

# Lansing Labor News

**VOLUME 81, ISSUE 1** 

# **VOICE OF 25,000 UAW MEMBERS**

**APRIL**, 2025

LOCAL 4911 Muhammad Qawwee, President



As we welcome the arrival of spring, I send warm greetings to all my brothers and sisters in Region 1D and our union families. The changing weather, though hesitant at times, marks a time of renewal, and as we emerge from our winter hibernation, I want to check in: How are we doing?

One of the significant issues affecting many of our members is Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD), a form of depression that often strikes during specific seasons, typically in the fall and winter months. For us here in Michigan, where winter tends to linger, this condition can impact us longer than most.

SAD manifests through a range of symptoms including a persistent low mood, loss of interest in once-enjoyable activities, fatigue, social withdrawal, sleep disturbances, and difficulty concentrating. The root cause is believed to be the reduced daylight hours, which can disrupt the balance of serotonin and melato-

nin—two key hormones that influence mood and sleep.

Additionally, the current state of division and unrest in our country doesn't help matters. These external pressures can compound the feelings of isolation and hopelessness that often accompany SAD. If you've been struggling with these symptoms and couldn't pinpoint the reason, SAD may very well be the underlying cause.

The good news is that there are treatment options available. Light therapy—whether through natural sunlight or light box therapy—is one approach. Antidepressant medications and psychotherapy are also effective solutions. Additionally, simple lifestyle changes such as regular exercise, maintaining a healthy diet, and ensuring adequate sleep can help improve overall mood and reduce symptoms of SAD.

Knowledge is power, and it's important that we support each other. If you notice a fellow UAW brother or sister—or even a friend or family member—who has been struggling with a low mood during the past seasons, it's possible they're dealing with SAD. Understanding what they may be going through can make all the difference. Together, we can help them explore treatment options and lift them out of this dark place.

I hope this article sheds light on a condition that may have affected you, your loved ones, or coworkers without you even realizing it. Let's continue to look out for one another as we move into the brighter days ahead.

In solidarity,

Muhammad

# **ELECTION NOTICES**

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WAY
Fred Thomas



Greetings Brothers and Sisters, I have been allotted some space to introduce myself to those of you I haven't had the pleasure of meeting, as well as talk about our partnership between Labor and the United Way.

I was honored to be asked by our local CAP Council, as well as the local Labor Councils to fill the role as your Labor Liaison. I've been involved in community service all my adult life and see the impact of what we, as Union Members have in the communities in which we live.

Most of you have campaigns that you participate in through your workplace, such as Old Newsboys and Toys for Tots, as well as all of the non-profits we all support outside of those because of their meaning to us personally. Having assisted in some of those campaigns when I was the Community Service Chair at UAW Local 652, I saw firsthand the work you all do to make our communities a better place.

In my role, I am first and foremost, a support person for all of you if you are in a time of need. I've been able to participate in new hire orientations, attend meetings with members at their facilities and meet a lot of members individually.

My role also provides me with the opportunity to ask for our members to donate to the United Way. I get to see exactly how every penny our members give impacts people. Be it through our support of the 211 system, our VITA free tax service and all the local nonprofits we help fund through these campaigns. All the donations go di-

rectly to the local community.

Soon we will be running our campaigns in your workplace, for those who have not participated yet. To those who have, I want to thank all of you for your generosity. This partnership was established in 1942 and continues to this day.

If anyone wants to contact me, my email address is

f.thomas@uwscmi.org. I want to thank you all for your time and for all you do every day. Be safe on those roads out there. In Solidarity,

Fred Thomas

AFL-CIO Community Services Labor Liaison

United Way of South-Central Michigan

LOCAL 652 Ben Frantz, President



Greetings, I hope this article finds you all safe and healthy. I've decided to take a break from the doom and gloom and political topics for this article. Even though we, as unionists and Americans, must work tirelessly to keep our place at the table, I feel this edition of the Labor News may have enough of that to read. This article will be a goodwill story, one of accomplishment and an ending many of you enjoy and many more of us hope to achieve someday.

This story spans many years, starting and ending at UAW Local 652. We will begin near the end and jump back to the beginning. Many of you who call the Local have noticed we have changed our phone system, and the options are no longer the same. We have updated the options to direct the retirees and active members to the contacts you are trying to reach rather than just pushing zero and waiting for

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the front desk to answer. Many of you who have grown accustomed to pushing zero and getting Jeff or Sandy have spoken to me and my fellow officers and asked why we would do such a thing as taking away the zero. When we answer, many haven't believed it and don't want to believe it.

