

YOUR VOTE SYOUR VOICE



REGION 1A DIRECTOR'S REPORT

> by Laura **DICKERSON**

Greetings Region 1A Retirees,

t this time, there is much to think about in the world, today. The war against ▲ Ukraine, the resurgence of Covid-19 numbers and inflation. Also, higher gas prices, as well as the inflated prices of goods and services. For retirees, inflation causes a major impact, as you are on fixed incomes with very little relief. There is also talk of a possible recession.

As we prepare to move into the midterm election cycle, inflation is one of the main concerns. It really makes you consider who you are voting for in the upcoming

election. Here at the Region, most of the endorsements have been completed. Information will be sent out soon on who received endorsements from Region 1A.

There are several things to think about as you prepare to vote. Absentee ballots will be available on September 29, 2022. The last day to register to vote is October 24, 2022, other than in person at your Clerk's office. November 4, 2022 is the last day to request an absentee ballot to be mailed via first class mail. November 7, 2022 is the last day to request an absentee ballot in person at your Clerk's office, and the General Election is November 8, 2022.

As retirees, remember your vote counts! TV commercials for candidates running for Governor are starting to run regularly with promises of what they will do when elected. With that, I think we all need to think about our current Governor, who has led this state through a pandemic and what starts to be some of the worst economic times in decades. However, she understands retirees and, more importantly, Labor.

Labor Unions drive the economy in the

State of Michigan and we will continue to do our part to make sure our voices are heard by endorsing and re-electing Governor Gretchen Whitmer. Some of her campaign promises surround repealing the pension tax and providing \$500 rebate checks to Michigan's working families. Money that can definitely be used, right now.

Also, our Governor has been working hard to protect a woman's right to choose in the state of Michigan, regarding the recent reversal of Roe vs. Wade. This election will boil down to this key issue, as well as, several others that are important to us and our work on social justice.

Governor Whitmer has been a great friend to the UAW, this Region, and working families. As Walter Reuther once said. "There's a direct relationship between the ballot box and the bread box..." That statement is so true today, especially as we continue to deal with these tough economic times.

Lastly, I just want to add that I appreciate everyone's support as we work hard to protect our Union and fight for working families!

RETIRED WORKERS COUNCIL REGION 1A Bob Sisler, Chairman

SCHEDULE OF FALL MEETINGS:



Retirees, Trips to Mackinac Island and the Casino, Bingo, and absolutely plenty of food for all! Unless you have experienced the UAW Education Center at Black Lake and Walter Reuther's vision, you just don't know what you have been missing.

OCTOBER 27

Open House

(All UAW retirees Invited)

NOVEMBER 17 Delegate Meeting

DECEMBER 8

Retiree Christmas Party

Crystal Gardens, Southgate

FALL 2022 Advisory Council Repor

by Yvonne Harris, Retired Workers Delegate



Information from Your International UAW **Retired Workers Advisory Council**

Hello Everyone,

I pray all is well. Sorry to say, summer is now over and the snow birds are about to pack up and leave.

Be safe in your travels.

I would like to welcome all new retirees. Please sign up for the (voluntary) V-CAP and (voluntary) Retiree Union Dues. Spouses can sign up to become an Associate member. As your Retired Workers, Advisory Council Delegate, I received valuable information I would like to share with you.

Mask-Up

Remember, this is flu season and there are Covid booster shots available, as well. As a reminder, Covid-19 test kits are available to every home in the United States. Please go to the online site at COVIDtests.gov for more information and to order. We owe it to each other to be as safe as possible. Get vaccinated!

The UAW Retiree Medical Benefits Trust

The VEBA Trust has started attending inperson meetings. Hopefully, you are able to attend your UAW Local meetings to hear and ask questions regarding the changes coming in 2023. You will be receiving new information in September 2022 concerning these changes. Please keep all 2023 Benefits Highlights booklet information.

If you have any questions or if you want to make changes to your coverage, contact Retiree Health Care Connect (RHCC) at 866-637-7555 or *UAWtrust.org*.

Please Remember To Use OTC Program

By using the new Over-the-Counter (OTC) Program (Annual Allowance), you can place your order by *phone*, *online* or with the *order* form. Remember, the unused benefits will not carry over into the next year. You must use your full benefits amount before December 31, 2022. If you don't use it this year, you could lose \$50 to \$150 of the Annual Allowance. Items are shipped directly to your home. This is a great benefit. Use it!

Update Your Information

Please remember to update your information with your Local Union and/or your Retired Regional Coordinator. Report any change of home address, phone, or email address. It's vital that you keep your information current. Contact Region 1A via Jeff Morris at (313) 291-2750.

Legal Service Plan

UAW Stellantis-Ford-General Motors, it's your benefits... use it. Whether members are Active, Retired and Spouses/Surviving Spouses of eligible members, a case intake specialist will verify your eligibility, explain the coverage available for your matter, and refer you to an attorney. They emphasize service by phone at 313-202-8099 (direct office) or an email to georgiba@uawlsp.com. This benefit was first bargained for us by our Union in 2015 and improved in 2019 through our National Negotiations. Let's use it.

