% of earners had an average income eight times greater than the average income of the bottom 20% of earners. As recently as the late 1970's not one state had a ratio that great.

When the top 5% of incomes were compared to the bottom fifth that ratio climbs to 13.3 to 1. Some states exceeded a ratio of 15 to 1. In the 1990's and 2000's income for the bottom fifth of households actually fell an average of 6% while the top fifth's income grew by 8.6% and the top 5%'s income grew by 14%. While for the middle-class, or in this study the middle fifth of incomes, our incomes increased just 1.2% or between one-sixth and one-seventh as fast as the top fifth of earners.

The growing income inequality, if unchecked, is a threat to our nation's economy and even perhaps our political system. How long before we are suffering under an economic feudalism, where the wealthiest Americans have control of the courts, the government, and every aspect of our lives.

Clearly, this is the goal of billionaires like the Koch brothers and Matty Moroun, who individually spent tens of millions of dollars in an attempt to buy

our most recent election. (And before any of you out there start blathering on about unions spending millions as well, that money was voluntarily donated by individual wage earners a few dollars a month through programs like UAW V-CA—not by the obscenely rich who accumulated that wealth on the backs of the American worker.)

Now, anyone who is working today realizes they aren't working any less hard, so what exactly has caused this ever-widening gap between the haves and have-nots? There is the obvious of course, stagnation of wages for hourly earners, at the same time as executive pay increased enormously. A less obvious reason found through the study was the inequity in wages paid by gender.

In the last 30 years more and more households have been headed by female wage earners. The fact that they are, on average, paid less than their male counterparts for the same work has been reflected in the lowering of the average wage.

Another reason for this increasing gap is that income from things like dividends, collection of rent, collection of interest, and capital gains—which largely accrue to the wealthiest Americans—has been rising exponentially faster than actual wages earned.

Another reason for the widening gap is the declining real value of the minimum wage, the purchasing power of which has declined 13% in the last 30 years.

The study suggests a number of moves that our government could take to begin closing the income gap. One example is an immediate increase in the minimum wage, which has a lifting effect on all wages at the lower end of the scale. Additionally, index this wage to ensure continued growth in the future.

Second, restore the deep cuts many states have made to their unemployment insurance systems. The unemployment system keeps families from immediately falling down the rabbit hole of poverty when wage earners lose their jobs.

The final strategy the study suggested for raising wages was to protect workers' right to bargain collectively, to strengthen laws that prevent abusive employer practices that deprive workers of wages that they are legally owed.

So what can we, as members of the labor movement, do? First of all, organize as many workers as possible. The states with the highest percentage of unionized workers tend to have less income inequality than those with few unionized workers.

Second, let our wallets do our talking for us by boycotting businesses that regularly undermine the working people of America in the name of greater profit, CEO pay, and political statements. Companies, for example, like Papa John's, which is cutting workers' hours to avoid paying healthcare, which according to their founder would raise the cost of each pizza 14 cents. (I suppose it could have just lowered his profit 14 cents a pizza instead, but that probably never entered his mind.) Or the great and powerful Wal-Mart, which has followed this strategy for years by closely monitoring employee hours so that they don't qualify for the company's health insurance plan. I for one never step foot inside of Wal-Mart and you can be damn sure I will never buy a Papa John's pizza either.

## Lansing Labor News

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VOLUME 68, NUMBER 4

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DECEMBER, 2012

## 602 retirees

The elections are over so now we can focus on the holidays. While you are planning your holidays take a few moments to think of all the homeless and hungry out on the streets on these cold nights. We, as a retiree group, have been very generous in giving to several organizations that benefit our veterans, children, and the elderly. It gives you a good feeling to know that a family had a nice dinner, or a child had a gift to unwrap under the tree all because you cared enough to share a little with them.

As always, our retirees will bring unwrapped toys for tots at our Christmas Dinner along with items for the food bank. We also have a money can in case you forgot, which can be used to buy food for the homeless.

On Thursday, December 13 at 2:00 pm Health Plus will be at Local 602 for an informational meeting for all UAW Trust Retirees. This is the highest-ranked Medicare Plan offered to UAW Retirees. This plan has been in the Flint area for quite some time and their members have found it to be a good plan. It think it would be well worth your time to attend this meeting.

I have this poem by an unknown writer that I'd like to share with you here:

“There’s more, much more to Christmas Than candle-light and cheer; It’s the spirit of sweet friendship, That brightens all the year It’s thoughtfulness and kindness, It’s hope reborn again For peace, for understanding And for goodwill toward men.”

