



Lansing Labor News

VOLUME 77, ISSUE 1

VOICE OF 28,000 UAW MEMBERS

FEBRUARY, 2021

LOCAL 652

Ben Frantz,
President



Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

As I reflect on recent history and see how our society has become so divided, it reminds me of an event in my childhood that has shaped how I think to this day. Growing up of meager means, I learned to make my way to get ahead at an early age in a small town. After being kicked off the bus route, walking to school was the only option. One morning walking to school, I stopped at the convenience store on my way. After grabbing a small assortment of candy and gum, off to school I went. Sitting in homeroom, one of my classmates asked if she could have a piece; I obliged. She then asked for more, to which I responded, I'll sell you some! Boom, I was off. I had purchased a pack of candy for a dime and sold it for a quarter. By the end of the month, I had a mini-store in my locker, yielding me easily

twenty dollars a week. For a few months, life was good until the turn. Another kid in school had heard of my success and opened a store of his own. Me, wanting to protect what was "mine," I addressed the kid and explained he needed to stop. He disagreed, and the store battle began. Though the fight didn't last long, the result was the lesson that I keep with me to this day. I won the battle but lost the war. The loser took the defeat poorly and decided if he couldn't have a store, nobody would. I was pulled from class by the Principal. Locker searched, store closed, defeated. Taking my revenge provided me yet another negative, a suspension. I didn't care about the punishment; my only concern was how unfairly the events had unfolded and the loss of my revenue stream. Sitting at a family member's house that weekend, explaining how much of a victim I was and how unfair the system was, my uncle explained to me just how naive and selfish I was. He explained if I had looked at the opportunity as a whole, I would have found a middle ground with the other kid. I could have offered a compromise, where we split the stock and kept both stores open, working together. We both would have been making money, and neither of us would be negatively impacted long-term. This lesson was a eureka moment in my life. Instead of needing everything to be all or nothing, I started looking at situations that I wanted to be involved in with a multi-angled view. This thought process has provided so many benefits to my life and career.

Now well into my adult life, I have realized that life is not about absolute satisfaction, it is about moving toward goals. We don't have to like everything that happens in our lives, we need only understand that life is negatives intermixed with positives. If we can stop chastising and mocking those who don't agree with our beliefs or views, we can grow. Surrounding ourselves with only those who support or promote our polarized thoughts and actions only amplifies our division—coming to the understanding that seeing and experiencing events that don't please us can reaffirm those that do. Learning to tolerate those who irritate us so that those whom we irritate may know to show us the same respect. We all stumble at times, but if we all try to understand one another rather than change one another, we can set ourselves up to succeed. I, for one, will commit to being a forward-thinking voice for the masses. To paraphrase Gandhi, let us be the change we all want to see.

hope is that beginning in May that we can start them again. On the Local front a member from our Dakkotta Unit passed away recently. Ken Dennings spent 8 years with his brothers and sisters at Dakkotta. He was a "HUGE" Michigan State fan. His wife and four daughters are in our prayers. Ken was a true Union guy who took care of everyone. You will be missed brother. Rest in Peace. Our Dakkotta, Woodbridge, Delta Dental and Huntsman Units will, by the time you read this, be in contract negotiations. I have faith that the Bargaining teams at each of those units will fight to bring a contract that is worthy of the membership that we represent. Our first food drive at our Local was a huge success. With help from Dean Poggiali we were able to organize an event that saw almost 200 food boxes go out to the community. Special thanks to Joyce Norwood from our RSDC Unit for organizing the event. Also thanks to all of the volunteers from our units and our families that helped. I am very proud of what we were able to do to help the community. May we all remember that in the words of Walter Reuther "*We are our Brothers and Sisters keeper*". Which means that we take care of each other, look out for each other, and we will get the same back in return.

"We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools"
Martin Luther King Jr.

LOCAL 724

Todd Collins,
President



Hello Brothers and Sisters. Hope all is well in this first month or so of the New Year. A New Year that turns the page on one of the worst and most challenging years in our nation's history. With a new year comes a new President, a new Vice-President a new congress and senate. Let's hope that with all of the new comes new hope that our country can find a way to come together and use our differences to unite us instead of dividing us even farther. Membership meetings are still cancelled until April for now. My

The UAW Retiree picnic scheduled for this February has been canceled due to Covid. The hall is reserved for 2022.

