



Lansing Labor News

VOLUME 77, ISSUE 2

VOICE OF 28,000 UAW MEMBERS

MAY, 2021

LOCAL 1753

Yvonne Vincent,
President



Hello Brothers and Sisters,

May is Asian-American Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

Are you aware of the many AAPI folks who have led labor movements in the United States? One of the biggest names in Union organizing today is Ai-Jen Poo, who founded Domestic Workers United, and has been central in getting legislation passed to ensure basic protections for its workers. However, the influence of Asian-Americans on labor causes dates back to the early years of our country, when much of our infrastructure was built with the exploited labor of Chinese-Americans. Many major movements to create better working conditions have been led by Americans of Filipino, Taiwanese and Chinese heritage in industries as diverse as agriculture, commercial fishing and canning, healthcare, the public sector, property services, banking, higher education, shipping, social services,

transportation, manufacturing, technology and hospitality.

Some, such as Gene Viernes and Silme Domingo, have even given their lives trying to make their Union stronger. Viernes and Domingo, both Filipino-American, were shot down outside their Union hall in Seattle in 1981 while trying to lead reform efforts.

So, what can YOU do to make your Union stronger?

“A Union is an organization formed by workers who join together and use their strength to have a voice in their workplace. Unions also have an important role in making sure that management acts fairly and treats its workers with respect.” - Michigan State Employees Association

This being the definition, your Union is only as strong as you make it. If you are only looking out for yourself, then you are hurting the strength of your Union. If you think cozying up to management will help you, you are hurting the strength of your Union. If you fail to educate yourself on the local/national contracts and Union functions, then you are hurting the strength of your Union.

Management will not hesitate to discipline you, leave you high and dry, and take advantage until they render you no longer needed, i.e., we recently had two members released.

The bargained contract between the UAW and your employer are the rules established for fairness (or as close to fairness as possible). If you are not following this, you are hurting your fellow Union members. Every time an employee does a “favor” for a manager, such as a task that is outside their job description, or an extra run in order to avoid mandatory OT, is it noted and chalked up as evidence that jobs can be eliminated and



UAW Local 602 Women's Committee Chair Keri Hall presents a donation to EVE (End Violent Encounters) Resource Director Joy Whitenburg.

workers reduced. Every break you cut short, every time you start working before you're on the clock, it pads the company's bottom line while chipping away at your own potential income and job security.

So if you think the actions of one person -- your actions -- can't hurt the Union, you are wrong. Maintaining the rights we have depends on each one of us upholding the Union contracts. Continuing to cover for management -- by breaking the contract -- will only increase the number of workers on lay-off. Think about the job you have now ... why do you think it exists? A need was created and - and you are being paid to fill it! Jobs and stable incomes go away when workers are willing to do more work for the same pay.

Strength in SOLIDARITY is the strength that built our Union. Standing up for what is right -- not what is easiest/most convenient/best for yourself in the short-term -- is what is needed the most. So don't just wear a red shirt on Solidarity Wednesdays, take opportunities to bolster our Union rights every day:

- Put in committee calls if some-

thing isn't right.

- Do the job as assigned and avoid the shortcuts that undermine everyone's safety and employment.
- Honor your other workers by standing up for them or giving them a heads-up about a situation when you notice they are being exploited by the bosses.

Just don't remain silent. Don't take other people's or management's word about what is allowed or not. Create a better working environment by strengthening your Union.

We must also stand in solidarity in this moment with our Asian-American neighbors, as acts of violence have increased at a devastating rate over the last year and especially in recent months, when AAPI women have become the target of hate-mongers. Speak out against racism, xenophobia, and misogyny wherever you see it, so that we may truly become a more UNITED States of America.