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for a Joyful Holiday and a New Year filled with happiness.

We look forward to seeing everyone again in January. For all our sick and homebound, you are in our thoughts and prayers. And to all who have lost a loved one or dear friend, we send our heartfelt condolences.

### Laura Clark

## 1753 retirees

Congratulations go out to all endorsed candidates and a hearty thank you to everyone who participated. You know who you are ... callers, walkers, and of course the voters. I think the message of Hope was nationally well received and now is the time to pull the entire nation together, starting locally.



We are going to start with the 1753 Christmas Open House on December 13 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Snacks and drink will be served. Call the people in the old department and invite them to meet you there, or bring your spouse—or both!

Remember, we have a special meeting at the local on Tuesday, December 4 at 2:00 p.m. for those who are interested in Health Plus, a new HMO now available to some.

Our next meeting is Thursday, January 10. Coffee at 11:00, lunch at noon, meeting at 1:00. See you there!



**Local 652 recently helped celebrate the 90th birthday of 652 retiree and former Fair Practices Chairperson Claude Browne. Shown here (left to right) are: President Mike Green; Local 652 staff member Jeff Auvenshine; Mr. Browne; Financial Secretary Bob Smith; and Vice President Randy Freeman. Congratulations to Mr. Browne, and a hearty thank you for your many years of service to the membership of Local 652 and the labor movement.**

### Mike Bauer

## 652 retirees

The 2012 elections are now behind us. Thanks to all who voted. We have already seen our first snowflakes and the snowbirds will be steadily departing. Everyone have a safe trip.

The following is our monthly schedule of events:

First Tuesday of the month is Bingo. The games start at 5:00 p.m.

Third Tuesday of the month is our potluck dinner and business meeting. Bring your own table service and a dish to pass. Dinner starts at noon.

Fourth Tuesday of the month is card night starting at 5:00 p.m. Card night is for Locals 652, 602, and 1618.

Our bingo night, potluck/business meeting, and social night is for Local 652 retirees, spouses, and associate members only.

Our next social night will be January 8 from 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Social night is for Local 652 retirees, spouses, and associate members only—no guests.

Please mark the following dates on your calendars. December 25, card night is cancelled. January 1, Bingo night is cancelled.

The December dinner will be our regular potluck. Bring your own table service and a dish to pass.

Health Plus insurance plan is now going to be available to UAW VEBA Trust members in Clinton and Ingham counties. There will be informational meetings for this plan on December 11 at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. at the hall.

On December 14 there will be an informational presentation by the VEBA Trust. There will be representatives from various health insurance carriers available. The meeting starts at 1:00 p.m. at the hall.

We are updating our list of Local 652 retirees who would like to go to the Walter and May Reuther Educational Center at Black Lake when our retirees have an opportunity to attend. We currently have three pages of names,

but many of the phone numbers are no longer in service. If you have not been to Black Lake and would like to be added to the list, please email your name, address, phone number, and whether you are married or single (rooms are double occupancy and you will be given a roommate if single) to retiree652@hotmail.com. If you don't have access to email, you may call 517-372-7581 ext. 147, and leave the information on the answering machine.

The retirees attending these sessions attend classes and listen to speakers—this is not a “vacation,” but a learning experience for attendees. There is some free time for retirees to enjoy and explore the complex after the sessions each day.

Condolences to the families of Ray Myers, Ida Flemming, Jim Hester, and any others we may have missed.

The following members and associates are in our thoughts and prayers: Robert Abernathy, Clara Mae Bean, Jewell Carrier, Marvin Davis, T.J. Evans, Joyce and Herb Fernholz, Dave Hodges, Don and Helen Hogan, Dorothy Hoisington, Don and Maxine Jubb, Wilfred Pullman, Larry Salters, Leonard Schneider, Bob and Lee Vergason, Mason Williams, Willa Wright, and any others we may have missed.

Seasons Greetings to all. Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

The Lansing Labor News is now online. You may access it at [www.lansinglabornews.org](http://www.lansinglabornews.org)

The Food Bank could use our help. If possible, bring canned goods to donate when you attend retiree events. No expired food please.

Send your change of address to: Lansing Labor News, 210 Clare St., Lansing, MI 48917. Please include your current address and the old address when requesting the change.

If you have benefit questions, contact a benefit rep for answers. 517-372-7581 ext. 500.

