



Lansing Labor News

VOLUME 73, NUMBER 5

VOICE OF 28,000 UAW MEMBERS



DECEMBER, 2017



ABOVE: Members of the Region 1D Capital Area UAW CAP Council with Lansing Mayor-elect Andy Schor (center) the day after the November election. A number of newly elected officials stopped by Local 602 shortly after the election to thank our members for their support and to gather input on priorities for the changing City administration. Shown below, left to right, are: Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope, Lansing Mayor-elect Andy Schor, and Lansing City Councilmember At-Large Peter Spadafore.



Lansing Labor News-Periodical postage paid at Lansing, MI & other post offices

The Oldsmobile Outdoor Club's **Winterfest 2018** will be held in Grayling on **February 16-18**. Plan now to attend this fun family event! For more info, check the Oldsmobile Outdoor Club's Facebook page.

The Labor News is also available online at lansinglabornews.org

Members step up

By Randy Freeman
President, Local 724

I would first like to thank everyone for all your continuous support, not only to your local and international Union, but the support you show to your fellow Union members and the families in our communities that we live in. I have seen year after year our UAW members volunteering and donating to the many charities we have in our areas.



This year the United Way drives again were very successful in our plants, along with an exceptional Toys-for-Tots drive—the Lansing-area GM automotive plants combined for over \$18,900 to help make sure that kids in this community will have a Christmas this year.

And I know by the time you receive this paper that you will have again supported the OLD NEWS BOYS and helped put shoes on kids' feet. I also see our retirees that take time out of their lives to volunteer throughout our communities with places like the Red Cross and the Safety Council, just to name a few. Thank you for all you do!

Don't forget the Oldsmobile Outdoor Club's Winterfest on February 16, 17 and 18. It will again be held this year up at the Ramada Inn in Grayling. It's great time for the whole family.

Please take the time to spend with your families and friends this holiday season and if I don't see you, I would like to wish you and yours this Holiday a very Merry Christmas and Happy and New Year!

Big shoes to fill

By Todd Collins
President, Local 724

As I thought as to what to write for my first article as President of UAW Local 724, I immediately thought of our Past President Dean Poggiali. The words dedication, commitment and passion for the union all exemplify the work that he has done (and still continues to do) for our local and the community.



As I took office I realized that I have some very big shoes to fill. Dean's leadership at our Local has been unwavering over the course of the years and I can only hope to continue the work that he has started. Again, big shoes to fill!

I am truly honored to be elected your President and will work every day to live up to the responsibility of representing you and our Union.

The Local is proud to announce the addition of two new units to our UAW Family: Kirchhoff Automotive and Faurecia Interior Systems. Congratulations to the newly elected committees from both Units.

I look forward to working with you all to represent our members. On behalf of the entire Executive Board of UAW Local 724, I would like to wish all of our members a Merry Christmas and a Happy and prosperous New Year.

"May Peace be your gift at Christmas and your blessing all year through!" – Author Unknown

OLDSMOBILE FLORIDA PICNIC

UAW LOCALS 652, 602, 1618, 1753 and LAFCU

BOTH SALARY & HOURLY

Tuesday, February 20, 2018

In Bradenton, Florida

American Legion

Kirby Steward Post

2000 75th Street West

(Between Cortez & Manatee Ave.)

Register at 11 a.m.

Eat at Noon

Meal and plastic tableware will be provided. For information, call Jere Auvenshine at (517) 626-2398 or Larry Miller at 941-746-6968 (home) or 941-920-2988 (cell.)

Making the holidays fine

Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Eve are happy times spent with family and friends, good food and celebration. But for some, the holidays are marked with feelings of anxiety and depression, commonly referred to as the Holiday Blues. Stress over hosting family and friends, purchasing gifts, changes in our daily routine or diet and thinking about friends and family who have passed on or live too far away to visit can all contribute to feelings of stress, sadness or loneliness during the holidays.

As we plan our holiday activities, we don't have to make sure everything we do is perfect or over the top in order to show someone that we care about them. Lending a helping hand, paying a visit, and even a phone call can mean a lot to someone regardless if they might be experiencing the holiday blues, and will help combat any blues of our own.