In solidarity,

The Labor News is also available online at

lansinglabornews.org

LOCAL 4911

Muhammad
Qawwee,
President



Good day and happy spring to all of my union brothers and sisters. As for us at Local 4911 at Sparrow hospital, it has been one heck of a year and then some. The good news, as the wild and unanticipated Covid surge is finally rescinding and our Covid positive patients are going down. The bad news is that even though the patients are not positive anymore, they are still remaining in the hospital for longer periods of time. Our hospital is still almost at 100% capacity and we are seeing younger patients with no underlying health issues before contracting Covid. This long year and a half has not only put a strain on our local, but healthcare systems nationwide are struggling. Healthcare workers are burned out, overworked and a lot of them have reevaluated if working in healthcare is where they want to stay. Many on the fence are retiring early just to get a peace of mind. We give 110% to make sure we are giving the best care to all patients and treat them like they are a part of our family. But our internal family has been fractured and being held together with duct tape. We fight every day in healthcare for additional staff, agency help, or just finding qualified applicants to apply for openings. This is also not even taking account of how many of our members themselves contracted Covid. We are still rolling up our sleeves and putting in the hard work, smiling underneath our N95 mask and helping every patient to the best of our abilities every shift. So if you know of anyone who works in healthcare please tell them thank you for your service and dedication. Nothing puts a warm feeling in a worker as to know they are being thought of and appreciated daily, weekly, monthly and beyond. In Solidarity,

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LOCAL 602

Mike Huerta,
President



Please keep our brothers and sisters that are experiencing long periods of layoff in your thoughts. The global microchip shortage has dramatically affected production of many industries. Those of us in the U.S. labor movement have been demanding the millions of jobs that have been outsourced or moved to countries with questionable environmental and labor standards be brought back to the United States so that this type of supply chain issue would never happen. If International Labor Standards and/or Trade Agreements were enforced the world would likely not crash to a stop when a ship gets stuck in a canal or a fire occurs in a manufacturing facility in Japan. Decades of allowing Corporations to write disastrous legislation, Trade Agreements and put their political puppets in key governing bodies has weakened the middle class. Recently President Biden appointed Thea Lee head of the Labor Department's Bureau of International Labor Affairs, which enforces trade commitments and investigates forced labor and child labor around the world. If you are unfamiliar with Thea Lee – last year weeks before the world shut down due to COVID she spoke to the UAW CAP conference in Washington D.C.:

Thea Lee, president of the Economic Policy Institute shared a message that connected economic inequality with the past three decades of injustice and crippling inequalities for working families. “The economy is less fair... not morally fair,” Lee said. “CEO pay at the top firms have risen 1,000% since 1979, while working families have seen a 12% increase and some families are working two or three jobs to afford health care, education and housing.

“Ninety percent of the people in this country are working harder. This is not a healthy economy for working families and it’s our job to figure out what to do next,” Lee

said.

Taking her decades of experience working for the AFL-CIO, the Economic Policy Institute and with the Obama Administration she will now be in a position to be the voice of working families in the United States. Hopefully she will be able to help fix decades of misguided policy across the globe.

Lastly, as summer nears it may seem like we are ready to have backyard BBQ’s, camping trips and vacations. Please remember that COVID is still with us and taking the few moments of extra precaution can save a life or prevent hospitalization/long term illness and if you have not yet been vaccinated please consider doing so.

LOCAL 652

Ben Frantz,
President



Hello Brothers and Sisters,

Let us think about our lives as single entities; most everything we do could still be done, but isn't it easier when we have help? That, in a nutshell, is the purpose behind our Union. We can still have a job, perform the task for our employers and earn paychecks, but alone, we really don't have any other options when we only look out for ourselves. Alone, If we don't like something and speak up, there is no weight behind our singular comment. Our employers can easily live with us being unhappy and if we decide to leave, they will get another worker. After receiving some leadership training, it got me thinking on a deeper level, how to articulate this to our Memberships.

Joining a Union and seeing its benefits is like this; grab a piece of paper, place a hand on each side, hold it out in front of yourself with your arms half extended. Think of your right hand as your interests and your left hand the stance of the employer. Now, for every benefit you want in your job, pull your right hand toward your chest. For every right you have that the Company doesn't want you to have, push your left hand further away. As you will see, with differ-

ing views between yourself and your employer on what the composition of the workplace should look like, the single piece of paper will tear quickly and easily, just as you will likely fail, fighting only for yourself. Luckily, we are in a Union, but it doesn't mean that everything is perfect and we don't suffer in our places of work. We all see problems present themselves daily on the job. Adversity is a fact of life. As unionists, we should strive for a united worksite, unilaterally joined in collective progress, sending a clear message to the companies. Showing them that they need not try their games with us because we stand together in our pursuit of the best vocations possible. This would look something like changing out that single piece of paper in the analogy above with your respective contract books or a ream of printer paper. If you tried the exercise above with this, it would prove nearly impossible to tear in half. That is the power of being in a Union.