You may contact me at the following email address: retiree652@hotmail.com

## 1618 retirees

Hello out there all you wonderful people! Soon we'll have a New Year—hoping 2013 will be better. We did reelect President Obama, but we could have done better. I hope they'll take heed and work for the middle class.



On our sick list: Lois Dyer, Ken Warner, Jenny Henderson, Curtis Dunn, and Joe Sagy.

On November 14 we had the veterans memorial at Chapel Hill on Grand River. You can see the monument from Airport Road. This is the one that was at the plant with names of World War II vets. Afterward we went to the 1753 hall for our turkey lunch. Dick Kline and Ted Gauss fixed the birds and Chairman Dunn the ham. Others brought the trimmings and more good stuff. We invited John Tashner and Bruce Large from Chapel Hill to join us for turkey. It was a nice day!

On December 12 we will have our Christmas luncheon at the 1753 hall.

Betty and Red Varney have moved to a condo.

On March 26-26 there will be an overnight trip. Stay at the Holiday Express, visit Petoskey, Traverse City, Turtle Creek, and Little River. We need 44 people. Call Connie Dunn at 517-323-2146. All are welcome.

We donate to five charities and we vote on someone who has a special one. The one drawn was the VFW National Home. The five are: the backpack program, a nursing home, the food bank, the mission, and Giving Tree Farm.

Happy birthday to Judy Hunt, Janet Walker, Sue Torguson, Connie Gauss, Barb Kline (on Thanksgiving), Tom Sutton, Noland Douglas, Hanna Fox, and Dianna Zelinka. Also, Jessica Anthony and Celia Anthony.

I went to the CAP Conference. There were lots of good speeches by people who care about the middle class. But why must folks in Congress be so nasty? Maybe they need an attitude adjustment.

Happy anniversary to Tom and Janet Walker on 51 years.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. To our snow birds, drive safe and see you in the spring.

Till we meet again, keep smiling. My address is 3009 Luella Ln, Springport, MI 49284. My phone is 517-543-5385.

## 1753 notes

**By Nancy Munchbach, Financial Secretary**

Seasons Greetings! I hope you were able to enjoy Thanksgiving with family and friends. Our “Halloweenie Roast” was a great success at our new location in front of the cafeteria. I think it is much more accessible for our members. I would like to thank everyone who helped, both scheduled and otherwise. Lots of folks willing to do whatever was necessary. Thanks, Ray, for the arrangements.

We are having a Christmas Open House at the Hall on Thursday, December 13 from 1:00 – 5:00 pm. Food and refreshments to be enjoyed by all. I hope to see you there. Merry Christmas!

Wishing you a  
**Merry Christmas**  
and  
**A New Year**  
filled with Peace and  
Happiness  
UAW Local 4911



**Season's Greetings**  
from  
the officers  
and  
members of  
**Local 2256**



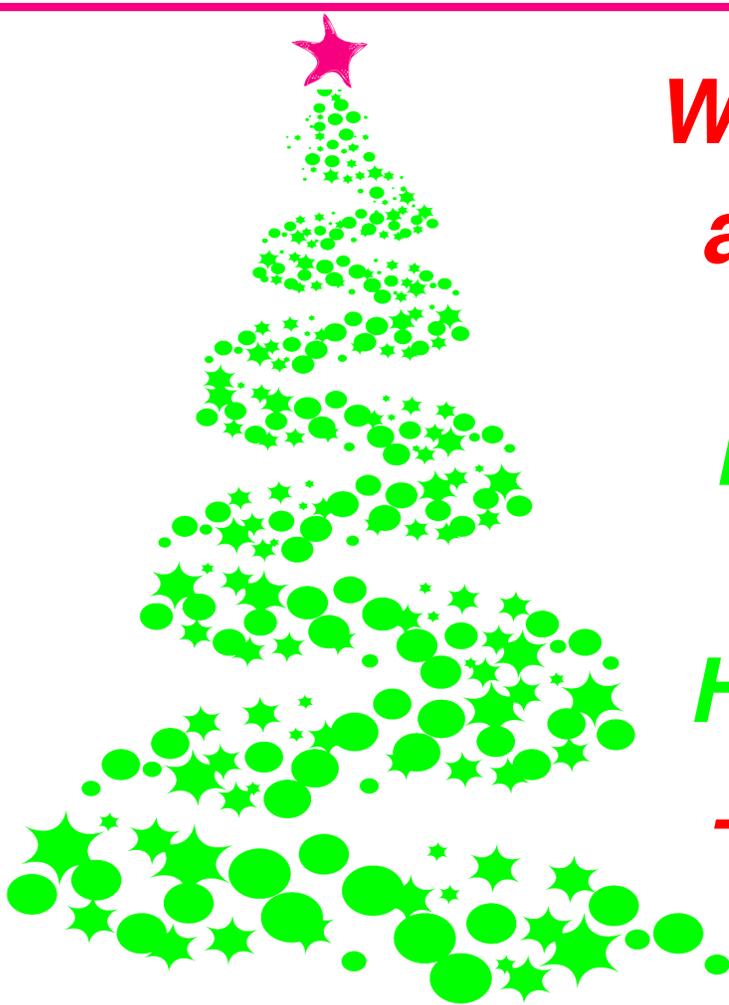
**The Executive Officers and Committeepersons of Local 1753 wish you all the joys of the season.**