There is usually a lot going on between Thanksgiving and New Year's. We will most likely attend more than one event with family and friends and will be confronted with lots of food, alcohol and spending. This can cause a lot of anxiety so be realistic about what you can and can't do and set limitations. The holidays are more enjoyable when you are not stressed about the repercussions later. This doesn't mean you need to abstain from drinking and eating at parties, or that you cannot buy presents for those you care about, but rather that you are doing so in moderation so you don't stray far from your regular routine.

With the holidays right around the corner, many of us may be wondering how the year went by so quickly. Maybe because we immerse ourselves so much in our work and outside commitments that we don't notice how fast life can be? I hope you'll take a little time to slow down during the holidays this year. This holiday season, be sure to take a least one whole day where you can put that cell phone away, throw on some pajamas, and remain far away from all the busy restaurants and malls. Whatever you decide to do, take a day for you this year.

In closing, I would like to extend a huge thanks to you the membership for your support in allowing me the privilege to serve as we close out yet another year at Local 602. As always, be sure to take advantage of Local 602 events and opportunities provided at our union hall and in and around the Lansing area. It's been my goal to make sure UAW Local 602 has a strong presence in our community. Our 2018 calendar is booked even before the year begins, and I couldn't be prouder as we utilize our hall to the fullest extent possible.

I would like to extend a thank you to each of the following: Tim Bogar, staff member of the Lansing Labor News for your years of hard work and expertise



Local 652 officers and members with U.S. Marines, kicking off the annual Toys-for-Tots campaign. Our members were again very generous in helping to provide a good Christmas for local children in need. Thanks to all who contributed!

in making the Lansing Labor News what it is today, I wish you the best in your retirement; our UAW Local 602 standing committees who give up their personal time to host events, educate and provide services to our members, their families and friends; the officers and staff I have the pleasure of working with every day as well as our Local's chairman, members of the shop committee, districts, alternates and appointed.

Together we work hard as a team to bring the direction of our Local forward in these changing and often uncertain times. Many times our work goes unnoticed, but we have been entrusted to do the hard work and make the difficult decisions and we willingly step up to the challenge.

I believe the real measure of our accomplishments is not in the things we do individually, but in the outcome of the direction we take collectively.

Thank you and may you all have a wonderful holiday season!

LOCAL 1753
Yvonne Vincent, President

Busy officers and committees

Hello, Union Brothers and Sisters. Your newly elected officials have been busy. Congratulations to Sharae Rosborough for being the new Second Shift Alternate Committeeperson.

Some of the officials attended a week at Black Lake to learn specifically about their new positions and some committees have been actively getting information and collecting donations to help support their causes.

The Women's Committee made shirts and did a 5K to help raise money for the American Cancer Society.

The Halloween Roast went over well. Thank you to everyone for help making that happen.

We once again had Marines come into our plant to help collect for Toys for Tots. Our generous members helped collect \$1,150 and new toys are being collected until December 12th.

The Veterans Committee has col-



lected pop cans, participated and hosted chili cook-offs and are working on updating the plaques in the plant to acknowledge people who have served. **THANK YOU TO ALL THAT HAVE SERVED.**

Old Newsboys will be gate collecting on Thursday, December 7. We did great last year and local boys and girls appreciate your donation to help them get winter boots.

The Christmas Party Open House, hosted by the retirees, will be on December 14th at the Union Hall from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. I hope everyone will come and enjoy it.

Please, everyone, be safe these holidays and have a great time off. Remember, when buying stuff/gifts or using services, to use Union companies and buy American. Thank you.

LOCAL 4911
Derrick McDuffey, President

Bargaining for a better tomorrow

In a previous article I mentioned that Sparrow Hospital is a union operated facility. Not only does the UAW represent over 2,300 members, we also work side by side with MNA/PECSH, the nurses union at Sparrow. They, too, represent over 2,300 members and of this writing, they are entering their third week of working without a contract.