What is that answer do you ask? Our long-time "Jeff" of all trades has decided to retire and join the ranks of those who spend their days doing as they please after a twentyfive-year-long adventure. Jeff Auvenshine will be retired at about the time this edition hits our mailboxes, and we will begin the post-Jeff era here at the local level. Jeff started his career here in early 2000. Initially, Jeff was hired to be one of our janitors. It was the recession of 2008 that pushed Jeff up to the front desk in 2009. That is when those who called the Local began their introduction to Jeff and when he started becoming the information fountain he became for all those who called. Over the years, he just became more and more knowledgeable about all of our amalgamated units, and he was invaluable to the GM Unit retirees and Benefit Representatives when it came to figuring out the best route for them to take. On top of being an impeccable information cipher, Jeff was also the hall setup guru. Jeff has set the hall up and worked with former United States Presidents, the Secret Service and many other political leaders, including the Governor, multiple mayors, U.S. Senators, U.S. House Representatives, and too many Michigan congressional leaders to count. All of this was done while still taking the time to make sure our retiree chapter has their setup ready when they arrive, including refreshments and our vintage bingo system. As if this isn't enough, Jeff was our only Janitor and maintenance man for the last fifteen years. I could go on even further about what Jeff Auvenshine has meant to UAW Local 652, but he is a guy who doesn't need all of the noise; he did all of these things because it was the proper thing to do. Though I only worked directly with Jeff for the past decade, I know he has left a lasting memory here at Local 652 with our retirees and active members. When I started this article, I told you it was a goodwill article, which is what I will close with. I want to wish my friend and newest OPEIU Local 42 retiree, Jeff Auvenshine, all the best with many years of enjoying family and friends. If you can reach out with a call, or if you see him in the wild, please wish him well on his newest adventure! Thanks for everything, Jeff, and don't be a stranger!

Ben

LOCAL 602 Mike Huerta, President



With Spring finally beginning to show up in Michigan, I hope you all are doing well and that we don't have to use a windshield scraper again until November.

I have had more phone calls from retirees over the last couple of months than I can ever remember getting; nearly all of them are about Social Security and Medicare. Our retirees are worried and mad about anyone messing with the EARNED benefits that they are receiving from Social Security and Medicare. I understand and if you want to add your voice to the Millions of people that are speaking out to defend Social Security and Medicare please look for the UAW Action Guide that is in this month's Lansing Labor News or you can call (202) 224-3121 for the U.S. House of Representatives switchboard operator directly. Members of Congress need to hear from us directly on how much these programs mean to us and that we are demanding that they defend them. With all of the chaos coming from the White House sometimes, it can be hard to keep up with everything. But our message is clear – HANDS OFF SOCIAL SECURI-TY AND MEDICARE!!!!

I have been getting a lot of questions from our active folks too, about the tariffs and how they will affect LDT. My answer has been that part of the problem with the inconsistency and on again off again behavior of this administration is that it creates instability.

When U.S. policy may change from hour to hour or day to day it is unlikely that Corporations will make billions of dollars worth of investments that could take a long time to ramp up. I also tell members that we do not build cars in a bubble, if the U.S. economy is not doing well people may hold off on buying a sixty thousand dollar vehicle. In other words if our country isn't doing well, we don't do well. I think that if this administration actually wanted to help autoworkers they should NOT have picked a tariff fight with the world, they should have re-negotiated all free trade agreements that are in effect.

I know many of us are stressed out over the turmoil coming from Washington but please take time each day to get away from the headlines. Please don't ignore what is happening but also don't let it consume you. We need each other now more than ever, please take care of yourselves and check in your union Family when you can.

In Solidarity,

Mike

LOCAL 602 Rob Randolph, Rec. Secretary



Looking for new boots? want something comfortable, durable and able to be rebuilt? Try out JK boots! JK boots are made right here in the USA with mostly American sourced materials. They are traditional build style boots made in Spokane Washington by Jon Khadzi and his family (as well as some other employees). They come in many styles ranging from traditional logger boots to fire fighting boots all the way to wedge sole boots for long days on concrete floors.

The owner and founder of JK boots moved to the US from Ukraine fleeing oppression after spending most of his life in the cobbler business as well as the leather tanning business. Now he runs the company with his 2 sons and his wife, who is also a seamstress and uses the facility for her work.

I personally own 3 pair of JK boots. One pair of "OTs" or "overtime boots" which are a traditional logger style boot with honey vibram soles that are modified to be more comfortable for long days of wearing at work. I also have a pair of "super Duty" boots, which are your traditional loggers in all their glory. These make amazing hiking boots and winter boots. Lastly I have my personal favorite, the JK "forefronts" which are 6 inch boots with a wedge sole and a very comfortable last for long periods of standing on concrete floors (as an auto worker that is my life). My personal pair of forefronts utilize bison leather for its toughness and softness, making them incredibly durable and comfortable.

