A time of transitions
By Dean Poggiali, President, Local 724

It just seemed the other day that we were enjoying the sunshine and warm temperatures of summer. Now the sun only makes a cameo appearance and we are talking in terms of wind chill as it pertains to our temps.

Let us first start by again sending our condolences to the family of Dave McClelland on his recent passing. Dave was an integral part of the fabric of Local 724 for many years. From his time at Lindell Drop Forge, to his years of service as Financial Secretary at the Local, to his work at the Labor Liaison at the Capital Area United Way, Dave exhibited the right stuff in his advocacy of union people and the community. He was proud of his family, his country and his union. He was a source of information from the days of the past at the Local.

On a personal note, I was never able to, nor ever will be able to, repay his confidence as he supported and supported efforts to follow him at the Capital Area United Way. Without his support and mentoring I would not have ever thought that such a pathway was possible. I can honestly say that although we had not always kept in regular contact he was more than just my union brother, he was a friend. We will deeply miss him. Dave, as you look downtown from that big union hall in the sky, we will continue to make sure the print on the monthly Local Financial Report never goes back to being too small to read.

As we change our focus slightly: the JLL-Drayton, JLL-LGR, and JLL-TEAM Units ratified a new collective bargaining agreement. The new agreement included improvements in both economics and language. Congratulations to the membership for a job well done.

The local annual “Trunk or Treat” event was again a success. This year the Local 724 Women’s Committee partnered with the Local 652 Recreation Committee. The event allowed the kids to collect their much-desired treats in a safe environment, while allowing parents and grandchildren to spend some quality time together.

The annual Local outreach for hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, etc., will commence with the Holiday Tree of Warmth. Right around Thanksgiving the tree will go up and you are encouraged to bring in new or handmade items to place on the tree. Then the Local Women’s Committee and Community Service Committee will make sure that a deserving agency gets the outpouring to help the community.

Also, a reminder that the Local is collecting for the Toys for Tots drive. There is a collection box inside the hall and will be there until December 12. Call Dean at 203-5027 if you need to have someone collect your donations or would like to have a collection box at your worksite.

On December 15, the annual Local Christmas party for kids will be held. Because of some scheduled overtime at some of our units, the decision was made to have it on a Sunday from 1:30 pm to 4:00 pm. Please bring the kids and grandkids for some holiday fun.

We have touched on the community spirit exhibited by our members who have helped make our community a wonderful place to live and raise their children. We have also backed that spirit with our worksite United Way drives. The recently concluded drive held at RSDC yielded results that were close to $1,800 over last year. Bridgewater members helped contribute donations that were the highest total in their history with running campaign.

Speaking of Bridgewater, they ran a successful V-CAP facility drive. The outreach was favorable and many of the members took pride in the seats they build for the Cadillacs.

Over the years I have had the pleasure of engaging in conversation with a variety of people in different locations. One such location is the grocery store. I have had the occasion to speak with a retiree from UAW Local 652 on a variety of topics and at some times we just say hi. Recently we stopped to discuss the notion of restricting the right to vote, especially in the South. (I must apologize because I never got his name and I want to credit him for this profound insight.)

He mentioned that where these laws are being either instituted or proposed, the culture is anti-government, NASCAR and college football. What would happen if some of the socially conscious football or basketball recruits let their suitors know that until they have equal voting rights within their state they will not consider enrolling in their university and playing collegiate sports? Wouldn’t that get the alumni in a tizzy if the Crimson Tide or the Tarheels can’t field a competitive team? This isn’t just a racial thing but a quality of dignity. It would just take one brave recruit to take a stand.

We have touched on how we interact in our community in a variety of ways. For many of our families things are still a little uncertain and daily challenges still occur.

Let us take solace that we do live in a wonderful community that reaches out to those in need whenever possible. We can continue to honor the legacy of union activists like Dave McClelland by continuing to LIVE UNION and BE UNION.

May the wind be at your back and peace and joy within your soul.

Lansing Labor News

VOLUME 69, NUMBER 4
VOICE OF 27,000 UAW MEMBERS
DECEMBER, 2013

Inside: Region 1C Director Norwood Jewell, page 8.
The laws that affect unions

Everywhere we turn, we hear that politics and legislation is important in winning the fight for union benefits and if we are to survive, we must become involved and informed voters.