With the uncertainty of health care in the United States, most hospitals are bracing for less reimbursement from Medicare and Medicaid, forcing hospitals across the country to tighten their belts in preparation for potential loss of revenue.

While the nurses union works without a contract, they are still at the table working with Sparrow to negotiate an agreement that will take care of their nurses and their families, as well as the patients they care for—all while trying to avoid a work stoppage which looms over their negotiations.

As President of Local 4911, I know we will face a lot of the same challenges a year from now when we enter into



contract negotiations with Sparrow. Our bargaining team will work to negotiate our seventh contract that will take care of our members, our families, and all who come to Sparrow for their healthcare needs.

Saving lives and providing services that promote a healthy community, while at the same time building a strong middle class in Lansing and surrounding areas, is paramount for Local 4911 and other labor unions in the Capitol City.

LOCAL 652
Ben Frantz, Vice President

Your best friend

As we enter into the holiday season, we can use this time to reset the batteries and reflect on the blessings in our lives as Union brothers and sisters. With this time upon us, there is a topic that I would like to cover during this rediscovery period.

While learning about the various units, I've noticed there are a few folks who work in our shops who have signed off paying their union dues. I truly believe that many of these individuals have no innate disbelief in the Union or its positive impact on raising working standards. In fact, I believe these folks understand that working in a Union shop provides them with better benefits, pay and working conditions.

The individuals that I have had interactions with merely aren't in agreement with a particular person in an elected position, or a piece of their Agreement, and—even more unfortunate—something they wanted didn't go their way. Now this clearly is the "I'm gonna take my ball and go home" philosophy that we all saw as children growing up. My hope is that these folks may have gotten themselves in life's "rut" and just need a reset.

We need to remember that in life negative things happen in all facets of our lives, but we can still appreciate the positives that coexist with these small inconveniences or irritations. I have thought of life as an adult attempting to utilize this "all my way or nothing" approach and how it would work in its simplest form—like this:

They say dogs are a man's best friend, but the accompanying dog hair that attaches itself to all of our earthly belongings is not! My wife and I see our dog as loyal (yet flawed) and we are comfortable knowing that she is protecting our whole family while we are distracted. With that, my family and I work around that negative aspect of being dog owners. Now, if we were to take the approach that since we don't like her hair on our couch and even though she is loyal and would protect us when called upon, we can no longer feed her due to this hairy nuisance, Lily would show little change at the onset ... but over time our Lily girl will grow weak and no longer be able to defend us.

Clearly this isn't how we treat our best friend, because we want her strong and although we dislike the hair, Lily is well fed. My wife and I pray she never has to protect us but if she should have



to, Lily is at the ready.

This is just like paying union dues. There are flaws and minor irritations in our UAW, but how can we support enjoying all of the benefits of membership while not feeding the UAW? I will always feed the UAW and my Lily girl and tolerate the irritations because I know that a strong and healthy UAW is better for us than fighting alone.

That being said, I ask that you use this holiday season to reflect and see if the irritations of life have inadvertently led you off course. If this is true, it's never too late to repair a relationship or rejoin the family. God Bless and I hope you have Happy Holidays and a Merry Christmas. — Ben Frantz and Family

LOCAL 652

Bob Smith, Financial Secretary

Reagan Tax Plan 2.0

1.5 trillion dollars. You could buy all of the teams in the NFL (and no, you can't get a discount if you include the Lions!) and have change left over. You could buy 3.2 MILLION homes at today's US median home price. You could pay the US Department of Defense budget, one of our largest budget items, for all of 2016 ... TWICE! That's the amount of new debt the proposed Republican tax plan will add to the deficit over its first ten years.

So, let's look a little closer.

The right has claimed they are the party of the balanced budget ... NOPE!

The tax cuts being proposed are expected to increase the deficit (1.5 trillion dollars from above). This is being acknowledged from members of both the right and the left.

The right has claimed this is a tax plan for the middle class ... NOPE!

Around 70% of the tax benefits would go to people earning six figures or more (about 23% of all filers) and the majority of that would go to the highest earners, the infamous 1%, who will see a 40 to 60% tax cut!