I am sure that any person looking for good quality boots will find something they like from JK and can feel confident knowing they are supporting good people making great boots the old fashioned pacific north west way right here in the USA!

In Solidarity,

Rob

LOCAL 1753 Laura Clark Retiree



Hello retirees and friends. Hope you're doing well, the executive board and I have missed you. Still no word from the local or the region. There are some of us who got together on our regular meeting (second Thursday of the month) day and time at the buffet. We paid for our own food and had a good time visiting each other! I will let you know through Al Vincent 's email as soon as something changes. Obituaries: Stephen Carr, Mell R. Jackson, Randy G. Davis, Dave Edmonds, Richie, L Miller, Brett A. Lock, Mary A Bohnett, Gerald Klingbeil, and Herb Whorley.

Our next meeting will be at the World Buffet 5002 W Saginaw Hwy. Lansing, MI 48917 on Thursday June 12 at noon. Hope to see everyone there!

Laura

LOCAL 652 Matt Schneider, Fin. Secretary



Happy spring Lansing Labor News readers, I want to take some time to start the conversation about the 2026 UAW elections. We as members have a bit of work ahead of us as it relates to the topic.

In 2020 the former International UAW leadership and the United States jointly filed a proposed consent order concerning the lawsuit brought by our government. Part of that consent decree included a 2021 referendum election where the members would decide the process for selecting the IEB. The agreement is far-reaching and mostly beneficial, but has also potentially added cost, bureaucracy, and sometimes runs up against our UAW Constitution, but that conversation is for another article.

The work that needs to be completed for the 2026 elections was born out of the first-ever direct elections in 2022 and the run-off elections in 2023. These elections occurred due to the results of the referendum election. An election where roughly 14% of the members decided on how the institution would be run. Why the low numbers? Again, we'll save that for another article. However, one of the issues we will cover is the membership list and the rough condition it was in.

Historically the UAW didn't necessarily need to focus too much on who was a member, but instead how many members. This becomes

# LOCAL 652

Arlene Pesik Retiree

Local 652 Retirees meet the following days each month:

1st Tuesday of the month at 10am, Bingo.

3rd Tuesday of the month at Noon. Boxed lunch is provided and Bingo.

Enjoy this spring weather!

Happy Easter,

Arlene

an issue when you are now required to mail a million ballots to your members. There was an effort before the election to clean up the lists, but the time frame was too tight for the task at hand. Particularly for part-time Financial Secretaries or Financial Secretaries from small to medium locals such as ours. This time around the alarm bells have sounded earlier and the International UAW is trying to better assist the locals. With a new Membership Department and outside assistance from Alix Partners, I am keeping my fingers crossed for a better out-

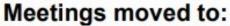
So, what do the members need to do? Well, most importantly, vote. Let's not waste dues dollars on bad postage or normalize such low turnout numbers. Secondly, keep your contact information up to date. Most locals have agreements with employers to share limited amounts of data, including mailing addresses. So, if your contact information is current at your employer, it should be correct at the local. Thirdly, make sure that during any bargaining the CBA includes language for not only union security and eventuality clauses but also the sharing of contact information. Lastly, our retirees should ensure that their contact information is current with the UAW. This is one of the more difficult data sets to keep current because it's up to the member to manually update. Even for those retirees with defined benefits, the advent of direct deposit has cut off any information sharing with the locals because a correct address is no longer needed to mail a check.

# ATTENTION: UAW Local 4911 Retiree Chapter #881

2025 Union Meeting dates

Wednesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> - 3:00pm VEBA Meeting – Union Mtg to follow ,

Wednesday, June 25<sup>th</sup> – 3:00pm Wednesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> – 3:00pm Wednesday, December – TBD



UAW Local 4911, 1010 River St. Lansing, MI 48912 \*You're welcome to wear a mask & practice social distancing\*

# We need your email address!

Updates & special events will be communicated via email. Contact our office with your email and whenever you have changes to your address or phone. 517-372-7201 x10 or <a href="mailto:info@uawlocal4911.org">info@uawlocal4911.org</a>

www.uawlocal4911.org

Now, the retirees of Local 652, about 6,000 of them, need not rush to call the local and update their address. Since the 2023 elections, a lot of work has been done to correct the addresses from returned ballots, many of which were retirees. And to be frank, the local doesn't have the secretarial resources it once had to handle such a task. We have created a tool on our website that will allow Local 652 retirees to more easily update their mailing information. If you are retired, have moved since 2023 and didn't update the local, and want to be included in the IEB elections, you can visit www.uawlocal652.org and click "change of address". If you are a non-retired member, please keep your contact information updated with your employer.