**Happy Holidays from the staff of the Lansing Labor News**

**Season's Greetings from**  
**Rapaport, Pollok, Farrell, & Waldron**  
**Our Gift to You for the Holidays – and All Year Long**





***Warmest thoughts  
and best wishes  
for a wonderful  
Holiday Season  
and a very  
Happy New Year.  
– UAW Local 602  
Leadership***



***Local 724's  
Amalgamated Units  
wish you a  
Merry Christmas  
and a Prosperous New Year***



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*Serving the membership since 1940***

**450 Clare St., Lansing, MI 48917  
517-482-7377**

**General Membership Meeting Second Tuesdays of the month at 6:30 p.m.**

*We wish you happy holidays  
and a bright new year!*

*Mike Green*

*Randy Freeman*

*Robert E. Smith*

*Scott R. Lounds*



*John Guban*

*James W. ...*

*John E. ...*

*Jake Jacobson*



*From the officers and shop chairmen of the  
GM, JCIM, Ryder, and AI Units of Local 652*



**Happy Holidays to Everyone!**



**From UAW Region 1C  
Norwood Jewell, Director  
Steve Dawes, Assistant Director  
Staff and Support Staff**

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For more information about HealthPlus or to talk to a representative, call 1-800-332-9161.

## UAW Trust Retiree Informational Meetings:

UAW Local 1753/1618  
3204 W. St. Joseph,  
Lansing, MI 48917  
Tuesday, December 4  
2 p.m.

UAW Local 652  
426 Clare St.,  
Lansing, MI 48917  
Tuesday, December 11  
10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

UAW Local 602  
2510 W. Michigan Ave.,  
Lansing, MI 48917  
Thursday, December 13  
2 p.m.



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\*National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) 2012-2013. NCQA's Medicare Health Insurance Plan Rankings 2012-2013.

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Full Name Lansing Labor News		Complete Mailing Address 210 Clare St., Lansing, MI 48917			
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PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 1 of 3 (Instructions Page 3)) PSN 7530-01-000-9931 PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy on www.usps.com

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	(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	0	0
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	(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	0	0
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4))		0	0
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16. Publication of Statement of Ownership <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the <u>December, 2012</u> issue of this publication. <input type="checkbox"/> Publication not required.			
17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner <i>Harold Foster Editor Mgr.</i>			Date September 27, 2012

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 2 of 3)

## Local 1753 Nominations and Election

### For TRUSTEE Nominations

December 12 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
 December 19 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
 At the Hall  
 3204 W. St. Joseph, Lansing, MI 48917

### Election

January 9, 2013  
 At the Hall from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.  
 In plant  
 5:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.  
 11:20 a.m. to 12:00 noon  
 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
 8:45 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Run-off election, if necessary, will be on January 16, 2013 same times and places

## UAW Local 602 Holiday Open House

Retired/Active Members & Their Families!  
**Friday, December 21, 2012**

Breakfast served 5am-9am  
 Lunch served 12pm-5pm  
 UAW Local 602 Union Hall

2510 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, MI 48917  
 517-372-4626

Join Local 602 in celebrating the holiday season with food, fun, and fellowship!

Please bring a non-perishable food item for the Greater Lansing Food Bank!  
 Hope to see you there!

## Local 602 Holiday Skating Party

Fun for the entire family!

Ages 0-100! Don't skate? Wel, I come on out for the fun and solidarity!