The right has claimed this tax plan will benefit workers ... NOPE! NOPE! NOPE!

A linchpin of this plan is a reduction in the corporate tax rate from 35% to 20% and assorted rules changes that concern money earned outside the US (allows this cash to return to the US with little to no tax) which would allow businesses to invest more, creating jobs, increasing economic growth, and generating additional taxes to help pay for the cost of reductions. That's all fine and dandy, but then Trump's own Treasury Secretary, Steven Mnuchin, addressed a gathering of businessmen and merchants in Columbus, Ohio recently and asked for a show of hands on who would invest tax savings in manpower and facilities. Only a few hands were raised. Befuddled, he asked what the group would do with it.

They responded with a litany — increased dividends, mergers and acqui-

sitions, stock buy-backs, etc. Jobs and increased wages for employees were conspicuously absent—and I suspect Trump knows this, he is a businessman after all. His intent seems to be to help those who have the most while the rest of us get "trickled" on. That's something I am getting a little tired of and I sincerely hope you are too! A quote from Frank Mathews with the Communication Workers of America is chilling — "Once this millionaire tax scam is complete, those in power will cry poor, and then they will come after Medicare and Social Security." Many believe these to be off-limits but as any retiree in Michigan knows, nothing is off-limits when it comes to tax breaks for business. Think about it.

The Skilled Trade Christmas Meeting is scheduled for December 14 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Local 652 Union Hall. Food and beverage provided with a \$3 donation at the door. I hope to see you there!

I'd like to wish a safe and happy holiday to everyone! Enjoy your loved ones and enjoy the time you spend with them. It all passes too quickly!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

LOCAL 652

Scott R. Lounds, Recording Secretary

Rising tribalism

During the 2016 presidential campaign at a rally in Iowa, Donald Trump boasted that he could stand in the middle of Fifth Avenue and shoot somebody and not lose voters. With the revelations of his behavior toward women and other actions since being elected, I don't doubt that President Trump's boast may not well be true.

Now a Republican Senate candidate from Alabama has been accused of sexually abusing a 14-year-old girl and multiple other women have come forward to tell their stories of how Roy Moore behaved toward them while they were teenagers and he was a 30-year-old assistant district attorney. Apparently, even if true, this is not a disqualifier for being elected in some Republicans' minds.

Republican leaders in Alabama

Lansing Labor News

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mostly supported Moore with one Alabama Republican comparing the relationship between Moore and his accuser to the age difference between the biblical couple, Mary and Joseph.

One Alabama county G.O.P. chairman went so far as to basically say that even if the accusations are true, people must still vote for Moore or they would be handing a victory to the Democratic party.

Sadly, this sort of thinking is apparent across the political spectrum and in many parts of society. It is part of a trend over the last decade which has led people to attach their social identity to a political party in a way that is akin to tribalism. It is no longer even about ideology or the political differences between the parties. Instead it is about supporting those who identify as belonging to the same groups you belong to, even to the point of ignoring abhorrent behavior in your fellows.

This is a scary proposition. When you come to identify so closely with a group to which you belong that anything that group does is seen through the prism of partisanship as an attack by the other side, you have lost the internal dissent that is key to curtailing extremism and corruption.

No member of any party or organization should feel that dissent is the equivalent of treason, and no leader of men and women should ever treat dissent as treason. But as the rank partisanship of our political system continues to grow, this becomes more common.

The sentiment behind this way of thinking is sold to people every day; it is the "be true to your school," "my country right or wrong," ideal. But that road leads in the end to jingoism and to despotism.

We in the Labor movement need to be vigilant in seeing the signs of gang mentality in ourselves and our organizations. I like to think that the Civil War Union General and Senator Carl Schurz had it right when he proclaimed on the floor of the Senate, "My country, right or wrong; if right, to be kept right; and if wrong, to be set right." This sentiment, if applied to our country, our political parties, and our Union, will point the path to right thinking and right action.