These words are expressed by many for good reason. Of the people shouting this from the rooftops, some are the very people who long ago were unaware of the issues affecting their pocketbook. These same people lost good-paying jobs and benefits do to their own apathy and a belief that “it won’t affect me.”

A lot of what happens around us isn’t important to us until we are forced to confront it face to face. Though we may have “received” the message, too often we don’t “get” the message until it’s too late.

There have been many laws and amendments made that have impacted workers’ rights in the United States, including the Right to Work laws that are again becoming an ever-present platform in politics. Prior to Right to Work, there were two important pieces of legislation that are important to understand; they are the Wagner Act (officially known as the National Labor Relations Act) of 1935 and the Taft-Hartley Act (officially known as the Labor-Management Relations Act) of 1947.

The Wagner Act is considered to be the most important labor legislation ever to be enacted in the United States. It institutes rights of employees to organize and join a union and to participate in collective bargaining through their representatives. It also allows workers to place pressure on employers by means of a strike. The Taft-Hartley Act was one of the most dramatic legislative measures of the New Deal and was an indication that the federal government was prepared to move against employers to enforce the Wagner Act. It was intended to unionize and to bargain collectively.

While the Wagner Act worked for the unions, the Taft-Hartley Act did the opposite. Voted by President Truman, the legislation was still pushed through to amend much of the Wagner Act. The act sought to weaken the powers of unions and was seen as a means of de-mobilizing the labor movement by imposing limits on labor’s ability to strike and by prohibiting people who were typically more active in union activities.

The Taft-Hartley Act is still in effect today, although some amendments have been made to it through the Landrum-Griffin Act of 1959, which sought to prevent union corruption and to guarantee union members that the unions will be run democratically. It is the Taft-Hartley Act that paved the way for Right to Work laws in the United States, which many argue are also a form of restricting labor union activity and weaken the effectiveness to fight for workers.

Proponents of Right to Work laws argue that the law promotes economic growth by attracting business which creates more jobs. They also argue that these laws are not anti-union, but pro-worker, providing workers the right to choose if they want to join in a union or not.

Opponents of Right to Work laws argue the opposite... that the law hurts not only our workers by weakening unions, but also our economy. Job growth may increase; however, wages, benefits and safety standards are historically much lower in Right to Work states. They also argue that it allows for “free loaders,” that is, people who take advantage of all of the benefits from a union contract without having to pay their share of the costs involved in representing their workforce.

Statistics are always capable of being twisted into which side you would like to support with them. While studies show that the growth in the South since Right to Work laws were enacted—which is a conservative’s large point—they also show that on average, these workers make $5,500 less a year than those in non-Right to Work states.

As Right to Work becomes more prominent, our society will change. The main goal of these laws is to strain and weaken unions, thus weakening a proven and effective system of giving workers a voice and fair play at livable wages, benefits, and safe working conditions. As big business in our country becomes more concerned with its bottom line rather than our economy or our working class, we need unions to step in and advocate as they have done in the past.

As more states pass these laws, or if the Republican Party succeeds in making Right to Work a federal law, we may see these same declines happen across our country. We are entering into new times where these laws of the past are now becoming our present and future and could have long-lasting negative effects on our economy. We may also see unions go extinct, thus losing a long valued system of workers’ voices and rights.

So where do we go from here? We must understand what will work and what won’t. Getting angry and getting even can go both ways. Both can have positive and negative results. For instance, stopping our dues or voting against our own best interest and the interests of our fellow workers to “prove a point” will do nothing more than accelerate the end to our existence. Standing against adversity with no end in sight requires an enormous amount of faith.

LOCAL 602
Bill Reed, President

Local 652 officers with the generous Toys for Tots donations this year. Left to right: Vice President Randy Freeman, Financial Secretary Bob Smith, and President Mike Green.

LOCAL 652
Mike Green, President

Reflections on 2013

Jan. 14, 2013 – Our year started out with the best news anyone could have asked for. Cadillac’s new ATS was named North American Car of the Year. We set the bar high, and industry, shown by the successful launch the ATS had. Thanks for the many honors we were given! Thank you Senator Debbie Stabenow, LAFECU credit union, area Chambers of Commerce, and many area businesses. When we’re successful, our community shares in that pride also!