UAW Local 2256 election notice page 7

Black History Month Facts

The concept originated in 1926 by Carter G. Woodson, a noted African American historian, scholar, educator, and publisher.

February was chosen to coincide with Frederick Douglass's and Abraham Lincoln's birthdays.

LOCAL 1753Yvonne Vincent,
President

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

February is Black History Month.

President Gerald Ford, a Michigan native, helped with the recognition of this during a bicentennial celebration in 1976, calling upon the public to “seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout history.”

So I encourage everyone to take a moment and educate yourselves and others on Black History. If you don't know why there is a “Black Lives Matter” foundation, please do actual research on the subject. The Tulsa Race Massacre of 1921 is just one example of horrible acts inflicted upon Black Americans, rarely included in our history books. Racial profiling is a real thing and often leads to violence against minorities. And yet, there are a multitude of examples of Black brilliance in our society right now, whether in the fight against COVID, in the new presidential cabinet or as poet laureates of the nation. History is in the making!

February 1937 is also the month when the GM sit-down strike ended and helped the UAW become the bargaining agent for its members. The strike against horrible working conditions and unfair wages ended with workers winning better conditions, a 6% wage increase, and no retaliation against those who participated in the strike or joined the union. And for the Black workers who were relegated to sanitation duty, it provided them an opportunity to make a better wage by doing assembly line work.

Remembering that it is the UNITED Auto Workers is important. The more we stand together the harder it is to break us. Standing together is THE most important thing. Nothing will be gained, only lost, if people are selfish and only worry about themselves. Letting managers pick and choose priority jobs for employees without appropriate seniori-

ty undermines all that we have worked toward to gain equality and honor longevity in the workplace. Though you may be a favorite today, we know the whims of management change with the wind and tomorrow it may be you that is passed over for a benefit you deserve, despite how hard you work or how long you have been on the job.

Another way to weaken solidarity is taking shortcuts at work. Shortcuts are selfish and usually unsafe. Shortcuts will lead to injury, broken inventory, extra work for others, tension between workers and overall increased frustration in the workplace. So please follow your safe operating practices and your job element sheet so we can keep our customers loyal and each other safe.

Speaking of solidarity, please be honest when talking to your bargaining team so they can represent you to the best of their ability. If you fail to relate important parts of the story or misrepresent your role in the situation to your committeeperson, it provides management with all the ammunition they need to dismiss your claim. We can deal with whatever happened and make the best of it if we know exactly what occurred. If we build a case on false information, there is no way we can win the grievance.

Remember to look at your union information boards for union activities! Participation in membership events helps us to build a stronger, more cohesive union that preserves the things the matter most: wages, benefits, improved working conditions and EQUALITY.

in Solidarity

LOCAL 602Mike Huerta,
President

Happy new year and good riddance to 2020! I hope you are all healthy and safe and looking forward to a better year! We may have started the year off a bit rocky but followed it up with an amazing Inauguration highlighted

by wisdom from a young poet named Amanda Gorman:

“We've seen a force that would shatter our nation rather than share it. Would destroy our country if it meant delaying democracy. And this effort very nearly succeeded. But while democracy can be periodically delayed, it can never be permanently defeated. In this truth, in this faith we trust. For while we have our eyes on the future, history has its eyes on us. This is the era of just redemption. We feared at its inception. We did not feel prepared to be the heirs of such a terrifying hour, but within it we found the power to author a new chapter”

History is more than just dates and names. It can and should tell a story about what a society is capable of, both good and bad. We should use history as a measuring stick to gauge our continued improvement and also to make sure we aren't heading in the wrong direction. Black History Month is important for many reasons including educating ourselves about people and events that may have been left out of History books, providing context and perspective to history, and it gives us that very important measuring stick to let us know if we are continuing on the right path.