Tim Bogar is retiring after 34 years at the Labor News. We are thankful for his expertise through the years and wish him well in his retirement, whatever he decides to do. We will miss him and his knowledge. Congratulations! — Harold Foster, Editor

LOCAL 724

Debra Abent, Financial Secretary

Happy Holidays

Each year our Holiday Tree of Warmth 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 1 to December 22 at Local 724 Union 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. Let's remember to buy American and buy Union. With so many of Union brothers and sisters in need, let us help our own this holiday season!

LOCAL 4911

Rose Van Schoick, Fin. Secretary

Reflecting

The hustle-bustle of the holiday season is upon us and winter is finally here. As many of us hibernate inside during the winter months, we have the opportunity to reflect upon all of the wonderful things in our lives for which we are blessed and for which we are thankful. Please keep in mind those that may be less fortunate this holiday season. Volunteer opportunities, food and clothing requests are abundant at many community organizations, such as the City Rescue Mission, Volunteers of America, local area food banks, etc.

You may also call 2-1-1 to ask for suggestions regarding the needs of different organizations. They will help match your blessings of gifts/food/dollars to an agency that is in need as well as give you a location for the organization if you are dropping off your gifts.

Let us hope that 2018 will be a happier and more prosperous new year.

LOCAL 602

Doreen Howard, Fin. Secretary

Union shopping

As we all know, it's simply not possible to buy all we would like to union-made and Made in America. (iPhones, anyone?) But we can certainly help our union brothers and sisters by buying such products—and using union services—when ever we can. (Continued on page 7)





*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
Happy Holidays
and a Prosperous New Year***

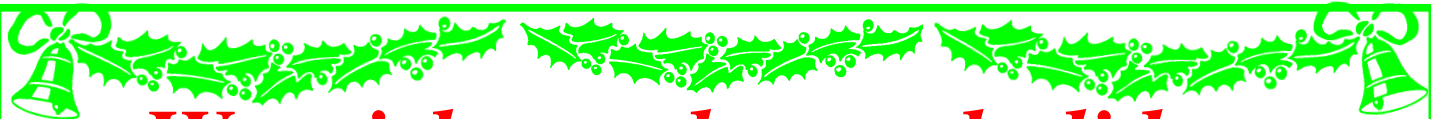


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*Serving the membership since 1940***

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

www.uawlocal724.org

General Membership Meeting Second Tuesdays of the month at 5:00 p.m.



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

Randy Freeman
Randy Freeman, President

Ben Frantz
Ben Frantz, Vice President

Robert E. Smith
Bob Smith, Financial Secretary

Scott Lounds
Scott Lounds, Recording Secretary

Rollin M. Green
Rollin Green, Joint Activities Rep



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Mike Pattison, YFAI Unit Chair

Mike Luna
Mike Luna, Ryder Unit Chair

Jake Jacobson
Jake Jacobson, AI Unit Chair

***From the officers and unit chairs of the
GM, GM LOC, YFAI, Ryder, and AI Units of
UAW LOCAL 652***



***Local 1753
wishes you
all the joys
of the
holiday
season.***

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



***Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year***



***from Local 602 Retiree Executive Board
and members***

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Sam Warren, Recording Secretary
Veronica Johnson, Financial Secretary
Kirk Alexander, Trustee • Sami Goodman, Trustee
Pauline Wireman, Trustee • Greg Brunette, Sergeant-at-Arms

Marta Bobillo, 602 Retirees

Local 602

Greetings brothers and sisters;
As we are aware, we have nearly met the end of a long year. We've experienced man-made and natural disasters everywhere in the world. We've lost a lot of loved ones and friends. With all that said, we need to remember to remain humble and positive, because that is the only thing that can never be taken away, our spirits.

Let us all make an effort to make these last weeks of 2017, so we can go into another year and make 2018, one of peace. Spend these next few days with friends and family, and cherish the time together.

Our annual Christmas luncheon for our retirees will be on Wednesday, December 13 at noon at the hall. This is a catered meal.

The deadline for sign-up for the Christmas catered luncheon is Friday, December 8. The food is ordered right after that date so it is important you call (517) 372-4626 to get on the Christmas luncheon head count list.

Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. With Love, Peace & Justice, In solidarity, Marta Bobillo



Mike Bauer

652 retirees

Winter is almost upon us. Wishing everyone a safe and Happy Holiday Season. The following is our monthly schedule of events:

First Tuesday of the month is Bingo. Games start at 10:00 a.m. Participants bring your own snacks. **If the Lansing School District is closed due to inclement weather our Bingo game will be cancelled.**

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 cards starting at 10:00 a.m. Participants bring your own snacks. **If the Lansing School District is closed due to inclement weather our Card game will be cancelled.**

Upcoming event cancellations - please mark your calendars accordingly.

November 28th: Cards cancelled

December 26th: Cards cancelled

The Region 1D Retiree Travel Committee has an upcoming **Pigeon Forge trip** April 9 - 14, 2018. For additional information on Lansing buses call Diane Bauer 517-627-5895 or Connie Garner-Dunn 517-323-2146. People wanting Flint buses call Linda Francis 810-423-8661.

There is also a **Niagara Falls/Toronto trip** planned for the weeks of October 1 - 5, 2018, and October 8 - 12, 2018. For the first week Lansing buses call Connie Garner-Dunn 517-323-2146 or Linda Francis 810-423-8661. For the second week (Lansing) call Diane Bauer

517-627-5895. Anyone wanting info for the Flint buses call Linda Francis 810-423-8661.

If there is enough interest there is a possibility of having a bus to the Detroit Auto Show in January. Details are still being worked out at this time. If you are interested please call 517-372-7581, ext. 147, and leave your name, phone number, and mention the Detroit Auto Show. I will get back with you when the details (date, cost, any other activities during the trip) are available.

There will be two sessions for Black Lake again in 2018. The first session is April 3 - 6. The second session is May 29 - June 1. Participants must attend all classes of the session you are assigned to. If you are interested call 517-372-7581 ext. 147 and leave your name and phone number. I will return your call and provide additional details.

The spring euchre tournaments will be held in April. The schedule is as follows: **Saginaw** - Friday, April 20th, Local 467, 2104 Farmer St.; **Lansing** - Friday, April 27th, Local 602, 2510 W Michigan Ave.; **Flint** - Friday, May 4th, Local 599, 812 Leith St. These tournaments are open to our retirees, their spouses, and associate members. You may play in all of the tournaments. You do not need a partner to play. Tournaments start at 10:00 a.m. Please arrive by 9:30 to get signed in, seated, and ready to play.

For any of our members or their families, who are ill or have lost a loved one, know that we are thinking of you and keeping you in our prayers. Condolences to all families who have had a loved one pass.

The Lansing Labor News is now online. You may access it at 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

OLDSMOBILE FLORIDA PICNIC

UAW LOCALS 652, 602, 1618,
1753 and LAFCU

BOTH SALARY & HOURLY

**Tuesday,
February 20, 2018**

In Bradenton, Florida
American Legion
Kirby Steward Post
2000 75th Street West
(Between Cortez & Manatee Ave.)

Register at 11 a.m.

Eat at Noon

Meal and plastic tableware will be provided. For information, call Jere Auvenshine at (517) 626-2398 or Larry Miller at 941-746-6968 (home) or 941-920-2988 (cell.)

Laura Clark

1753 retirees

Greetings from the hall! I'm writing after our November meeting and lunch. What a good time, seeing people we hadn't seen in a while. We had a great turnout for our second dinner catered by Swede's restaurant from Mulliken. This was melt-in-your-mouth turkey, very moist. The first time, we had delish chicken and pork, and we enjoyed letting them cook dinner for us. Also, thanks to the members who brought dessert dishes—so-o good!

At this meeting I reminded folks of the Region 1D trips that are coming up. April will have the Pigeon Forge and Smoky Mountains show trip. Or you could go in October to Niagara Falls and Toronto.

If you are in Sparrow hospital, you can have help to navigate the health system from our Labor Community Liaison, Claire Corr.