March 26, 2013 – 2014 Cadillac CTS sedan unveiled the night before the New York Auto Show.

May 21, 2013 – A new facility, a stand-alone building, will be built at our Grand River facility, which will support the new Camaro launch. The site will bring 200 new UAW jobs to Lansing.

November 7, 2013 – The new Cadillac CTS for 2014 was honored with Motor Trend’s Car of the Year! (By anyone’s standard, we have experienced as many awards as anyone could wish for).

What were the announcements have in common? It’s our workforce in Lansing doing the best job anyone could ask for, proving again we can compete with anyone here at home in the U.S. or anywhere. Big thanks to you by the Lansing area workforce and Local 652 members.

Charitable giving

*The Breast Cancer Walk held in Lansing was another success. Local 652’s Women’s Committee, Local members, and 135 GM members joined to help find a cure for this dreaded disease. Our sincere thanks to Region 1C Director Norwood Jewell and Assistant Director Steve Dawes for their support of this annual event.

*Toys for Tots was a huge success this year. Lansing-area GM units raised just under $20,000 and more toys than I’ve ever seen. Along with other Lansing-area locals’ drives, we will help make a difference on Christmas morning. Again our members prove they are always willing to give back to our community where we live and work.

*As I write my article, we will have been out at the gates selling the Old Newsboys food. This fund-raising effort helps provide benefits and coats to the less fortunate in our community. Thanks for your donations!

Congratulations to the JCMC Unit on their ratification vote on their new local agreement, which passed by 89 percent approval. Thanks to Jim Ward, Unit Chair, and the Bargaining Team for a fine job!

I hope that everyone’s Christmas holiday is filled with joy. A bright New Year to everyone in our UAW family!
Local 602 retirees, and our Citizenship and Legislation Committee deserve a big round of applause for all their hard work. The Marines brought in the next Continued on page 9

LOCAL 652
Bob Smith, Financial Secretary
'Tis the season

Hard to believe that it’s almost Christmas again! Time sure flies when you’re having fun. I’d like to take a minute and remind everyone that this time of year, the holiday time, is a time of sharing. A time of volunteering to people that might not have as much as we do. Many people are still reeling from the great recession and may not be able to provide for their families as they would like to. Local 652 has partnered with many area organizations designed to help people in need. A couple I’d like to bring your attention are Toys for Tots and Newberps.

From www.ToysforTots.org:

"Toys for Tots" is a program run by the United States Marine Corps Reserve, which donates toys to children whose parents cannot afford to buy them gifts for Christmas. The mission of the program is to collect new, unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year, and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in the community in which the campaign is conducted. The stated goal is to "deliver, through a new toy at Christmas, a message of hope to less fortunate youngsters that will assist them in becoming responsible, productive, patriotic citizens.

On September 9th Local 652 joined other Lansing-area UAW Locals to hold a "Toys for Tots" Drive. The drive was a huge success with $200,000 in cash donations and many new toys collected. From www.lansingoldnewsboys.org:

Since 1924, Old Newsboys of Greater Lansing has been providing shoes and boots to deserving children. Last year we spent $182,000 on shoes, boots, and socks for 5,800 children. The Lansing tradition of raising money to provide shoes and boots for deserving school children began around 1910 when truant officer George E. Palmer established the Palmer Shoe Fund.

In 1924 the Old Newsboys Association, led by its first president R. Guy Blodgett, was organized to assist in the efforts begun by Palmer. The Old Newsboys cooperated with The State Journal and the Lansing Capital News to publish and sell a spoof newspaper during a one-day fund-raising drive. The "spoof" Edition sale is held on December 5 every year. In fact, December 5 is declared as "Old Newsboys Boys Day" in the state of Michigan. We at Local 652 would like to thank everyone who donates to these fine charities. It’s a testament to our workforce that so few can give so much to so many!

Congratulations …

To all our brothers and sisters who helped make the 2014 Cadillac ATS Motor Trend’s “Car of the Year.” This is a very prestigious award and as a follow-up to the 2013 ATS being named “North American Car of the Year,” proves that the workers in the Lansing area are the best around. Just a little suggestion to GM: If you want it built right, with world-class quality, bring it to the Lansing Chamara! I wonder what award we can get for that?