This year I urge you to make an effort to learn about some of our great African-American leaders. Even with COVID making it more difficult to attend events or to go visit places you can still celebrate Virtually:

The Detroit Institute of Arts invites you to celebrate Black History Month at home with free online programs including music, films, art talks and art-making, events for foodies, seniors, and kids of all ages. <https://www.dia.org/blackhistorymonth>

The Library of Congress is hosting the site called African American History month. <http://www.africanamericanhistorymonth.gov/about.html>

PBS has some fantastic programming and online content available. <https://www.pbs.org/articles/2021/02/celebrate-black-history-month-2021/>

LOCAL 652Lena Wyeth,
Vice President

This new year of 2021 is off to a quick start and here we are in February already. February is Black History Month and sadly, because of COVID restrictions we will not have our annual Black History Celebration. This month is a reminder that our country is diverse and beautiful, and our cultural differences should be celebrated.

Another reason to celebrate in the month of February is White Shirt Day. February 11th is the anniversary of the Sit-down Strike. On this day in 1937, General Motors recognized the UAW as a union and our very first, 1-page contract was created. Don't forget to wear your white shirt on February 11th.

March is Women's History month and I would be remiss if I didn't take the time to appreciate the women who made great contributions to society and helped pave the way, sometimes unknowingly, digging trenches and paths for today's leaders. I find strength in my own leadership in an adaptation of Sir Isaac Newton's quote *“If I have seen further than any other before me, it is because of the shoulders on which I stand.”* March is a time to celebrate the countless number of women who marched bold and bright while setting the foundation for others that come after them. For me, there is a very clear view of why my foundation is strong. My mother (and father) and my daughter give me stability, strength and confidence. Paulette Warren, Linda Hodge, Toni Locket, Glender Anderson, Maria Starr, Veronica Johnson, Roberta Cannon, Sharron Mowers and Cynthia Johnson taught the true meaning of leadership, community involvement and how important it is, the true meaning of hard work and dedication, how to get up after you have fallen and how important it is to push others, all while being one's biggest fan. All of these women (and others, too many to mention), most importantly, taught me the true meaning of sisterhood and friendship. I am who I am because of these women and their shoulders, on which I stand.

LOCAL 602
Isaiah Fuller,
Vice President



With 2021 in full swing, it has me thinking of the past, where we have come from as whole, and the accomplishments of our leadership of the past. Thinking of things that we can do to get back on track and get ahead of the ball in the game. There's nothing wrong with holding on to the past, but to embrace the future and prepare for it is to gain as we plan, prepare, and build the many strengths and qualities that make us who we are.

Frederick Douglass said *"If there is no struggle there is no progress. Those who profess to favor freedom and yet depreciate agitation, are men who want crops without plowing up the ground, they want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its many waters. This struggle may be a moral one, or it may be a physical one, and it may be both moral and physical, but it must be a struggle. Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will. Find out just what any people will quietly submit to and you have found out the exact measure of injustice and wrong which will be imposed upon them, and these will continue till they are resisted with either words or blows, or with both. The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppress."*

Our fight is not with each other or our own self, but with those who want to hold us back from the vision that those before us had for a better future of equal prosperity for equal work put in. A fair day's work for a fair day's pay. Comfort should be rare when we are in a day and time where those who control everything we do with the click of a button or stroke of a pen. Water, being one of the strongest elements, can't have an effect on the environment when it sits still.

When I was young, I was told by my father that a man has great power over you when he can dictate the life you and your family live by telling you how much money you can

make. The deck will always be stacked against us; when those who want us to have nothing or earn little can control us and make us fight with each other. We are all mankind who want and desire freedom, respect, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; but they limit how much of each you can have just because you are not in the same tax bracket as them.

Brothers and sisters, I see a brighter future, but we must come together here as the working class to gain those freedoms and rights that should be given to every person that earns them. Stand side by side and not face to face.

LOCAL 652
Scott Lounds,
Rec. Secretary



The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines a "cold war" as a conflict over ideological differences carried out by methods short of sustained overt military action or a condition of rivalry, mistrust, and often open hostility short of violence especially between power groups. The methods most often used to express the political hostility are threats and propaganda.