Local 1618 is collecting gloves and mittens to dress up the Christmas tree. I asked if we could have our members join in on the giving tree, and they said to bring them!

You can still support GM Parts by calling 1-888-484-0553 and having them send parts to your house.

There could be some good support in local government. Three of our candidates came to the CAP meeting to thank us for our endorsements and votes that helped them win. Congratulations to them.

You now have a friend your personally know on the Region 1D Retirees Executive Board. I'm proud to say I've been elected Sergeant-at-Arms for the board, thanks to all members.

This seems like a good time to give thanks. I've so enjoyed being retired and working with all of you. Lots of fun visiting, meeting, and traveling with our members and the Region 1D members (especially the New Orleans trip). But it started long ago with some members getting together for breakfast and talking about benefits. Many hard-working chairmen before me helped to get this chapter started. I got involved when we were told to meet if we wanted a Retirees Chapter. Thanks to all those people who attended, and especially you who stepped up.

Thank you to all who attended rallies against the Right-to-Work-for-Less. Many of you attend meetings, some just showed up when you heard of all the different rallies at the Capitol. It was good seeing so many and all kinds, all shapes. A big thanks to all the members who are activists, who are willing to step up and help with whatever this Local needs. We need you all.

Merry Christmas to you and your family. Please come to the Christmas open house on Thursday, December 14, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. You can bring all the gloves and mittens you want, they will go to the needy. We will light the fire, have food and drinks, and enjoy fun with co-workers of the past. You don't



have to bring a dish to pass. Maybe we could sing some Christmas carols. This open house is for all members, retired and active. This way we can hear new work stories. I'll be thinking of you.

Lois Schultz

1618 retirees

Hi out there, all you wonderful people. I hope you all had a great Thanksgiving. We are going to Indiana for a week.

The Christmas potluck and meeting will be on December 13 at noon, at the Local 1753 Hall on St Joe. Don't forget to remember! (ha ha)

Ted's breakfast at Spud's will be on January 9 at 8:30 a.m.. Call Ted for more info. See you there.

We will have no more pancake breakfasts at the hall, as it just didn't pan out.

To all on our sick list, you are in our prayers. Dick Raffler got a new knee. Hanna Fox had the flu. Me, I'm doing okay, I guess.

Condolences to the families of: Barbara Wasalaski, my relation. She leaves her husband Pat. And Linda Burns, who died in my son Bill Anthony's arms. And Sharon Roiter, the Brookfield Township clerk. What will we do without her? She ran the township. I will miss her. When I needed something, she always helped me. She leaves her mom, Mrs. Powers, who is 95.

Connie has trips going, so call and find out about them: 517-232-2146. Very good times.

I hope you all have a merry Christmas and happy New Year.

The area retirees council got me a brick in Flint to be put by the world ball. I would like to thank the council for this.

My phone is 517-543-5385.

Till we meet again, keep smiling.



602 Obituaries

Kathy Bryan - Retired, UAW Local 602 Bookkeeper

Steven M. Christiansen - Retired
Marion "Mike" E. Jerzak - Retired
James Mead - Retired
Paul Yoxheimer - Buyout
Ann H. Dezess - Retired
Dan J. Helka - Retired
William H. Smith - Retired
Richard L. Slusher - Retired
Brittany Buccholz - Daughter of Kelly Burcholz, Active, Paint Maintenance
Chris Knight Jr. - Son of Heather McClain, Active, GA Chassis 3
David Benavides - Retired
Floyd Puckett - Retired
Howard D. Caffee - Retired
Mark A. Simon - Active (Sick Leave), GA Final 1

Eleanor Geister - Mother of James Geister - Active, GA-Door Line
Chris Knight Jr. - Grandson of Gerald Knight-Active, Materials Trim & Son of Eric McClain-Active, GA
Ernest S. Johnson - Father of Bruce "Boston" Johnson - Active, Materials Final
Dana A. Sevrey - Daughter-In-Law of Alan Sevrey - Retired