# LOCAL 4911 Charlene Watson, Fin. Secretary



Weingarten Rights.

Welcome to spring 2025!

We're approximately 100 days into the new year and those nasty little blood sucking creatures have awakened and begun their annual invasion—causing fear and havoc everywhere. This is not about current politics.... this is a reminder that TICK season has begun. Take care to inspect yourself, children, pets and your yard.

As a mother of worker at a different union, I enjoy reading their local's newspaper. Recently, they had a wonderful piece on Weingarten Rights, and I would like to highlight some of the information from their article, "Q & A: Understanding Your Weingarten Rights" Voice of 951, March 2025, p.3 for the benefit of UAW unions:

Understanding your Weingarten Rights & When to Exercise Them:

Weingarten rights were established by the Supreme Court in the 1975 case NLRB v. J. Weingarten, Inc., and granted unionized employees the right to union representation during investigatory interviews

See Watson page 4

# Lansing Labor News (ISSN 0023-8384)

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Lansing Labor News - 210 Clare St. - Lansing, Michigan 48917
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APRIL 2025

Doug Fox and Nancy Sears, Staff

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where they reasonably believe disciplinary action might result.

The Voice of 951's article explains that "As a union member, your Weingarten Rights guarantee you the right to union representation during meetings or discussion with management where you believe your answers could result in company disciplinary action."

This means you have the right, as a union member, to have union representation present at these types of meetings or discussions. Your union rep or steward will advocate on your behalf during the meeting, and you probably should not answer management's possible disciplinary motivated questions until your representative arrives.

Why you should exercise your Weingarten Rights:

It is a right! Your union reps and stewards are trained and experienced in dealing with management, they know your current CBA (Collective Bargaining Agreement between employer and the union standing for its employees), possibly better than management. Management may or may not understand your contract and could use unfair tactics and deceptive phrasing during your "meeting." This could lead to your responses being used against you.

Also know that it is illegal for management to retaliate against you for requesting representation.

You should always take advantage of your Weingarten Right, even if you believe you are innocent or not at fault. Union representation could immediately clarify your given rights and educate all meeting attendees.

How to handle a denied request for union representation:

Keep in mind that management does NOT have to inform you of your Weingarten Rights, but they cannot legally deny union representation in the meeting.

If your request for representation is denied by management, you should remain in the meeting, but do not answer any questions. When the meeting is over, immediately notify your union rep or steward and document that your Weingarten Rights were denied. If a union rep or stew-

ard is not available, then you should request to management that the meeting be rescheduled to a time when you can be represented by your union.

Weingarten Rights are a powerful tool in your toolbox, one that you should use each and every time a work disciplinary situation occurs. It would be a good idea to carry your Weingarten Rights card with you at your worksite. That little card can be a powerful tool—don't be afraid to use it.

Important Take-a-Ways:

- 1. Weingarten Rights only apply to unionized employees.
- 2. The employer is not obligated to inform the employee of their Weingarten Rights.
- 3. The employee MUST assert their Weingarten Rights as needed

Please be safe this summer, watch out for ticks (2 legged and 8 legged and 9)

Make those precious memories with your family and friends. Always stay safe UAW Brothers and Sisters.

Finally, I would like to urge local 4911 retirees to update/verify their personal contact information at your Local.

Please contact your Hall at 517-372-7201 to update your phone number, mailing address, email address, including any changes you incurred since your retirement.

In Solidarity,

Char 🕲

LOCAL 602 Marta Bobillo Retiree



Greetings Sisters and Brothers. I hope everyone is in good health. First, I would like to thank our members and their families that have been protesting at the Capital for the security of our rights which are being taken from our Veterans, children and disabled. The protesting is also to save our Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, Human and Civil Rights, etc.

# EYEMART EXPRESS

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#### Jackson

1379 Boardman Rd. Jackson, MI 49202 Located in Jackson Crossing, next to Hobby Lobby 517-879-4068

#### Lansing

5020 W Saginaw Hwy Lansing, MI 48917 Located next to Los Tres Amigos 517-323-3490

Please do your research and see what we are all losing while being distracted by insignificant issues like changing the name of the Gulf of Mexico instead of addressing important problems affecting every day Americans. Important issues we are being distracted from are the measles out breaks, natural disasters, loss of jobs and our overall economy. We have many Seniors that are living on a fixed income and remember, social security is a benefit we earned and have a right to collect.

We have always guarded our personal information like our social security number. Well, now, Elon Musk and his DOGE department (a group of five 19-25 year olds) have all our personal information that we do not know what they are going to do with it.