The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines "civil war" as a war between opposing groups of citizens of the same country.

I would propose the following definition of "cold civil war;" a conflict over ideological differences between opposing groups of citizens carried out by methods short of sustained overt military action.

I further propose that we are currently in the midst of one. The deep-rooted conflicts that sharply divide along educational, economic, racial, and geographic lines have been exploited by politicians for decades. What started out as actual political and philosophical divides have been crassly exploited and expanded for nefarious and disingenuous reasons. Once it became clear that social media was extremely effective as a platform for radicalization and polarization, politicians and partisans realized that elections could be won almost entirely through this exploitation.

In the past partisanship caused gridlock, fed talk radio, and contributed to any number of degradations, but except on the radical fringes it didn't normally affect people's relationships with their neighbors, co-workers, family, and friends. It was a cordially (mostly) adversarial system where the debate was about guns, and abortion, and taxes. But, in general when tough and important decisions needed to be made the parties could come to agreement through compromise. That is no longer true. This adversarial system breaks down completely when ideological purity is required. It used to be that when the UAW, NRA, industry associations, environmentalists or groups of like-minded people were making decisions on who to endorse and support financially they would look at that person's voting record and say "they voted with us eighty percent of the time" or ninety percent, or whatever and decide that person was worth supporting. Now, anything less than one hundred percent

agreement with a group's belief is a reason to attack that person and do everything possible to make sure they never win another election. This demand of ideological purity is one symptom of a cold war mentality. Another symptom is the level of distrust between groups such that even verifiable facts are opposed by beliefs that are not based in reality.

One of the problems with cold wars is that the sides begin to focus only on the winning for their side regardless of what it takes. Just like America did in backing the Shah in Iran and numerous authoritarian governments throughout Central and South America for fear that an elected government might align itself with the Soviet Union. A perfect example in American politics today is the Republicans support of a member of their party who espouses the view that the tragic shootings of school children in Sandy Hook and Parkland were actually "false flag" operations that were carried out by Democrats and the United States with the intention of gaining support for tougher gun control laws. The Right doesn't condemn these actions because the hostility and distrust they hold for the opposition is just that strong. That is the true danger, when partisanship begins to overcome the truth.

Another problem with cold wars is that sometimes they become hot wars, America already had one civil war. This country is still struggling with the scars of that conflict more than a hundred and fifty years later, the idea of a second American Civil War should be unthinkable. But there are those out there not just thinking about a new Civil War but are advocating for one. And these people have been brought closer to the mainstream of American politics through the actions taken, and words spoken over the last four years. America and Americans should be better than that. The things most Americans believe in and want far outweigh the things that divide us, or at least they always have in the past. In that definition of "cold war" I gave earlier the three factors were rivalry, mistrust, and open hostility. The rivalry is a part of politics and should be, dis

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VOICE OF 28,000 MEMBERS

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sent makes us stronger. It is the second and third factors, mistrust and hostility, that are dangerous and that we must work to eliminate. In a civil society politics should not devolve into violence and personal hatreds.

LOCAL 602
Doug Fox,
Rec. Secretary



By the time you receive this issue of Lansing Labor News, White Shirt Day should have just been celebrated. White Shirt Day commemorates the end of a 2-month long sit-down strike in Flint from December 30, 1936 to February 11, 1937. Through the efforts of the brave men and women, UAW members gained a seat at the bargaining table with General Motors. We, as a Union, were finally united as one. Working and watching out for each other, together we became stronger and stronger. A formidable force to be reckoned with in our Solidarity.

I feel the idea behind this commemoration is more important than ever now. The middle class is facing unprecedented challenges seemingly everywhere we look. We have many things facing us internally and externally that we need to face together.

Politics, the pandemic, our internal issues, and the inability to have civil discourse are creating divides like never before. We need to once again focus on our common ground. We need to be able to have honest, sometimes painful, discussions while respecting that others may have different views. We need to become more active within our Union to help strengthen it and educate ourselves and our Brothers and Sisters.