And more congratulations …

To all the volunteers who helped to elect our Lansing area UAW/CAP endorsed candidates, our winning candidate Mayor Virg Bernero and City Council Members Judi Brown Clarke, Kathie Dunbar, Tina Houghton, and Jessica Yorko. We look forward to working with this labor-friendly group.

Don’t forget the Annual Skilled Trades Christmas Meeting at Local 652 on December 12 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Food and beverage provided with a $3.00 donation at the door. We look forward to seeing you there!

LOCAL 724
Debra Mills, Financial Secretary
Happy Holidays

Hello Brothers and Sisters, it is that time of year again, the wonderful holiday season! UAW Local 724, along with the Women’s and Recreation committees, is having our Christmas Party on December 15 from 1:30 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. Santa will be here too! Please come and join us, there will be desserts, punch and coffee as well as activities and surprises for the children.

Each year our Holiday Warmth Tree Drive is a big success because we care about our fellow brothers and sisters out of work, let us share. A time of giving to people that may want to be making your list and we hope you will do just that.

Please drop off your items from December 1 to December 23 at the 724 Trades Christmas Meeting at Local 652 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or drop at your worksite.

Our sincere thanks ahead of time; I know everyone will be out shopping. Let’s remember to buy American and buy Union. With so many of Union brothers and sisters out of work, let us help our own this holiday season!

LOCAL 4911
Rose Van Schoick, Fin. Secretary

HOLIDAY GREETINGS!

For the past several months, I have not posted a column each week I have to change and adjust the "on/off" times on the automatic timer for our living room lamp. It is dark in the house most of the time, it seems like just a few weeks ago, we were coming in from the garden at 9:00 pm. This simple weekly act has driven home the fact that the days and months are passing by too quickly. And there is still so much to do. As of this writing, Thanksgiving is still a week away. However, I am hearing Christmas music on the radio and I am sure many merchants and shoppers alike are gearing up for the Black Friday sales and promotions. Once Thanksgiving has been feasted upon, we all know that Christmas is only a blink of the eye away. The hustle-bustle of the holiday shopping season is upon us. You may be looking at your wish list and checking it twice. As we approach this blessed holiday season, may we all spend time reflecting upon everything for which we have to be thankful.

Please keep in mind those that may be less fortunate this holiday season. Volunteer opportunities, food and clothing

Continued on page 9

LOCAL 652
Randy Freeman, Vice President

The purpose of unions

Today unions continue to serve the same purpose for which they were originally founded. Unions and collective agreements for wages and benefits are covered by the law, ensuring safe working conditions and increasing benefits for workers and their families.

Unions are important because most corporations focus on creating profits at the expense of employees, and are funding political machines to push through agendas that pit local, state and federal governments against the working class. The nature of work in America is changing. Unions are trying to shed responsibility for providing health insurance, good pension coverage, reasonable work companies are making workers’ jobs and lives more secure through downsizing, part-time, contracting out, and sending jobs off-shore. More than ever, working people need the collective voice and bargaining power
Dorothy Stevens
602 retirees
From Dorothy Stevens, Retiree Chair, UAW Local 602
This is a time of year for remembering everything that makes us grateful.
It is also a time for giving. Our soldiers in Afghanistan need phone cards so they can call their loved ones back home. Let’s make it a Merry Christmas for them and their families.

Following is a poem I would like to share with you:

Twas the night before Christmas, he lived alone,
in a one bedroom house made of plaster and stone.
I had come down the chimney with presents to give,
and to see just who in this home did live.
I looked all about, a strange sight I did see,
no tinsel, no presents, not even a tree.
No stocking hung by mantle, just boots filled with sand,
on the wall hung pictures of far distant lands.

With medals and badges, awards of all kinds,
as a soldier thought came through my mind.
For this house was different, it was dark and dreary.
I found the home of a soldier, once I could see clearly.
I realized that they had been there for many years,
and grownups would celebrate a bright Christmas Day.
They all enjoyed freedom each month,
for the soldiers, like the one lying here.
I couldn’t help wonder why they were alone,
and how they spent the Christmas Eve in land far from home.
The very thought brought a tear to my eye.
I dropped to my knees and started to cry.