If you are not able to attend protest, you can still call your Senator and Congress offices and ask them how our Rights are being protected and preserved. It is not too late to make the calls. Our next

demonstration at the Capital is April 19, 2025 at 12:00 noon. Stay Safe and Happy Easter. Be kind to others because tomorrow is not promised.

Love, Pease and Justice in Solidarity,

Marta

# LOCAL 602 Obituaries

Luann D Crim. Retired

Barbara Kline – Spouse of Richard Kline, Retired

Joseph Bunkley – Spouse of Cliftine Bunkley, Retired

Lindsay Beard Jr. - Retired

Cynthia Burns – Retired

Gary Hendee – Father of Duane Hendee, Active

Rob Pritchard – Retired

Patricia Weardon – Mother of Tony Burnett, Active

Patricia Phillips – Mother of Steven

Phillips, Active

Todd Lake - Retired

James Warfle - Retired

Peggy Wilson – Active

George J. Skorna – Retired

Charles B. Farlee – Retired

Antonia H. Cardenas – Mother of

Judy Ayala, Active

Tina Cooper, Active

Kylie Tharpe, Active

Donald R. Uramkin, Retired

Douglas Miedema – Father of Justin

Miedema, Active

Daniel G. Roberts – Retired

Richard L. Price - Retired

Stacy McDowell - Active

Charles Glover - Retired

Christine Garcia – Mother of Leia

Osuna, Active

Ernest Chedester Jr., - Retired,

Spouse of Deborah Chedester, Re-

tired Local 602

John Polhamus – Retired, Step Fa-

ther to Kyle Stahl, Active

Richard D. Deloof – Retired

Gary D. Garner - Retired

James L. Shaver - Retired

Danny B. Thornberry- Retired

Dorothy A. Alleva - Retired

Donald K. Converse - Retired

Robert R. Romelhart - Retired

Thomas Lennox - Retired

Casey Jones - Retired

Londa C. Williams - Retired

Lewis E. Sheldon - Retired

Binnie C. Brown - Retired

Carleton H. Huff - Retired

Edward M. Heiden - Retired

Larry G. Kindt - Retired

Danny L. Sykora - Retired

Leland T. Harger - Retired

John W. Quainton - Retired

Gary L. Starkey

Richard J. Foster

Dan E. Pattengill

Edward C. Young - Retired

Kayla Frazier, Active

Kathy J. Mercer joined the Lord on

3/3/25 and is now pain free— Spouse of Stephen T. Mercer, Retired

Sandra Nagel – Mother-In-Law to Nicholas Smith, Active

Lynwood W Barringer- Retired

Eleaszer Buyck – Retired

Joseph Hanford – Retired

John F Sira – Retired

Jeffrey Adams – Retired

Hubert M Timmer - Retired

Carol Smith - Retired

Joseph M. Abraham - Retired

Bertha A. Vasquez – Retired

Raymond J. Wagner – Retired

Carol Dunsmore – Spouse of Leroy Dunsmore, Retired

Francis J. Wabindato – Son of Gayle Marlatt, Retired

# **LOCAL 652**

**Obituaries** 

Alfred V. Escobar – Retiree. Uncle of Edward Alex

Karla "Susie" Foutch – Spouse of David Foutch

Carlene Gnath – Mother of Gale Harkness, Mother-in-Law of Karen Harkness and Steve Johnson

John Robert Higgins – Retiree

Elaine Jaye – Mother of Chris and Karen Jaye

Keith "Knobby" Knoblauch Retiree, Brother of Paul Knoblauch

Sam Love – Retiree, Brother of Joan Love

Lawrence Martin Jr. – Retiree

Florence Masarik – Spouse of Rudy Masarik

Addrene "Drenie" McGraw -Stepmother of Raymond Dawson

Ron Parish – Retiree

Esteban Perez Jr. - Retiree

Norma Welch – Spouse of Ray Welch

Brian E Fedewa - Retiree

The Labor News is also available online at

lansinglabornews.org





# **Euchre Tournament**

There will be four separate tournaments, running four Fridays in a row, at four separate Locals. UAW Retirees and their spouses and surviving spouses may enter one, two, or even all four events. You do not need a partner to play; one will be assigned if necessary.