TOGETHER. SOLDIARITY. UNION. As a proud UAW member I see, hear, and also speak these words often. Unfortunately, I feel the meaning of these words has been diminished by the many controversies and issues we are facing and apathy is rising.

Together. This simply means you are never alone. Your Brothers and

Sisters are there for you. Through all life's ups and downs. Sharing the joys of birth and marriage, and the anguish of losing a loved one. We rally to help when one of our own faces a disaster. Having each other's backs and standing together at work. Speaking up when one isn't treated fairly. Helping educate each other and sharing our experiences. With your Brothers and Sisters, you are NEVER truly alone.

Solidarity. Solidarity, to me, means uniting toward the common goal of improving, and defending, our middle-class way of life. "A rising tide lifts all boats" is a great aphorism for this idea. When we work together to improve safety for us, it makes it safer for other workers. Our gains gradually become their gains. What the unions have struggled to achieve has improved working conditions in non-union workplaces.

Union. Our organization, the UAW. Binding us together as one. With such a variety of members, our strength is our diversity, our knowledge base is broad. Every member has a voice and every member needs to USE that voice.

We are strongest when we are truly united. We may have differing ideas on the path, but the destination remains the same. Together, Solidarity, Union. Not just words. A way of life to improve the middle class.

LOCAL 652
Matt Schneider,
Fin. Secretary



Though we likely all knew better, there was this small glimmer of hope that since a new year had sprung, the perils of 2020 would be behind us. Unfortunately, 2021 is still going to offer plenty of challenges, difficult decisions, and hard work. Nevertheless, we remain hopeful because of the promise of multiple vaccines and the unbreakable spirit of the American people which seems to always pull us through.

This spirit and hard work are highlighted in the first few months of

the year as we celebrate Black History and Women's History Months. The focus on these groups isn't to say one person matters more than the other, but rather, brings to light the struggles certain Americans face and show that they too, matter.

The UAW has a long history of fighting for the right of all members to succeed and live a dignified life, no matter our differences or similarities. Before we as a country had the nerve to do so in 1964, the UAW in 1946 established the Fair Practices and Anti-Discrimination Department with Article 25, a constitutional amendment, at the International Convention. The Department was renamed The Civil and Human Rights Committee in 1983. The Committee is an essential guardian of the "No Discrimination" policy of our Union. Members of this committee fulfill the local union's commitment to assuring members full rights regardless of religion, race, creed, color, sex, political affiliation or nationality, age, disability, marital status or sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

The committee informs members of steps and procedures, including filing complaints and hearings, whenever a member or members believe their rights have been violated, either by management or other union members. The committee works toward the elimination of discrimination in the workplace, the community, and the nation.

As part of our dues dollars at work, leaders and committee members receive training in a variety of subjects including employment law, EEOC cases, policy and procedure, case management, and lobbying on behalf of our member's needs.

So as we enter this new year it's up to us, Union members, to remember our roots. We were founded with the idea that we are stronger together than we are apart. That if we use this collective might, there is no amount of money or influence that can drown out our vision. In this tribal society, it is more important than ever to not fall into the trap of treating each other or the process of governing like a game of shirts and skins, where finding common ground is never rewarded. That thinking along with the lure of

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selfishness and individualism will do more harm to our cause than any of the challenges we have faced of late.

LOCAL 4911

Rose Van Schoick, Fin. Secretary



Covid-19 Vaccine

Phase 1B is the distribution phase that Sparrow Health System is currently rolling out using the State of Michigan guidelines. Phase 1B includes individuals 70 years old and older and essential frontline workers. It is estimated that Phase 1B may take several weeks to months to complete the vaccinations for this group -depending upon how many folks desire a vaccination and supply of the vaccination. However, as more vaccines become available to Sparrow from the Federal Government, they will be able to adjust the expansion into the next phase of distribution.

How can you keep abreast of vaccine information? You have a few options.

- Visit sparrow.org/vaccine
- You can create a MySparrow account and register for a COVID-19 vaccine.
- If you need help creating a MySparrow account and registering for a Covid-19 vaccine, call the Registration Assistance Call Center (Hours 8am-4pm M – F) at 877-205-1300.
- Sparrow’s COVID-19 information hotline # (517) 364-6203
- Call your primary care physician.