### Saturday, December 15

Edru Skate-A-Rama, 1891 Cedar St., Holt  
 All 602 Members, Spouses & Children, and Retirees  
 10:00 am - 12:30 pm

Includes: Photo with Santa, Skate Rental & More!  
 Ticket: \$1.00 Donation to benefit the Greater Lansing Food Bank

-In lieu of canned goods-  
 Retirees Free

For tickets please see:  
 BODY Shop: Christie Medina 615.585.5299  
 or Ofelia Glasgow 517.243.1307

GA: Adrienne McCloud 517.819.7573 or John Fedewa 517.980.6079  
 PAINT: Sheila Woolfolk 615.400.7440 or Doug Fox 517.526.0485

OR Local 602 Union Hall, or purchase at door.

Skate at your own risk. Local 602 is NOT responsible for your safety at event.

## Local 602 meetings and closure

Following are Local 602's meeting dates for the coming period. The Executive Board will meet at 4:30 p.m. and the Membership at 6:00 p.m. on:

- 12/09/12 06/09/13
- 01/13/13 09/08/13
- 02/10/13 10/13/13
- 03/10/12 11/10/13
- 04/14/13 12/08/13
- 05/19/13

Please note: The Local 602 Hall will be closed for the holidays from Monday, December 24 through Tuesday, January 1, 2013, reopening Wednesday, January 2.

## Skilled Trades Meeting

Local 652 Skilled Trades Christmas Meeting will be held at the Local 652 union hall on Thursday, December 13 from 3:00 to 7:00 pm. All active and retired trades are welcome. Food and beverage provided with a \$3.00 donation.

## Winterfest 2013 February 22-24

Join the Oldsmobile Outdoor Club at their annual winter get-together! This year's outing will be held in Grayling on the last weekend of February, instead of the second weekend. For info, see the website: [www.oldsmobileoutdoorclub.com/](http://www.oldsmobileoutdoorclub.com/) or call 517-420-5335.

## Attention: ALL UAW Retirees

Health Plus will be holding an informational meeting on Thursday, December 13 at 2:00 pm at UAW Local 602 Union Hall, 2510 W Michigan Avenue, Lansing MI.

Health Plus is going to give a presentation on the health insurance plan(s) they have to offer you and your family. Health Plus has been given permission from the UAW-VEBA Trust to offer health insurance to our retirees.

Health Plus representatives will be available to answer any questions you might have at this meeting. Open to ALL UAW Retirees.

## VEBA and Health Plus meetings at Local 652

Health Plus insurance plan is now going to be available to UAW VEBA Trust members in Clinton and Ingham counties. There will be informational meetings for this plan on December 11 at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. at the Local 652 hall.

On December 14 there will be an informational presentation by the VEBA Trust. There will be representatives from various health insurance carriers available. The meeting starts at 1:00 p.m. at the Local 652 hall.

## Seventy Years Of Veterans 1942-2012



Local 652 Retiree Ervin Hilborn is surrounded by members of his family who are all veterans or active. Ervin was in the Army Air Force, 1942-1945. He was in the 303rd Bomber Group. He was awarded the Air Medal with Three Oak Leaf Clusters, Purple Heart, Distinguished Unit Citation, and European Theatre Operation Ribbon with Two Bronze Stars. Behind him, left to right: Ben Root, veteran of the Army's 82nd Airborne Division; Drew Marshall, Local 652 active member and Michigan National Guard member; Larry Stevens, Local 652 retiree and Army veteran; and Ken Lehnert, Local 652 retiree and Army veteran. Larry and Ken are Ervin's Sons-In-Law; Ben is Larry's Son-In-Law; Drew is Ervin's Great-Grandson and Ken's Grandson.

## 602 Obituaries

Roger Bradburn – Retired  
Ladislau Bocek – Retired  
Edith Powell – Retired  
Rex Wood – Father of Brian Wood, Retired Skilled Trades Zone  
Kenneth L. Holloway – Father of Kevin Holloway, Joint Activities  
Nancy Jenks – Body (Sides)  
Tonya Reagan – Body (Sides)  
Daniel Stephen Bramos – Son of Steve Bramos  
Roy Bird – Retired Paint  
Eldon Brown Sr. – Father of Eldon Brown Jr., Body  
Zetta D. Clark – Mother of Michael McDaniel  
Hazel Irene Ellison – Mother of Tommy Ellison  
Mark Root – Retired Paint P/E Review and Seal  
Gertrude Hill – Mother of Denise Thomas, Engine Dress Team 6  
Charles L. Smith – Retired  
Roger Konenski – Retired  
Christopher Robert Hyden – Son of Martha Cooper, Body  
Kent Wood – Retired