When individuals join together, their power compounds innumera- bly. Sadly enough, the reality is more in line with this scenario. Take any book and separate it by the chapters. The overall strength is now still well better than a solitary page but, with these separations in the entire book, the ability to tear small sections increases. The divisions we create are where we fail each other in the workplace. Arguing amongst ourselves provides small divisions, which is the employers' ultimate opportunity to keep us from uniting. Our challenge as unionists is to understand that there will never be a perfect Agreement; there will always be Members who will not get along. We must understand and learn from the failures of those who came before us. As leaders, we are now in an era where we must be accountable for the greedy, morally bankrupt few and work to regain the memberships' trust and respect. The work goal should never be utopic bliss because that is not attainable. Yet, we can strive to be informed participants, realizing that showing no division to management will provide the most significant leverage when entering negotiations working towards a more robust and secure

future for us all. God Bless and be safe.

LOCAL 724

Todd Collins,
President



Hello to all of Our Members.

Just wanted to give you an update on what's going on at our Local. Our Dakkota Unit recently ratified a new contract. The Bargaining team worked hard for months to bring a good contract to the members that provided job security and other benefits. Congratulations to all of our Dakkota members. Our Delta Dental and Huntsman Units are also involved in contract talks as of the date of this article. The Local will provide whatever resources necessary to assist those Bargaining teams in negotiating a contract that is beneficial for our members. As we are turning the page on the current status of the pandemic I am hopeful that we can once again return to in person meetings for both the Local and our Units very soon. The Local has some limited online training opportunities for our members in case any member is interested. Please see you respective Chairperson our contact the Local for more information. I have to say that I am very proud of all of our members for the work ethic they have exhibited and the challenges we have had to deal with during this pandemic. Both in our personal lives as well as the challenges in our respective worksites. I know that the most recent news of chip shortages has affected some of our members as far as layoffs and I hope that will come to an end soon. As spring is beginning and the weather turns I hope all of our members can enjoy some sense of normal this coming summer. As always if there is anything that I or the Local can do to help any of our members please feel free to call the Local. I hope you all take care of yourselves and your family. Have a great summer!

*"If you can't fly, then run,
if you can't run, then walk.
If you can't walk, then crawl,
But whatever you do,
You have to keep moving forward."*

-Martin Luther King Jr.

LOCAL 652

Lena Wyeth,
Vice President



A friend once told me to treat everyone as if their heart is breaking, because it probably is. Check on your friends. Sometimes they don't need a solution; they just need someone to tell them that they're not alone in their fight. Recently, we had a few members that lost a close loved one. The UAW Constitution, Article 41, Duties of Local Union Members, Section 2 states: "It shall be the duty of each member to render aid and assistance to brother or sister members in cases of illness, death or distress, and in every way acquit her/himself as a loyal and devoted member of the International Union." It is not only in our heart to reach out to a grieving brother/sister, but it is also our duty.

I know it can be a difficult conversation to have with the grieving brother or sister. Your heart goes out to them, but sometimes it feels like you just can't find the right words. When we have a member in need, I often call on our UAW Local 652 Chaplain, Mark Baldwin. Brother Baldwin has a very kind heart and is a brother of good faith. As a UAW Chaplain, Brother Baldwin serves people of all faiths and respects their faith as well as those who express no particular faith at all and he does not impose his beliefs on others or seek to persuade members to accept his religion or belief. All discussions between the member and

a chaplain are in strict confidence. The UAW Chaplaincy program provides a wide range of ministries and services which include: Home Visitation, Crisis Communication, Hospital Intervention, Weddings, Godly Council, Funeral and related ministries, In-Plant Memorials, Inside and Outside Plant contact, and prayer requests. A Chaplain provides services as requested and does not replace the workers' normal Clergy contact.

Another person I call on when we have a member in need is our GM unit EAP (Employee Assistant Program) Representative, Tim Lounds. Brother Lounds is very resourceful, kind, professional, and helpful. If you, or a loved one, are suffering from a mental disorder, alcoholism and/or drug dependency, and/or other personal problems, you can request EAP services. Everything you discuss with your EAP rep is confidential. Your EAP rep will provide you with educational and informational materials to assist you as well as give support.