#### April 11 April 25

**GRAND RAPIDS** 

UAW Local 167 1320 Burton St. SW Wyoming, MI 49509

# **LANSING**

UAW Local 602 2510 W. Michigan Ave Lansing, MI 48917

# May 2 **FLINT**

UAW Local 659 4549 Van Slyke Rd. Flint, MI 48507

# May 9

**SAGINAW** UAW Local 467

2104 Farmer Street Saginaw, MI 48601

# Tournament Schedule

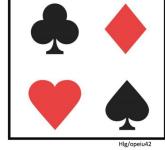
(All four events will adhere to the same timeline)

9 a.m Sign In 10 a.m **Play Begins** 

Noon

Free luncheon

(lunch time approximate)



Brought to you by the 1D Retiree Recreation Committee

# Rapaport, Pollok, Farrell, & Waldron



Work Related Disability Products Liability

Slip and Fall Social Security Disability

Medical Malpractice Auto Accidents

Staff Represented by the UAW 332-3555

741 N Cedar St#101, Lansing, MI 48906



Did you know that United Way and the labor movement have been partnering to build stronger communities since 1942?

For decades, Labor and United Way have worked together in unity. To lift people out of poverty. To help them achieve financial stability. To make sure every person has the systems and support they need to succeed.

In our community, that partnership is evident everywhere, including the following programs and activities:

- NALC Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive
- Department of Labor Participants
- Community Services School at Capital Area & Black Lake
- Michigan Association of United Ways Fall Seminar
- 2-1-1 Referral Information line
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)
- Support for ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed)
- Capital Area College Access Network (CapCAN)

The partnership is strong and needed now more than ever. Please consider making a gift to this year's campaign. By supporting United Way of South-Central Michigan, you help mobilize the collective strength of our local and regional communities to improve lives and advance the common good for all. Contribute through your workplace or make a gift online at <a href="https://igfn.us/form/gGQ0vA">https://igfn.us/form/gGQ0vA</a>. You can also reach out to United Way's Labor team in Lansing, Fred Thomas (f.thomas@uwscmi.org)

Your compassion and generosity fuel the change that's needed to create strong, caring communities where every person is valued, thriving and connected for the common good.

In solidarity.

Fred Lhomas

#### **April is Autism Awareness Month**

Autism is a bio-neurological developmental disability that generally appears before the age of 3

Autism impacts the normal development of the brain in the areas of social interaction, communication skills, and cognitive function. Individuals with autism typically have difficulties in verbal and non-verbal communication, social interactions, and leisure or play activities

Individuals with autism often suffer from numerous co-morbid medical conditions which may include: allergies, asthma, epilepsy, digestive disorders, persistent viral infections, feeding disorders, sensory integration dysfunction, sleeping disorders, and more

Currently there is no cure for autism, though with early intervention and treatment, the diverse symptoms related to autism can be greatly improved and in some cases

completely overcome.

Autism now affects 1 in 36 children

Boys are four times more likely to have autism than girls

About 40% of children with autism do not speak.

Autism greatly varies from person to person (no two people with autism are alike)

The rate of autism has steadily grown over the last twenty years

Autism is the fastest growing developmental disorder, yet most underfunded

Children with autism do progress – early intervention is key

Autism is treatable, not a hopeless condition



# STAND UP FOR OUR FUTURE: DON'T LET BILLIONAIRES CUT SOCIAL SECURITY, MEDICAID, AND MEDICARE.

Everyone deserves retirement security. The Trump administration is threatening our fundamental values.

## UAW VALUES:

Every American has the right to one day enjoy the dignity of a stable and secure retirement. Social Security is a fundamental American value that ensures working people receive the benefits we have earned when we need them most.

Retirees, disabled workers, and survivors have relied on the program's dependable payments for almost 90 years. For millions, programs like Social Security, Medicaid, and Medicare are the difference between stability and poverty.

Now, UAW Members and Retirees' hard-earned Social Security, Medicare, and even Medicaid benefits are under attack by the Trump administration and Republicans in Congress

## THE FACTS:

FACT: An unelected billionaire, Elon Musk, is slashing benefits for working people. Elon Musk called Social Security a "Ponzi Scheme", and said Social Security and Medicare are "The big one to eliminate."

Under the direction of the Elon Musk-led "Department of Government Efficiency" ("DOGE"), the Social Security Administration (SSA) announced plans to cut 7,000 jobs, or about 12% of its staff, and the Washington Post reported the SSA is now considering a proposal to END TELEPHONE CLAIMS AND BENEFITS PROCESSING AND END DIRECT DEPOSIT OF SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS. This will result in late social security payments and unprocessed claims, and also force beneficiaries to make in person visits to SSA offices, all while they are closing the number of offices. This will destroy Social Security as we know it.

The union representing those workers said that high number of jobs slashed would "adversely undermine the ability of SSA to fulfill its responsibilities to the American people for the provision of Social Security benefits." The former Social Security commissioner, Martin O'Malley, said the drastic changes to staff "will lead to interruptions in service, ... ultimately leading to system collapse and eventually the interruption of benefits."