Please continue to wear your face masks, wash your hands frequently and social distance. Your family, frontline essential workers, your co-workers and friends are depending on you. We are all in this pandemic together; therefore, it is imperative that we continue to encourage people to do their part to help keep everyone safe.

Pet Alert

If you have a very special member of your family that is a dog, please take note of an experience that re-

cently happened to us. Our 14.5 year old Chihuahua has been eating grain-free dog food for years as he has a history of a sensitive stomach and a dog trainer recommended feeding him grain-free dog food. However, we recently found out, from our new veterinarian, that grain-free dog food has its own set of ramifications for heart disease issues later in life as your dog ages. Please do your own research about grain-free dog food and any health issues your pet may experience. At that point, you will be able to make an educated decision regarding what to feed your dog. The pet you save may be your own very special family member.

LOCAL 1618

Ted Gauss Retiree



Hey kids, what time is it? Why it’s Howdy Doody time. What else?

It seems there are a lot of our members in Florida right now. Denny and Margaret Matthews, Snuffy and Pat Smith, Jerry and Judy Hunt and Dan Matthews are now sunning themselves in Panama City Beach.

I was reading Roy Spencer’s book about his life. In it was a great joke about four worms. His pastor told this in church.

Four worms were placed in four separate jars. The first worm was placed into a container of alcohol. The second worm was placed into a container of cigarette smoke. The third worm was placed into a container of chocolate syrup. The fourth worm was placed into a container of good clean soil. At the conclusion of the sermon, the minister reported the following results:

- The first worm in alcohol—dead!
- The second worm in cigarette smoke—dead!
- The third worm in chocolate syrup—dead!
- The fourth worm in good clean soil—alive.

So the minister asked the congre-



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Black History Month Facts

Dr. Mae Jemison became the first African American woman to go into space aboard the space shuttle Endeavor in 1992

Thurgood Marshall was the first African American appointed to the United States Supreme Court

The first black U.S. senator was Hiram Revels in 1870

Alexa Canady became the first female African-American neurosurgeon in the United States.

George Monroe and William Robinson are thought to be two of the first African Americans to work as Pony Express riders

Cathay Williams was the first and only known female Buffalo Soldier during the Civil War

Scientist and mathematician Benjamin Banneker is credited with helping to design the blueprints for Washington, D.C.

Inventor of the three-way traffic signal, Garrett Morgan, became the first African American to own a car in Cleveland, Ohio

Quincy Jones is the most Grammy-nominated artist in the history of the awards with 76 nominations and 26 awards.

LOCAL 1753

Obituaries

- Clara J Couthen
- Carl Buck Jr
- Elon J Baker
- Cecil F Rial

LOCAL 1753
Laura Clark
Retiree



Dear Brothers and Sisters

Have you recovered from the horrendous action at OUR Capital January 6th? That was deplorable! I alternatively sat and stood, with my heart in my throat watching all day transfixed. I'm still shaken by those events. The newscasters that day kept saying, this isn't us, but more and more it is looking like it is. Very little change is happening at the top! Now, we know some Republicans are fine upstanding people, but it's time for them to do something different. This is not the party of Lincoln!

Thank goodness we have a good example of just what to do when the election is actually stolen from you! When your opponent is running the race you are both in. When he throws your voters off the rolls, closes polling places, and has more money in backing than you can

imagine. You pull on your big girl pants and you go to work! You remind people what happened. Nobody thinks stealing is right, not even good republicans. You register every voter, young and old. You go and organize every group there is, and if that is not enough you make more groups. You use every avenue open to you, then, you think of a few more. That is how Stacy Abrams won the two Senate seats she delivered to the state of Georgia and us. Thank You!

Speaking of thank you. I need to thank stores who said at the beginning of the pandemic that they would pay extra to front line workers. Its a year later now and most doubled or more their profits and have dropped off on paying extra. Except these good companies: Costco, Lowe's, Home Depot and Publix. We have three of them in our area.