I want our grieving members to know that they are not alone in their time of sorrow, or during their dark moments and that we do have resources to help them through difficult times. If you are unsure where to start to get the support you need, start with me and I can direct you to Brothers Baldwin, Lounds, or both. You can also call 1-800-273-TALK (8255) to speak to a trained counselor. Remember, we are our brothers' and sisters' keepers. It is not only our honor to help a member in need, but it is our duty.

LOCAL 602

Doug Fox,
Rec. Secretary



It's that time of year again. Young men and women finishing one chapter of their life and beginning the next as they go through the traditional graduation. Whether high school or college, this milestone is definitely one to be remembered. Countless hours doing homework and studying have finally paid off.

For those graduating high school, you have some decisions to make. The most basic is continue education or go straight into the workforce. However, trade schools and apprenticeships are a great choice that need to be explored and are often overlooked. The need for workers in the trades is high and the pay and benefits are great. Here are some examples of starting wages, job growth and training time.

Electrician – Median salary: \$56,181, Projected job growth: 10% from 2018 to 2028, Training program: four-plus months

Carpenter – Median salary: \$39,416, Projected job growth: 8% from 2018 to 2028, Training program: five-plus months

Truck driver – Median salary: \$45,261, Projected job growth: 5% from 2018 to 2028, Training program: six weeks

Some of the areas that are in great demand are Electricians, Welders, Plumbers, Home inspectors, Aircraft mechanics, HVAC technicians, Diesel technicians, and Construction managers. These jobs range in average pay from \$49,000 to \$84,000.

Other positive things to consider when looking at some of these jobs:

You cannot "outsource" them.

Most remain relatively stable even during economic downturns.

Some have potential for high earning based on experience

Trade school is better than college because it takes much less time, and with apprenticeships you get paid while you learn.

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So, if you have a graduate in your family, consider talking to them about a career in the trades. Almost all trades have unions. Consider joining one for that trade. And we all know union jobs have better wages and benefits.

I would like to congratulate and wish all graduates the best of luck. You have many opportunities out there. Consider a good paying, union, trade job.

LOCAL 652
Scott Lounds,
Rec. Secretary



Harmful lies are nothing new. But, with recent advances in technology and computing, the ability to distort reality has taken an exponential leap forward. “Deep fake” technology makes it possible to create audio and video of real people saying and doing things they never said or did. Current technology makes deep fakes ever more realistic and increasingly resistant to detection. The marketplace of ideas that is America already suffers from a decay in truth and as more and more politicians and pontificators feel comfortable ignoring facts and basic scientific principles. Deep fakes will only make this worse, individuals and institutions will face novel forms of exploitation, intimidation, and personal sabotage. The risks to our democracy and society are profound.

One example of the way in which deep fakes can be used to sabotage people and movements is Emma González, a student who survived the horrific shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in February 2018. In the aftermath of the shooting, a number of the students emerged as voices in the national debate over gun control. Emma, in particular, gained prominence thanks to the closing speech she delivered during the “March for Our Lives” protest in Washington. In the wake of this march a photograph of Emma ripping up bullseye target began to circulate on the Internet. But soon someone generated a fake version, in which the torn sheet is not a bullseye, but rather a

copy of the Constitution of the United States. The fake was of such high quality that it was indistinguishable in quality from the actual image. The message of the two photos, and the emotion and reaction that they received by those viewing them was very different. As was intended by the fakers, the image of Emma tearing up the Constitution brought hate and opposition to the cause she supported.

Our democracy works best when debates build from a foundation of shared facts and truths supported by empirical evidence. Unfortunately, in America today public discourse on questions of policy suffers from the circulation of false information and lies intended to undermine the credibility of participants in such debates, which the spread of deep fakes will exacerbate. Almost as critical is with the spread of ultra-realistic fakes it will be easier for actual bad actors to hide behind denials of events that did actually occur.

As we go forward, deep fakes have the potential to erode trust in a wide range of both public and private institutions including elected officials, appointed officials, judges, juries, legislators, staffers, and agencies. A democracy where there is no trust of the institutions of government cannot function or survive for this reason “deep fakes” are a threat to our country.