(con't)



FACT: Congressional Republicans are aiming to enact dramatic cuts to critical federal programs to extend 2017 tax breaks benefiting the billionaires.

They want to cut **\$880 billion dollars from Medicare and Medicaid,** another \$330 billion from student financial aid and loans, and \$230 billion from SNAP, which includes food stamps—all to give over four and a **half trillion dollars in tax cuts to the billionaires and corporations.** 

Meanwhile, most UAW families will end up paying more in taxes than even now, according to some estimates.

## BY THE NUMBERS:

Extending 2017 Tax Breaks for the billionaires: Up to \$4.5 trillion in tax cuts.

- In 2025, the top 1% will see an average of \$61,000 in tax cuts; the top 0.1% will enjoy an
  average of \$250,000
- Comparatively, the bottom 40% of income earners will see an average of under \$400 in tax cuts this year

Making Us Pay: At least \$2 trillion in spending cuts to critical programs

- \$880 billion in spending cuts that a nonpartisan agency is reporting will be impossible to achieve without **cuts to Medicaid or Medicare**
- These cuts would equal almost 11% of all Medicaid spending, impacting seniors who 30% of Medicaid spending supports.
- According to a study by the Economic Policy Institute, these cuts to Medicaid would cut the bottom fifth of household income by 7.4%.

# TAKE ACTION: THE WORKING CLASS FIGHTS BACK

UAW members say: STOP THE CUTS AND STAND UP FOR OUR FUTURE.

Contact your representative today to let them know that we will not stand for cuts to our hard-earned benefits.



opeiu494afl-cio



# AUTOMOBILE • AEROSPACE • AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS of AMERICA (HAM)

#### **UAW LOCAL 4911**

1010 River Street, Lansing, Michigan 48912

517-364-2270 \* Fax 517-364-2369

ad Qawwee II, President Charlene Watson, Financial Secretary/Treasurer 517-372-7201 x16 \* Fax 517-372-3118

#### NOMINATION AND ELECTION NOTICE

UAW Local 4911

#### Nomination of Local 4911 Officers

Nomination for the offices of President, Vice-President, Financial Secretary/Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Service Unit Chairperson, Technical Unit Chairperson, Skilled Trades Chairperson, SSH Chairperson, three (3) Trustees, Sergeant-at -Arms, Guide and Stewards will be conducted at the date, time and place indicated below:

> Date: May 8, 2025 Time: 7:00am - 5:00pm Place: UAW Local 4911 Office

Candidates must submit a written acceptance of nomination in person (no emails or phone calls will be accepted) to UAW Local 4911, 1010 River Street, Lansing, MI 48912, by 5:00 pm, on Thursday, May 8, 2025

No member shall be eligible for election as an Executive Officer of the Local Union until s/he has been a member in continuous good standing in the Local Union for one (1) year  $immediately\ prior\ to\ the\ nomination,\ except\ in\ the\ case\ of\ a\ newly\ organized\ Local\ Union.$ 

Election of UAW Local 4911 Officer, Chairpersons and Stewards

Date: May 22, 2025 Time: 7:00am - 8:00pm

Place: UAW Local 4911, 1010 River Street, Lansing, MI 48912

**RUN-OFF ELECTION** (if necessary) Date: May 29, 2025 Time: 7:00am - 8:00pm Place: UAW Local 4911, 1010 River Street, Lansing, MI 48912

LaYvonn Beatty, Local 4911 Election Committee Chairperson

"BUY AMERICAN • BUY UNION"



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

#### 1-Recording Secretary

Nomination Acceptance letters will be taken from April 28, 2025 - May 2, 2025. Letters to be dated no later than May 2, 2025 and emailed to all members of the Election Committee. Vickie Montgomery - vmontgomery@bcbsm.com

Jackie Nash – jnash@bcbsm.com Robert (Robin) Harris - rharris4@bcbsm.com

Campaign time frame is scheduled May 5, 2025 – May 13, 2025

Election will be held \*\*May 13, 2025\*\*

8:00a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Location - Lansing Office, 232 S. Capitol Ave.