The soldier awakened and I heard a rough voice,
“Santa don’t cry, this life is my choice;
I fight for freedom, I don’t ask for more,
my life is my God, my Country, my Corps.”
The soldier rolled over and drifted to sleep.
I couldn’t control it, I continued to weep.

I hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving.
Moving forward into the Christmas season, wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday with your friends and family.

The following is our monthly schedule of events:
First Tuesday of the month is Bingo. The games start at 5:00 p.m.
Third Tuesday of the month is our potluck dinner and business meeting. Bring your own table service and a dish to pass. Dinner starts at noon.
Fourth Tuesday of the month is card night starting at 5:00 p.m. Card night is for Locals 652 and 602. Our bingo night, potluck/business meeting, and social night are for Local 652 retirees, spouses, and associate members only.

This is a time of year for remembering our soldiers in Afghanistan who need phone cards.
No ex–soldiers hung by mantle, just boots filled with sand, on the wall hung pictures of far distant lands.

Dorothy Stevens

Mike Bauer
652 retirees
Hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving.
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The soldier lay sleeping, silent, alone.
For this house was different, it was dark and dreary.
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Laura Clark
1753 retirees
I hope Thanksgiving found each of you enjoying your home, family and friends. We as union members have this Union to be thankful for. So many others are suffering through this downturn.

The thinking of the season, at last month’s meeting we decided to donate to Toys for Tots; the previous meeting supported Old Boys. If you bought one of these T-shirts on December 5, you can see our local’s name in it as an early contributor. When you buy the paper, you get a shoe or boot for kids, letting them go to school. We can all be proud of the efforts of our group to help others in the area, especially children.

We like to have fun in between meetings. Next month filled with food. Then someone else can take it on.

Our trip on the Michigan Princess went well, but might be the last, as we only had 17 people.

The Tigers game was a very good time.
We will have another one for sure.

The pancake breakfast was great.
The bake sale will be back, as people asked for it. We would like to sell tickets beforehand, so give us a heads-up.

When they medicare and BC/BS won’t work, thank the Lord for it. The money it would have cost me was unreal. I know they take it out of our Social Security every month, but still, think about it.

Hopefully Connie Dunn is working on some trips. She needs ideas, so help her out 517-323-2146.

We could use more retirees to check in at the Local 1753 hall on the second Wednesday of the month and join us.
We do have lots of fun.

We met there for a tasting. Uncle John’s Turkey Jerky, Shepardsville party store play.

I have covered everything from benefits to politics and more, understanding how politics affect our lives. At the Center, I have helped a great group of active workers, cooked and handed out hot dogs and treats to both shifts. This yearly event is a great way for the local to “treat” the membership.

Our local also had couples on each of Region 1C’s three buses to Branson, Mo. We think this will be only the first of many. I plan to do more of these.

May next month be filled with food. Then someone else can take it on.

Till we meet again, keep smiling.

Lois Schultz
1618 retirees
Hi out there, all you wonderful people! It’s been a while, but I am back.

The 1753 Christmas Memorial went well, but cold. John Taschner and rollyan Gattow brought flyers. They have a Veterans Special. Check it out.

Jean and Artie Caudill made it up with hats and patches for the Mission. So good to see them! A associate dues next month ($24).

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. May we all have a wonderful year.

Good Day.

Till we meet again, keep smiling.
HEALTHCARE BUILT UAW STRONG

Great News for Lansing Area UAW Members!

HealthPlus is excited to announce that GM employees living in Clinton and Ingham counties are now eligible to enroll in HealthPlus. When considering your health plan options, choose HealthPlus — one of the nations' highest-rated health plans.*

For over 30 years General Motors, HealthPlus and the UAW have partnered to provide union members with exceptional health coverage. Like you, we are dedicated to building and delivering industry-leading products of the highest quality.

• Receive your prescriptions through monthly refills or mail order
• 24/7 urgent and emergency care, no matter where you travel
• A team devoted to meeting your needs, answering your questions, and helping you fully understand your coverage

Congratulations on building Motor Trend’s 2014 Car of the Year — the 2014 Cadillac CTS Sedan!

Enroll with HealthPlus in one easy step:
Call the GM™ benefits center at 1-800-489-4646.