LOCAL 652
Matt Schneider,
Fin. Secretary



Open your favorite search engine and type in cancel culture. You are destined to find endless news articles and videos containing this trending phrase. Go ahead, turn on the television or start your favorite media service; again, you’ll be bombarded with the term. What is the deal with cancel culture anyhow?

If we peel back the layers, we find a phrase with varied origins, from urban slang to an evolution of the boycott, a cultural boycott of sorts. Regardless of its roots, there is one thing we can be certain of; the

term is not new, and we are not special for using it. As it relates to Labor, we have been canceling for decades. Whether it be boycotting companies due to unfair labor practices, striking our employers, or using protests to place pressure on ineffective elected officials. If it’s not new, should we be worried that cancel culture is more sinister than just a new type of boycott or a modern interpretation of ostracism? I say no, but we do need to stay vigilant.

Vigilance is essential because if we pay close attention, we can see many instances where phrases can be used as diversions. The diversion is a classic play; when influencers throw out red herring to take our focus off of what matters and divert it to the less important sensationalism. Labeling all things cancel culture allows poor behavior to be brushed aside or overreaction justified. Diversion using the cancel culture label has become just as effective as the infamous use of guns, gays, religion, and even socialism. When Americans are not focused on the reality of what is happening around us and justify that these events are simply cancel culture, the working class loses.

As with most situations, the mechanics of cancel culture can be complex. We can see how the phrase cancel culture can be smoke and mirrors, but it can also be a powerful tool to expose wrongdoing and create change. Instead of learning and evolving, people and groups in this country have an aversion to change and continue unacceptable behavior by using terms like cancel culture as a permission slip. Let’s consider this hypothetical situation where I am the leader of a group of people who believe it’s only right that women be treated as sex objects. We use our platform to advance that ideology in various forms of media. When society pushes back because that idea is wrong, we claim to be the casualty of cancel culture. This is that complexity where we as a society must do better to actually understand the nuances of a situation.

While the idea of canceling poor behavior is a positive, there is an

opportunity to misuse this phenomenon with the uproar culture or mob mentality. There is no room for conversation about a difference of opinion or perspective in the mob mentality. The people’s court is always on duty, ready to render a verdict at a moment’s notice, judgment is swift, and the punishment is often harsh. Activism, exposing evil, or being woke are all fine, but when it comes to mob culture a more measured response is often in order. Barack Obama spoke on this very subject as he highlighted a trend we often see within our own ranks, slacktivism. Observing that, “There is this notion that to make change you just go ahead and be as judgmental as possible about other people, then you can sit back and gloat on how woke you are, brag how you called people out, that is not activism, that is not how you bring about meaningful change.”

As you can see, the idea of a cancel culture is inherently controversial. What one person might see as being canceled for controversial statements, another might see as being held accountable for offensive or harmful views, and another may see it as a diversion tool. We must ensure the phrase doesn’t become so pervasive that it’s just a pair of words you might easily breeze past every day without paying it any attention. It’s also our job to understand what is going on, what the differences are, and then work to find a middle ground to improve as a society and a Labor movement.

LOCAL 724
Gabriel Cabrera,
Fin. Secretary



It is that time of the year to enjoy this beautiful weather our great state of Michigan decides to give us. I hope these stories by our fellow brothers and sisters find you in good health. Both physically and mentally.

Although we are moving closer to being able to enjoy our life the way we were before this pandemic struck, I remind you to still take precautions and keep yourself and others protected against one another.

As of now, we are just over 55% of Michigan vaccinated and are getting started with Step 1 of the Governor Whitmer's "Back to Normal" schedule. I myself have gotten both doses of the covid vaccine and urge everyone to do their part and help us complete these steps to get back to normalcy.

Here is a link to keep track of the progress:

https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98178_103214-547150--,00.html

I hope this summer brings everyone lots of fun and good memories with family and friends! Be safe, and enjoy your summer!

LOCAL 4911

Rose Slone,
Fin. Secretary



If you ever doubted that one person cannot possibly make a difference, Dean Poggiali can.