Thank you for calling me. I've heard from many of you as we have been off. Call if I can help 484-0507. I too, can't wait till we

meet again. When we get together we will work on getting those tee shirts out. We also could work on our list of retiree phone numbers. This list is just for retiree to retiree since the local can't give out phone numbers. I was disappointed when this happened recently. Especially since we have nothing but time now. A member called and I looked in the book, the name was not there. The best I could think of was to have him write a letter. Fortunately he was able to get it from another one of us. The Obituaries always needs our help. If you see a retirees obituary clip it out of the paper and send it to me at the hall. I will add it to the book. Management will not communicate those to us.

We have made another donation to the Lansing Area Food Bank and at Christmas we gave to Meals on Wheels, Office on Aging, the Old Newsboys and Eaton County Palliative We wish them all good luck, as I wish for all of you!

By now you could probably remind ME of White Shirt Day on February 11. It has been 30 years of me telling you. We must remember our history. This was how we got the bosses to respect the worker and workforce. All of our gains are reflected in workers everywhere in the US. We are not just the people who gave you the weekend! We are also the no child labor people, the ones who demand a 8 hour day and safety and so much more. If you study labor, you will see it is the story of America. The Region will post in Facebook and at 11 will have the drawing, good luck.

Black History Month Facts

Jack Johnson was the first African-American man to hold the World Heavyweight Champion boxing title in 1908.

Satchel Paige was the first African-American pitcher to be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame
Hall-of-Famer Jackie Robinson helped establish the African American-owned and -controlled Freedom Bank

John Baxter Taylor was the first African American to win an Olympic gold medal

The Labor News is also available online at
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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. Please adhere to all protocols recommended to stay safe.

Capital Area United Way
Dean Poggiali



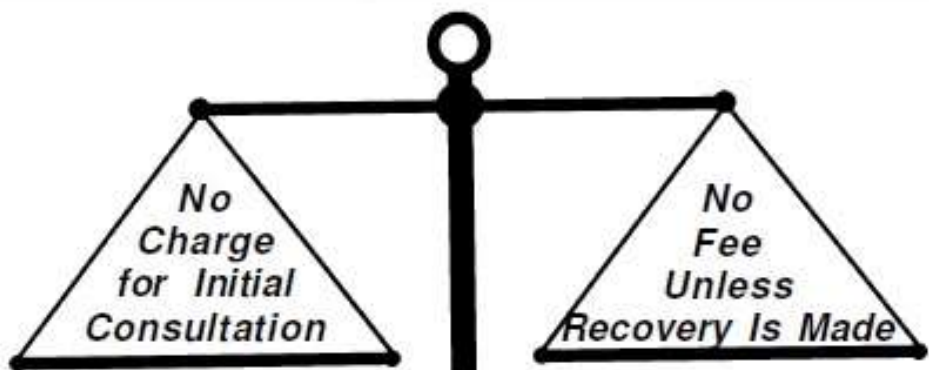
How does one reflect on the journey traveled this far, the roads traversed and the challenges met? My humble response is to offer a heartfelt thank you to everyone, as on March 12, 2021, I will be retiring.

How do you thank countless folks who have crossed your path and you theirs and not forget one? First and foremost, I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge the support, sacrifices and caring of my family. They were always on the trek with me although I may not have always known where I was heading.

A large shout out to the UAW and Capital Area United Way (CAUW) families that have allowed me to pursue my passion, which is to strengthen and serve our community.

From my humble beginnings, I was allowed to conduct a passage of being an advocate for the community and working families. It is only through the support of the aforementioned folks, that such a passage was undertaken. After all, how does one choose their pathway and which road is to be followed? The choice was easy when you had like-minded folks blaze the road before.

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It is hard to quantify your journey in this life. But it is the sincere hope that your journey can be judged on your actions, convictions, service and integrity. I hope that I have checked all those boxes. The world is obviously a different place than when I started at CAUW almost twenty years ago. Challenges must be addressed, a nation must heal, and we must all come together as never before.

Never have I questioned what has the union and CAUW done for me, rather I say what have I done for the union and CAUW. I am a better human being by having both in my life.