Run-off Election date set for May 28, 2025

\*\*\*No Absentee ballots\*\*\*



# AUTOMOBILE • AEROSPACE • AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS of AMERICA (HAW)

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1010 River Street, Lansing, Michigan 48912

nad Qawwee II, President Charlene Watson, Financial Secretary/Treasurer 517-364-2270 \* Fax 517-364-2369

517-372-7201 x16 \* Fax 517-372-3118

## NOMINATION AND ELECTION NOTICE

Retirees Chapter 881 UAW Local 4911

# Nomination of Local 4911 Retiree Officers

Nomination for the offices of Chair, Vice Chair, Recording Secretary and Financial Secretary will be conducted at the date, time and place indicated below:

> Date: May 8, 2025 Time: 7:00am - 5:00pm Place: UAW Local 4911 Office

Candidates must submit a written acceptance of nomination in person (no emails or phone calls will be accepted) to UAW Local 4911, 1010 River Street, Lansing, MI 48912, by 5:00 pm, on Thursday, May 8, 2025.

Election of UAW Local 4911 Retiree Officers

Date: May 22, 2025 Time: 7:00am - 8:00pm Place: UAW Local 4911, 1010 River Street, Lansing, MI 48912

> **RUN-OFF ELECTION** (if necessary) Date: May 29, 2025 Time: 7:00am - 8:00pm

Place: UAW Local 4911, 1010 River Street, Lansing, MI 48912

LaYvonn Beatty, Local 4911 Election Committee Chairperson

"BUY AMERICAN • BUY UNION"

# Contact your local union leadership to let them know you're interested



# **UAW-Staff Council** VFW NATIONAL HOME



## **CHARITY GOLF & DINNER**

JUNE 20-21, 2025 - Black Lake Golf Club in Onaway, MI

A. PLATINUM GOLF PACKAGE:

- \$2,500 minimum donation
  PACKAGE INCLUDES:

  O Double occupancy lodging for Friday & Saturday
  Reception Friday evening

  18-holes of golf on Saturday (w/
  Breakfast & lunch on Saturday
  Reception/Dinner on Saturday
  Recognition as a Platinum Spor
  Recognition placement at a tee
- B. GOLD GOLF PACKAGE: \$1,600 minimum donation PACKAGE INCLUDES:
- Double occupancy lodging for Friday & Saturday Reception Friday evening
- 18-holes of golf on Saturday (v Breakfast & lunch on Saturday
- Reception/Dinner on Saturday Recognition as a Gold Sponso
- C. VETERANS TEAM PACKAGE:

# \$1,200 minimum donation PACKAGE INCLUDES:

Golf weekend sponsorship for 4 veterans (Package B inclusions) Receive recognition as a veteran supporter in our program D. TEE SPONSOR:

- \$200 or greater donation
  O Your sign proudly displayed at
  Receive recognition as a tee sponsor in our progra
- E. SUPPORTER SPONSOR:
- \$50 or greater donation

Receive recognition as a supporte in our program. Please share In Honor Of or In Memory Of if

ENTRY DEADLINE:

June 6, 2025 First Come/First Served

FORMAT:

Four Person Scramble 9:00am-Shot Gun Start

CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

STAFF COUNCIL CHARITY FUND

SEND

Staff Council Charity Fund C/O UAW Region 1D - Lansing 1010 River Street Lansing MI 48912

FOR ADDITIONAL

517-819-1490 SCOTT DEDIC 989-205-0360 CHAD WURTZEL 313-999-6593 RASHON BYRD 214-448-3490 DANNY TRULL JR.

WEBSITE: blacklakegolf.com GOLF: 1-989-733-GOLF (4653) LODGING: 1-866-UAW-GOLF

# **SCHEDULE:**

FRIDAY: Registration: Noon - 6pm Clubhouse

Lodging: Check-in after 3pm – Family Education Ctr Reception: 7pm – 8:30pm – Clubhouse

SATURDAY: Breakfast: 6:30am - 10am - Clubhouse Lunch: Clubhouse

Cocktails & Hors d'oeuvres: 6:30pm-7:30pm Dinner: 8pm – Main Lodge

SUNDAY: Lodging: Check-out by 10am

A special rate of \$45 is offered for those who wish to golf Friday, June 20th or Sunday, June 22nd.
You must ID yourself as playing in the outing to receive the discounted rate. Call Black Lake Golf Course for tee times 989-733-4653.

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# Go Vertical!

Whether you're looking to build credit, get cash back, receive a low rate, or gain rewards, LAFCU has a credit card to fit your needs.\*

With the newest addition of the Secured Credit Card, it can offer a valuable opportunity to build or rebuild credit by requiring a security deposit, providing peace of mind and financial flexibility.

Add your card to your digital wallet to make check out a breeze and setup alerts with LAFCU Card Control to keep your money safe.

**Secured** Credit Builder

Signature 1.5% Cash Back

**Rewards** Points on **Purchases** 

Simple **Low Fixed** Rate

VISA

VISA

Visit lafcu.com/creditcards



\*Membership is required. 1% foreign transaction fee where applicable. Certain terms, conditions and exclusions apply.