Congratulations Dean on your retirement after over two decades serving union labor, our local communities and beyond – you will surely be missed, and your shoes will be hard to fill indeed. Holding true to who you are, you asked for food donations to be brought to your Retirement Party for the Food Bank – the table was heaping with donations!! We are all very proud of the fact that Mayor Andy Schor presented you with a plaque and deemed May 8th as Dean Poggiali day!!

I personally would like to thank you for the wonderful resources you have provided the local unions throughout this area via the Community Service classes CAUW has implemented annually. We were all able to share these resources with our union members who were in need, in crisis, or frankly were not aware of the types of resources that were available to them. You have made a huge impact on so many lives in our community simply by being the upstanding citizen who ALWAYS would lend a helping hand, ALWAYS would answer your cell phone and ALWAYS would guide us to the correct resource and beyond. Whether you were at work

or on vacation, you ALWAYS were available.

Through the trials of working remotely and social distancing through the COVID-19 pandemic, your daily Basement Bulletins helped to lift us up, kept us diligent and up to date with available resources as they changed daily. You made this year's virtual Community Service classes work smoothly despite the pandemic. Being flexible is truly one of your greatest attributes and the local unions gained a vast number of resources from your expertise of community resource knowledge.

If you run out of things to do in retirement, perhaps you may offer a new Basement Bulletin series on a topic you find dear to your heart!

Thank you, Dean, for being my mentor since 2007, for your wisdom, your humbleness, your honesty and integrity and your kindness. It has been a blessing, an honor and a pleasure working with you. I hope your retirement is filled with happiness and joy every day!

LOCAL 602

Marta Bobillo
Retiree



Greetings Sisters and Brothers;

I'm trying to be very positive this year after a hard challenging year, and in every sense of the word; 2021 is still bringing us some of the same but if we mask up and get vaccinated when they are available to us we can beat this monster pandemic that is taking our loved ones and friends.

With a heavy heart I'm letting you know that we lost Kirk (Shorty) Alexander, Trustee of our Retirees E-Board. A gentle giant, a friend, and union brother that was always there in every meeting, greeting and uniting us. He would call and check on the members in between meetings.

You will be missed brother. Our heart goes out to his beautiful wife Janet and his family.

Our active retirees that attend our events is getting smaller as we lost many last year. It has been over a



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year since we have had a luncheon. I have received information from UAW International Union that the Covid guidelines have been reviewed and they have extended the recommendation to avoid meetings. The UAW International will review again in June. Please refer to the Local 602 website for updates or call the Hall.

I will continue to do all I can for our membership and support you in any capacity possible. I do hope that when we can come back to meetings you will join us, meanwhile please stay safe.

Remember to be kind to each other because you never know when is the last time we see each other.

Love peace and justice,

In solidarity,

LOCAL 652

Mike Bauer
Retiree

Due to the ongoing pandemic our activities remain suspended until further notice. When activities resume there will be notification in the Lansing Labor News. There

are many mutations to the virus popping up throughout the country and the world. Current vaccines may not be enough to be fully protected. It has also been proven that fully vaccinated people can still catch the virus. Please adhere to all protocols recommended to stay safe.

LOCAL 1618

Ted Gauss
Retiree



Hi ya'll. It's Howdy Doody time. My gosh it is already time for another article.

Pat Smith, wife of Snuffy, fell at home and broke her femur (leg) bone. Wow, that has to hurt! We will all pray that Pat heals fast and with minimal pain.

It's getting close. Real close. The end. Can you see the light? You know, at the end of the tunnel. The end of COVID! How great! Wahoo! Hurray!

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Cont. from page 5 Gauss

I'll close today with an excerpt from my favorite prayer (The Prayer of St. Francis):

LORD, MAKE ME AN INSTRUMENT OF YOUR PEACE;

WHERE THERE IS HATRED, LET ME SOW LOVE;

WHERE THERE IS INJURY, PARDON;

WHERE THERE IS DOUBT, FAITH;

WHERE THERE IS DESPAIR, HOPE;

WHERE THERE IS DARKNESS, LIGHT;

AND WHERE THERE IS SADNESS, JOY.