Kevin V. Kuykendoll Jr. - Active (Sick Leave), Quality Control General Assembly

Adelbert Luthher - Retired
Harold J. Boucha - Retired
Dennis J. Julson - Retired
Frederick R. Powell - Active, (Sick Leave) GA Trim 2
Robert G. Hoy - Retired
Alvis Hester - Retired
Melvin Johnson - Father of Myrkimshea (Kim) Johnson, Active, GA Chassis 3

Mark S. Groce - Retired
Lawrence Hettinger - Retired
Debra McNichols - Retired
Rose Marie Nieto - Mother of Robin Nieto, Active, Materials Body/Paint

652 Obituaries

Noe Benavidez Sr. - Father of Noe Benavidez Jr.
Marilyn Chaffee - Spouse of Ed Chaffee
David Church - Retiree, Brother of Jim Church
Rosemarie Corey - Mother of Bruce Corey
Donald Debolt - Retiree, Brother-in-Law of Preston Rapelje
William Epps - Retiree
Janet Ferguson - Spouse of Bobby Ferguson
Andrew Higelmire - Son of Steven Higelmire
Patrick J. Izzo - Father of Mike Izzo
Jim Maurer - Retiree, Uncle of Dave Perkins, Ty Wickham and Chad Wickham
Roger McQueen - Retiree
Annie Mae Turner - Mother of Ricky Turner
William Van Deusen - Retiree, Step-Father of Bruce Jury
Thank-You's were received from:
The Marilyn Chaffee Family
The Donald Debolt Family
The Andrew Higelmire Family

1753 Obituaries

Howard Clarke
Marv Weber
Terry Bever
John Simon
James L. Rogers

Alex McPherson reported that 90 people attended the annual Local 652 Skilled Trades get-together in September. And we believe a good time was had by all!

Breakfast with us

GM salary, hourly & skilled trades Retirees' Breakfast, last Wednesday of the month, at Flap Jack in DeWitt next to LAFCU from 7:30 till? Phone 517-374-6456.

The Oldsmobile Outdoor Club's **Winterfest 2018** will be held in Grayling on **February 16-18**. Plan now to attend this fun family event! For more info, check the Oldsmobile Outdoor Club's Facebook page.

United Way campaigns

By Dean L. Poggiali, Labor Liaison, Capital Area United Way

Just wanted to update everyone on many of our UAW-represented worksites as it pertains to their United Way campaigns.

We had great results at Dakkota, Woodbridge, Bridgewater, Android and Kirchhoff Automotive. The first facilities went over last year's totals. This was the first time that Kirchhoff conducted a campaign and we were well received. Whenever we start a new presence at a facility it takes a bit to build some momentum.

A side note: the facility is in the home of the closed ASC Unit. This unit supplied the closed GM Craft Center with sub-assemblies for the Chevy SSR. With sales rather slow, the worksites seemed to be laid off quite a bit. However, in the years of the campaigns at ASC, they always found a way to exceed the previous year's pledges.

December brings the Old Newsboys and Toys for Tots campaigns. The tremendous outpouring of support for these programs by union folks is a testament to our commitment to the community. We definitely cause the tide to rise with our support.

A save-the-date for those who have attended or are thinking of attending the annual community services classes: We plan on kicking off the sessions on Monday, February 12, 2018 until the wrap up on Monday, April 2, 2018. Nothing has been scheduled as of yet and the call letter will go out at the end of the year or early 2018.

Please feel free to contact me if anyone has any questions about the community and we can problem solve together.



Howard

Continued from page 3

It is challenging to keep track of products that are union-made and made in the U.S.A. The AFL-CIO does a good job of it, and even lists items by the various holidays that you might wish to purchase them for. You can have a look by visiting their site at aflcio.org/MadeInAmerica. I encourage you to have a look and see what suits your fancy—or that of the people you will be gifting this holiday season. Have a great holiday, everyone!

The 65th annual **UAW Region 1D Bowling Tournament** will be held at Lansing's Royal Scot Lanes **January 27 and 28**. **Deadline for entry is January 12**. For full info, see the notice at lansinglabornews.org



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Darin Arrell, Office Manager

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