Still have questions about HealthPlus?
Call 1-800-332-9161 or Email laborsupport@healthplus.org

HealthPlus
The Right Plan for a Healthier You™

HealthPlus employees are proud members of UAW Local 1811.

*HealthPlus of Michigan is ranked as one of the “highest-rated” insurance plans in the nation according to NCQA's Health Insurance Plan Rankings—Private, 2013-13. NCQA is an independent not-for-profit organization dedicated to measuring the quality of America's health care.
Warmest thoughts and best wishes for a wonderful Holiday Season and a very Happy New Year.
– UAW Local 602 Leadership

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

Alliance Interiors • Bridgewater Interiors
Dakkota • Delta Dental • Dimondale Nursing Center
Dr. Pepper/Snapple • Huntsman • IMPCO
JLL-Drayton • JLL-LGR • JLL-Team
Lear Mason • RSDC • Woodbridge Lansing
Serving the membership since 1940
450 Clare St., Lansing, MI 48917
517-482-7377
General Membership Meeting Second Tuesdays of the month at 5:00 p.m.
We wish you happy holidays and a bright new year!

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

Happy Holidays!

UAW Region 1C
wishes you and your family a
Safe and Happy Holiday Season

Norwood Jewell, Director
Steve Dawes, Assistant Director
Staff & Support Staff
Happy Holidays

A message from Norwood Jewell
UAW Region 1C Director

I cannot believe it is this time of year already. First, I would like to thank and congratulate our members and retirees who staffed the phone booths and walked door to door for our candidates on a fantastic job in helping elect the UAW endorsed candidates for the City of Lansing. With your help and the support of our members we were able to get the job done! I would also like to thank all of you for your support in 2013 when you were asked to march, rally and support our great institution.

With the holidays fast approaching, I am very grateful and thankful to all of you for your support of our members we were able to make a difference this past year that was 2013, what was accomplished, what wasn’t accomplished, and then give some thought to 2014 because this coming year will be an important one for the UAW and the Labor Movement. 2014 will be a time of transition in our UAW leadership. At the international UAW, leaders who have dedicated years of their lives to our great union—men like Bob King, Joe Ashton, and General Holyfield—will be stepping aside and handing the mantle over to a new group of leaders at the 26th Constitutional Convention. At the Local level, memberships will be deciding if their leaders have provided them with good stewardship and service over the last three years as they hold general elections. In these difficult times the choices we make as to who will lead the UAW carry great weight.

Additionally, the coming year will be a time for the voters of Michigan to decide if they want to continue with the pro-corporation, pro-financial elite, anti-worker, anti-woman, anti-family policies of Governor Rick Snyder and his deep pocket allies like Dick DeVos. Or choose a governor who supports working people and working families, like Mark Schauer. The damage done to the middle class in Snyder’s first term is horrific; what would he destroy in a second term?

Yes, 2014 will be a time for Unionists throughout the state to give of themselves, body and soul, in the hopes of making a better tomorrow for ourselves, our children, our grandchildren, and beyond. There will be hard work and hard times, when temperatures will flare and we will not be our best selves. That being said, I have a few things I will be trying to keep in mind for the new year. Not resolutions so much as aspirations. Additionally, the coming year will be a time for the voters of Michigan to decide if they want to continue with the pro-corporation, pro-financial elite, anti-worker, anti-woman, anti-family policies of Governor Rick Snyder and his deep pocket allies like Dick DeVos. Or choose a governor who supports working people and working families, like Mark Schauer. The damage done to the middle class in Snyder’s first term is horrific; what would he destroy in a second term?

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Flying, it costs us nothing to be nice, and so, in the coming year I will try to be kind, to the bigger person. I will aspire to understand things from others’ points of view. I won’t immediately assume anyone who has a problem is just trying to shirk their responsibility or get out of work. Even with those people I dislike I will acknowledge their accomplishments and try to lift them up when they fail. I will be magnanimous in victory and gracious in defeat.

Lastly, I will try to recognize my own faults and weaknesses. I will try to retrain myself from seeing people as I want them to be, not as they are. And the same goes for me, I will see myself for who I am, not who I want to be. Certainly, there will be times that I will fail to live up to these goals, but there is, I think, value in the attempt.