LOCAL 1753

Laura Clark
Retiree



Greetings brothers and sisters

I hope you and yours are healthy and happy, with all family members vaccinated and now our young people on their way. I finally got to

hug my Mom after being vaccinated. It made Mother's Day even better. It was a relief to get it done. I feel freer to go out and about please consider it if you haven't received it yet. I have enjoyed running into some of our members all over town. Some I recognize some I don't, I apologize if I missed you and good spotting to those who spotted me, under my masks. Thank you to all the folks who have called, I am always glad to hear from all of you, but please leave your name and phone number so I can call you back.

On a sad note I just read an article that said our mostly female health officers are under attack, just under half of the nation's health officers as our previous election official, have quit, will quit or will be done at the end of the term. We all have faced some disappointment in life, not every call goes the way you want. You can ask for someone to change their mind. You have a right to protest. You have the right to bring it to court, and even appeal the verdict! When you call or go on line and threaten them, their life, home, their fami-

ly, kids and pet that's too far.

When you then go to their house alone or with a mob, with guns, body armor, torches. That is too far! When you trespass, bang on doors, window and vandalize, it's too much. All these people are only in it to save our fool lives! Kind of like our good governor who had this said about her: "From her living room Gretchen Whitmer has led Michigan through pandemic, an economic meltdown and even a dam collapse – all at a time when government itself seems broken." This high praise from the New York Times Magazine!

While all this has been happening what have Michigan legislators been doing? Anything but their job. Telling the Governor how to do her job, telling the Secretary of State how to her job and even telling our health officers how to do their jobs. All the while not doing theirs! The Federal government gave our state a huge amount of money that sits while they pass bills along among themselves, that they know she, the Guvnor will veto. What a waste of time and resources. We don't want to forget that they also got on the band wagon, like 43 other states, to restrict voting rights. In the nation there were at least at this time 253 changes proposed or changed to limit voting. This in spite of the fact the 43rd president's own handpicked man said it was the most secure election on record!

At this time many people still need help, that Federal money would do us good right now. As we are a right to work for less state our numbers have dropped, we are the lowest in many lists like food, school, safety and of course transparency. Your local Retirees group, though not having meetings, is still trying to help by giving to the area food bank. If you have good ideas to help, by all means please get hold of me. Leave a message at the hall with name and phone number. Also, you can leave a phone number for other retired members we have not reached, or a note if you (or someone else) do not receive this paper. Obits- Betsy Durham, Elizabeth Goins, Jesse B. Brown the 2nd

LOCAL 602

Obituaries

Myrna K. Battin – Spouse of Eugene Battin, Retired

Dale Jacobs – Retired

John Stoneman – Retired

Adislado Garcia – Retired

Judith Ann Burgess – Mother of Steven Burgess

Barbara Ann Minarik – Mother of Donald Minarik, GA Chassis 3

Thomas Lee Haggard – Father of James Haggard, Assembly Body Maint

Mary Ann Roy – Mother of Jerome Roy, Assembly Body Maint

Harry G. Hubbard Jr. – Spouse of Yvonne Hubbard, Retired

Gerald Kittleson – Retired

James Chelf – Retired

Deborah Teachout – Retired

Zachary M. Burgess – Son of Steven Burgess

Edward Ladiski – Retired

L. M. Thomas – Retired

Stanley Swan – Retired

Keith Goss – Retired

Stanley McNeeley - Retired

Debra Harmon – Retired

Minnie Rae Wilcox – Step Mother of James Wilcox, Retired

Paul Neller – Retired

Leslie Deboer – Body Sides area – Active

Karylyn Bartz – Mother of Greg Bartz, Quality Body Paint

Harry R. Davis - Retired

Rysard Jarosz – Retired

David Masarik - Retired

Gary Steffy – Retired

Robert J. Burgess – Brother of Steven Burgess

Gordon Strahle – Retired

Elvira Villegas – Daughter of Domingo Villegas, Retired

Richard Wrzesinski – Retired

Milton D. Edmonds – Retired

Leon Rice – Retired

Darian J. Hain – Nephew of Steven Burgess

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Barbara Bachman – Mother of Carla Beard, Retired

Raymond Bachman – Father of Carla Beard, Retired

Melanie Malish – Step-Mother of Dave Malish

Thomas B. Boggs – Retired

Joe Mannino – Retired

David B. Mathews - Retired

LOCAL 652 Obituaries

Melvin E. Anderson – Spouse of Elizabeth Anderson

Charles Andrews – Retiree

Gary Barrus – Retiree, Brother of Doug and Thomas Barrus

Thomas “Bo” Beaune – Retiree, Spouse of Linda Beaune, Uncle of Kirk and Karen Beaune