Again, gratitude and thanks go out to all of you not matter how our paths have crossed throughout the years. I am honored and blessed to have been able to serve our community.

This decision to transition into retirement was not taken lightly, but it is time.

Peace be with you all,

LOCAL 602
Obituaries

- Edward E. Townsend – Father of Robert M. Townsend, Quality
- Michael A. Salazar - Retired
- Edward J. Bowen – Father of Mark Bowen, Chassis 1
- Marcial M. Ramirez – Retired
- Jerry P. Miller – Retired
- Donald J. Jones – Retired
- Allen R. Slaughter – Retired
- Larry Davis – Retired
- Thomas Peterson – Retired
- Frank Matemucci – Retired
- Larry Nevins - Retired
- Ira A. Baker – Retired
- Lupe S. Mena – Retired
- Edgar Brown III – Retired
- Harry Brown – Husband of Yvonne Brown
- Dewey L. Berryhill – Retired
- Jerry A. Mills Jr. – Retired
- Larry Ramos – Retired
- Earnest Glenn Rowley – Father of

- Colin Stephenson, GA Trim 5
- Gary Pettit – Step Father of Don Schullo, Materials Body Paint 1st
- Roger H. Bahl – Retired
- Jesse P. Sanchez – Retired
- Michael P. Clark – Retired
- Woody L. Douglas IV – Retired
- Donald “Punk” Gachter – Retired
- James H. Miles – Father of Mark Miles, Millwright
- William J. Prout – Retired
- Kirk (Shorty) Alexander – Retired
- Gary L. Pettit – Retired
- Glenn D. Piper – Retired
- Robert B. Aelker – Retired
- Kelley K. McClintock – Retired
- Lloyd L. Loar – Retired
- Frank Kral Jr. – Retired
- Isaac Jones – Retired
- Erich Seida - Retired

LOCAL 652
Obituaries

- Bob Ashley – Member
- Karylyn Bartz – Spouse of David Bartz, Sister-in-Law of Randy Larson
- James “Jim” Bateman – Retiree
- Eloisa G. Facundo – Mother of Rudy Facundo
- Evelyn Franklin – Spouse of Rex Franklin, Sister-in-Law of Jerry Franklin
- Amanda Gatica – Spouse of Juan Gatica, Daughter of Kevin Hill, Sister-in-Law of Jeremiah Gatica
- Stanley Harr – Retiree
- Richard Heiser – Retiree
- Annie Pearl Kyser – Mother of Larry Kyser, Grandmother of La-sondra Kyser
- Bernard LaDuke Jr. – Son of Bernard and Billye LaDuke

- Daniel Lenneman – Retiree
- Eugene McKee – Retiree
- Ellen Morrison – Retiree, Mother of Joshua Snead, Sister of William Joseph “Billy Joe” Forquer
- James Nummer – Retiree, Brother of Stanley and Jeffrey Nummer
- Lauraine Paladino – Retiree
- Sandra Patrick – Mother of Kurt Spitzley
- Audrey Rabideau – Mother of William Rabideau
- Nancy Russell Shaw – Spouse of Robert Shaw
- Jim Sickles - Retiree
- Kenneth “Ken” Smith – Retiree, Brother-in-Law of Ron and Gloria Pumfrey, Uncle of Amie Pumfrey
- Raymond “Ray” Villegas Jr – Retiree, Spouse of Stacy Tabor-Villegas, Son of Sue Lyon
- Harold Whatley – Retiree

NOTICE

NOTICE

UAW Local 2256 – Unit of BCBSM
Election and Nomination Acceptance
For the positions of:

1-Unit Vice President

Nomination Acceptance letters will be taken from March 1 – March 5, 2021. Letters to be dated no later than March 5, 2021 sent to one of the following Election Committee Members:

Vickie Montgomery - Chair

Campaign time frame is scheduled March 8 – March 16, 2021.

Election will be held
****March 16, 2021 ****

9:00a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Location – Lansing Office, 232 S. Capitol Ave.

Run-off Election date set for March 31, 2021

No Absentee ballots

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