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

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

Season’s Greetings from the officers and members of Local 2256

Local 652 Skilled Trades Christmas Meeting
Thursday, December 12 from 3:00-7:00 p.m.
For active and retired skilled trades employees who are members of Local 652. $3 donation. Food and drink provided. At the Local 652 Hall, 426 Clare St, Lansing. For more info, call the hall at 372-7581.

Greetings from

Local 652
Scott R. Lounds
Recording Secretary

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Recording Secretary

Thoughts on the new year

This Holiday season I hope you and yours stay safe in your travels and take time to enjoy the fellowship of friends and family. Take some time to give thought to the year that was 2013, what was accomplished, what wasn’t accomplished, and then give some thought to 2014 because this coming year will be an important one for the UAW and the Labor Movement. 2014 will be a time of transition in our UAW leadership. At the international UAW, leaders who have dedicated years of their lives to our great union—men like Bob King, Joe Ashton, and General Holyfield—will be stepping aside and handing the mantle over to a new group of leaders at the 26th Constitutional Convention. At the Local level, memberships will be deciding if their leaders have provided them with good stewardship and service over the last three years as they hold general elections. In these difficult times the choices we make as to who will lead the UAW carry great weight.

Additionally, the coming year will be a time for the voters of Michigan to decide if they want to continue with the pro-corporation, pro-financial elite, anti-worker, anti-woman, anti-family policies of Governor Rick Snyder and his deep pocket allies like Dick DeVos. Or choose a governor who supports working people and working families, like Mark Schauer. The damage done to the middle class in Snyder’s first term is horrific; what would he destroy in a second term?

Yes, 2014 will be a time for Unionists throughout the state to give of themselves, body and soul, in the hopes of making a better tomorrow for ourselves, our children, our grandchildren, and beyond. There will be hard work and hard times, when temperatures will flare and we will not be our best selves. That being said, I have a few things I will be trying to keep in mind for the new year. Not resolutions so much as aspirations.
Let us not forget,

UAW Veteran’s Committees

Let us not forget,

the empty seat at the Holiday dinners;

Let us not forget, the families that live day by day with that void especially during this Holiday Season;

Let us not forget, the children whose parents are deployed during their schools’ Holiday recitals;

Let us not forget, as we awake Christmas morning to a lighted tree and opening of gifts, some will remain unopened and may be never opened;

Let us not forget, the Veteran who bears the scars from their service; they remember comrades who died, while they have returned;

Let us not forget, those of our current US Military who have given all to further the virtuous goals of those great men and women who first declared and fought for independence; that our country could become this United States of America.

Let us not forget, those Veterans who took the risk imposed by their oath to defend this nation, and who bear the burdens of Military Service;

On behalf of Region 1-C Veteran’s Association, the Veteran Committees of UAW Local 602, 652, 1753, in “Thank you” for supporting the causes of our organizations and wish you and yours a Very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous 2014 Happy New Year! And let us not forget…

Reed

Continued from page 2

and dedication, but if we can begin to believe in ourselves and take a stand for just a little while longer, we can and we will make a positive difference. Each one of us who belongs to a union is the union. If we don’t like how something is done, we have the option personally to get involved, but only we have the power, collectively, to change it. Without unions, the best defenses we have written within the guidelines of The Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). I’ll let you do your own research on that one.

Howard

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 event, the Toys for Tots campaign. Once again, this event was a huge success due to our great membership and their generosity. When we come together as one, we can bring about extraordinary results.

Next, we had our annual Thanksgiving dinner drive, sponsored by the Women’s Committee and supported by our E-Board and other Local 602 committees. It was our most successful dinner drive to date. Many UAW and community families in need will receive a wholesome meal because of your contributions.

Each year, I eagerly look forward to all the festivities of the holiday season. It’s a time to join with family and friends to give thanks and bring joy to others. Year after year, Local 602’s committees and members generously donate their time and money to help those in need. I am amazed by our Local’s accomplishments. Keep up the excellent work.

When preparing your holiday meals and searching for the perfect gifts, our Union Label Committee encourages you to emphasize Union-made and American-made goods and services. Go to our www.unionlabel.org or www.buycott.com for helpful hints. Make your holiday Union-made by taking the “Buy Union Pledge.”