Pamela Clark – Retiree, Cousin of Jack and Randy Graham

Lola Everett-Conn – Spouse of William “Bill” Conn

Thomas M. “Tom” Dalton – Retiree

Michael “Mike” Doerr – Retiree, Brother-in-Law of Robert Newhall

Oswald Galinaitis – Retiree

Dave Galvin – Father of Josh Galvin

Saul Vasquez Gonzalez – Son of Gilberto Gonzalez

Lois “Theta” Grooms – Mother of Greg “Hoss” Grooms

Robert “Bob” Hawkins – Retiree, Brother of William and Carolyn Tropp

Don Hogan – Retiree

Alice M. Jackson – Spouse of Willie Jackson, Mother of Kendra Brown

Francis “Frank” Kent – Retiree

Harold Kyser – Brother of Larry Kyser

Danny Longhurst – Retiree

Thomas Marietta – Retiree, Brother of Kathy Saunders

Tammy Marie Musolf – Daughter of Ken Van Etten

Donna Packer – Spouse of Richard Packer

Keith Penton – Retiree

Jerry W. Perkins – Retiree, Father of David Perkins

Blanche Plesko – Mother-in-Law of

Bob Warner

Donald D. “Don” Randolph – Retiree

Richard “Dick” Riebow – Retiree, Brother of Ritchie Riebow

Beatrice Rosas – Mother of Manuel Rosas

Higenio “Ken” Serna – Retiree

Chester Shaull – Retiree, Father of John Shaull

Rodney Sutfin – Retiree, Brother-in-Law of John Bond

Bob Villa – Father-in-Law of Dan Brown

Herman “Mutt” Watts – Retiree

Sharon Weaver – Spouse of Ed Weaver

Dennis White – Retiree

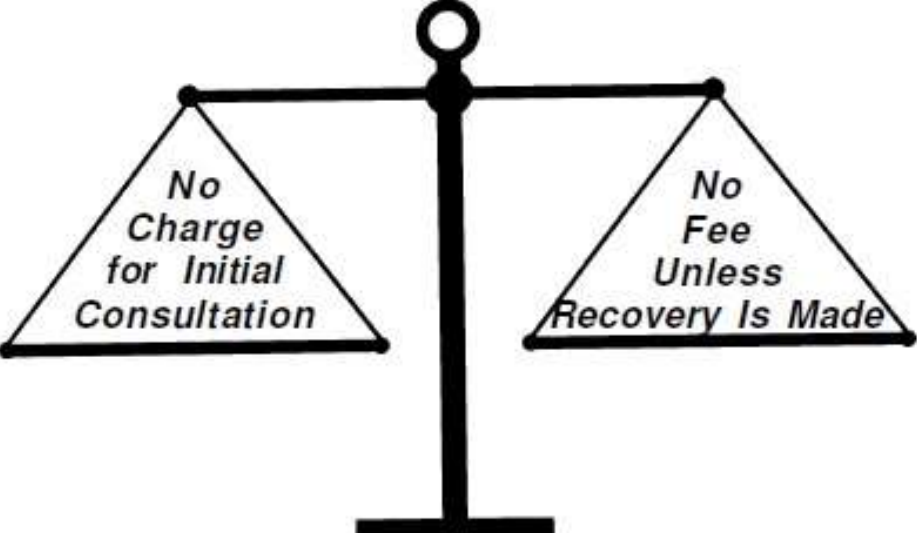
June J. Jones - Mother of Robert "Bob" Jones, sister-in-law of Joe Smith

Robert Lenis Cook - Retiree

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UAW Local 602 President Mike Huerta presented a donation to Ricky Wright from Mystic Lake Camp. Mystic Lake has been unable to have campers since COVID hit and will be starting to host kids again starting in June. After being closed for more than a year the camp desperately needs some maintenance and supplies. Local 602 donated some funds to help ensure that the kids will finally get to have camp again with the facilities in good shape and sporting/camping equipment ready for them. We hope that they will enjoy a long overdue camp experience!

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