## 602 Thank Yous

Thank you for the beautiful flowers, the cards, and all your thoughts and prayers. We greatly appreciate everything ... Steve and Nola Bramos and family

## 652 Obituaries

Wayland Baker – Grandson of Frederick Kirmann  
Cynthia Ball – Spouse of Michael Ball  
Joanne Crawford Bennett – Mother of Robert Bennett  
Kathleen Bond – Spouse of John Bond  
Ann Carol – Mother of Robert Mitchell  
William Davarn – Father of Rick Davarn  
Warren O. DeLong – Retiree, Father of Rob and Terry DeLong  
Ida Fleming – Retiree, sister of Maxine Jubb  
Lavern Gale – Father-in-Law of Leon Wilhelm  
Aubrey Gay – Retiree  
Mary Hempsted – Mother of Greg Edington  
Gloria Jean Hickox – Mother of Terry

Lowe  
Alvin Gene Jones – Retiree  
Herbert Ketchum – Father-in-Law of Lewis Smith  
Wannetta Latunski – Retiree, Mother of Gary Latunski  
Rovilla Lawson – Spouse of Frank Lawson  
Jerry McDaniel – Spouse of Richard McDaniel, Sister-in-Law of Tony McDaniel  
Dalena Miller – Spouse of Richard Miller, Mother of Edwin Miller  
Nathaniel Miller – Father of Alex Miller, Father-in-Law of Brittney and Ashley Miller  
Harry Misner – Retiree, Father of Brian Misner  
Bertha Peak – Retiree, Spouse of Michael Peak  
Lucius Charles Peterson – Spouse of Stella McIntosh-Peterson  
Mergie Beaton Prochazka – Retiree, Mother of Tonia L. O'Berry  
Carl Ratowski – Retiree  
Alma Ronning – Mother of Mark Ronning  
Richard G. Ruthruff – Father of Terry Ruthruff, Father-in-Law of Rick Cornell and Judy Ruthruff  
Baldemar Sada – Retiree  
Ronald L. Sanders – Retiree  
Fred Smith Jr. – Son of Fred Smith  
Phyllis A. Thompson – Mother of Mason "Dutch" Williams  
Fern Waddy – Mother of Phelix Waddy  
Joseph Zielinski – Father of Wes Zielinski

**Thank-You's were received from the following families:**  
The Jearline Adams Family

## 724 Obituaries

William Douglas "Doug" Barker passed away Oct., 6, 2012. He worked at Dakkota

**Please see page 1 for information on retiree picnics in Florida this winter.**

**As of this writing, there are NO plans for an Arizona retirees picnic this winter.**

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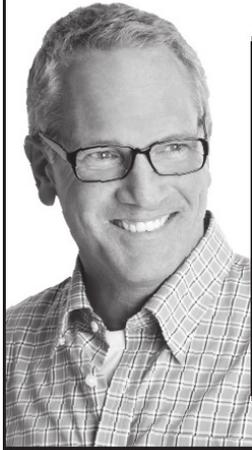
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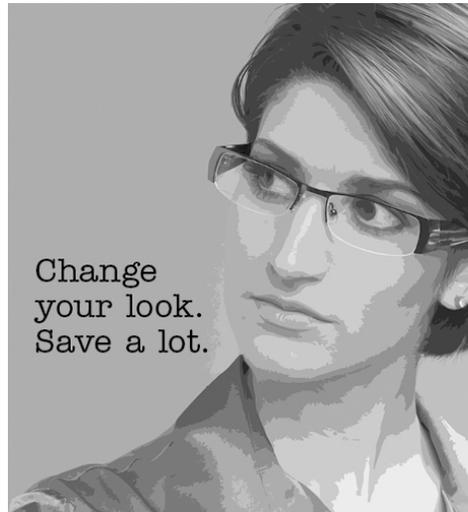


Charlotte	1315 Lansing Rd.	517-543-7577
Lansing	6001 W. Saginaw Hwy.	517-886-2888
Okemos	2285 W. Grand River Ave.	517-349-9944

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Grand Rapids  
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616-364-4099

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2500 E. Beltline SE  
616-245-6300

Lansing  
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517-323-8221

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989-488-1866

Saginaw  
2350 Tittabawassee  
989-791-1044

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616-363-9831

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