As a reminder, the Hall will be closed from December 20, 2013 to January 2, 2014. Wishing all of our members a very happy holiday!

Van Schoick

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requests are abundant at many community organizations, such as the City Rescue Mission, Volunteers of America, local area food banks, etc. Our UAW Labor Liaison, Dean Poggioli, states an annual request for donations of warm clothing. The need is especially acute in the winter season. I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous 2014 Happy New Year!

Peter Beaudoin

Continued on next page
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William J. Hamilton – Father of Joe Hamilton, Material
Pauline Burns – Mother of Barbara Bokovoy, Retired Body Shop and Mother-in-law of Mike Bokovoy, Retired Body Shop and Quality
Isidro Hinajosa, Jr. – Retired Body Shop (Underbody Pans)
Chris Jones – Quality Control (Body/Paint)
Ullah Taylor – Mother of Jill Grissowld, Quality Control (General Assembly)
Denise Jackson – Mother of Tameca Jackson, General Assembly Trim 2
Richard Jackson – Husband of Kathy Jackson, Retired
Sharon Kindel – Wife of Raymond Kindel, Retired Trim
William Newton, Sr. – Retired
Frances J. Dawson – Mother of Ray Dawson, Material (Body) and Mother-in-law of Anna Dawson, Underbody
Gene Bancroft – Father of Ronald Bancroft, AGV
Thanks for the lovely Bible and your support… The Family of Mervin Smith
Dear Local 602: I want to thank you for the Bible given to me in remembrance of my husband, Norman R. Wells. It was greatly appreciated. Sincerely… Joann Wells

652 Obituaries

Don Armstead – Retiree
Jameson Arnett – Son of Tom and Kristofer Arnett
Cindy I. Barrus – Spouse of Thomas Barrus
Patricia Braun – Mother of Mark Braun
Ronald Levi Brown – Father of Dan Brown
Pauline Burns – Spouse of William Burns
Shirley Casner – Retiree
Rodney Chaffee – Son of Ed Chaffee
Steven Courtland – Retiree
Duane Cross – Retiree
Marilyn Sue Czarnecki – Mother of Don Czarnecki
Dorothy Degner – Mother of Jerry Degner
Mary D. Delamarter – Mother of Dick Jensen
Mark Elliott – Retiree
Thomas Eveleth – Retiree
Connie L. Fish – Spouse of Larry D. Fish
Michael J. Hill – Retiree, Father of Mike Hill
Pamela J. Irelan – Spouse of Rocky G. Irelan

Steven Kibbey – Retiree
Theodore “Ted” Lone – Father of Richard Lone
Charles Lonier – Retiree
Jacob T. “Jack” Metzmaker – Retiree
LeRoy Mix – Retiree
Charles Moore – Father of Dave Moore
Larry Morris – Retiree
Tonia L. O’Berry – Retiree
Donna R. Roberts – Mother of Gerald “ChooChoo” Roberts
Gerald R. Roberts II – Son of Gerald “ChooChoo” Roberts
Donald F. Rockafellow – Retiree, Brother of Robert and Keith Rockafellow
Eraldo Servantes – Father of Ruben Servantes
David R. Silvas – Retiree, Spouse of Teresa Silvas
Robert Smith – Retiree
Clifford Stackman – Retiree
Dennis Stanke – Spouse of Alice Stanke
Ron A. Thelen – Retiree
Margie Vandecar – Mother of Steve Vandecar
Clarence W. Weber Jr. – Retiree
Duane Cross – Retiree
Marilyn Sue Czarnecki – Mother of Don Czarnecki

Thank-You’s were received from:
The Dorothy Degner family

Local 724 thank you

The family of David McClelland wishes to thank all who have shown support at our time of loss. His friends at Mystic Lake YMCA Camp, and the staff and board of the Capital Area United Way, for the lovely arrangements. The officers, members, and staff of Local 724 for the flowers and the beautiful Bible. His brothers and sisters from Locals 724 and 652, the Lansing Labor News, and all his golfing buddies, for their condolences and a story or two. We truly appreciate what you have done for us at this difficult time. Sincerely, The McClelland Family
Rapaport, Pollok, Farrell, & Waldron

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