Region IA

The Black Lake Retiree Retreat held July 31 thru August 2002 was a success. The health and safety of the membership was most important. With that in mind, they did everything possible to keep us safe, with single rooms for all visitors, and the number of members was limited to ensure bus safety.

The bus captains (Ms. Pat, Mr. Charles and I) did a fantastic job getting us to and from our destinations as safely as possible. Many thanks.

The food was plentiful and delicious. We enjoyed the great company of the membership. It was so much fun with BINGO, a movie, shopping and visiting Mackinac Island. The weather was a little cool, but the company (members) was priceless. Hope to see you next

Many thanks to our Regional Director, Ms. Laura, Assistant Director Mr. Dave, and UAW International Retired Workers Director Ms. Leigh for coming and sharing their time and information. Region 1A Retirees Coordinator Mr. Jeff Morris and the Retirees Executive Board members did a great job. Also, many thanks to the attendees. You made the trip worth it. We thank you!

The Annual Retired Workers Council Picnic at Newport Firemen's Park was very relaxing and enjoyable. The weather was great and the caterers served us well... great job! There were also many happy BINGO winners. Thanks on a job well done to Region 1A and the Retired Workers Council.

DATES TO REMEMBER

October: Receiving ballots to vote for the IEB (International Executive Board) and your Regional and Assistant Directors. Please make your vote count and return back ASAP.

November: Don't forget your Absentee Ballots, take your soul to the polls and, friend... Vote, Vote, Vote! Our Gubernatorial Election is November 8, 2022. "There is a direct relationship between the ballot box and the bread box..." Believe it!

December: The Region 1A Retired Workers Council Christmas Party will be held at Crystal Gardens, 16703 Fort St., Southgate, MI on Thursday, December 8, 2002 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for dues payers and their guest, and are slightly higher for non-dues payers. Hope to see you there.

Scammers and Thieves

Please stay alert concerning your surroundings as well as on your phones. Do't give out personal information. Hang up when you hear:

- any request for your Medicare numbers
- any request for your bank or private accounts
- any request for you to pay a police valuation over the phone
- any request for you to send money to a grandchild in trouble. Please always verify.
- Hang up if you feel threatened to make a payment now – utilities, internet service, insurance companies, etc.
- The IRS will not call

Be Your Best Security!

"WE ARE ONE"

I would like to send my condolences and prayers to the families and close friends of our members passed. I also send speedy recovery wishes to my Sisters and Brothers recuperating. Get well soon.

To our Hispanic Brothers and Sisters a "Happy Hispanic Month."

God Bless You, God Bless America and God Bless the UAW.

2022 INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTIONS

In accordance with results of the UAW Referendum held in the fall of 2021, the International Officers of the UAW will be elected directly by members who cast votes for nominated candidates. The Court-appointed Monitor of the UAW will supervise the Election. In consultation with the UAW, the Monitor has developed detailed election rules and methods for the Election.

All UAW members in good standing as of October 31, 2022 are eligible to vote in the Election, including members who are part-time workers, reinstated members, and retired members.

In order to have your vote counted in the Election, your mail-in ballot must be received by the final deadline of **November 28**, **2022**. It is strongly encouraged that all return ballots be placed in return mail by **November 18**, **2022** in order to ensure arrival by the deadline.

The Constitution and the Consent Decree enumerate eligibility requirements to run for or hold International Office, which are also set forth in the Election Rules. Among other requirements, a Candidate must be an active, non-retired member in good standing for 12 months prior to nomination and election.

Please watch for your ballot in your October mail.

- Reprinted from the UAW webpage

Union Label Committee Report

by Linda (Kay-Kay) Hayes, UAW Local 600 Retiree



This holiday season, be sure to shop and purchase Americanmade and Unionmade goods and services.

Use this graphic at right to easily find some of the most common holiday purchases.

Stay safe and enjoy the upcoming holidays with friends and family.

Finding Union-Made goods and services is just a TEXT AWAY!

Text CARS to 22555 for union-made vehicles

Text AIRLINE to 22555 for union-friendly airlines

Text HOTEL to 22555 for union-friendly hotels

Text BEER to 22555 for union-made beer

Text WINE to 22555 for union-made wine

Text TOYS to 22555 for union-made toys

Text CANDY to 22555 for union-made candy





Congratulations to our 2022 RETIREE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



ALYCE GRAVES-KIRK **Scholarship Committee** Member and major **Fundraiser** (Deceased) awards \$1,000 to:

MADISYN TRAVIS

U of M-Ann Arbor

Mother[,]

Charlette Travis Local 6000



JEFF WASHINGTON Retired **Local 900 President** awards \$1,000 to:

REGINALD D. HARPER II

Michigan State University

Grandmother: **Ivory Johnson** Local 900







LAURA DICKERSON **Region 1A Director** awards \$1,000 to:

JONATHAN GIDLEY

Central Michigan University

Father: **Robert Gidley** UAW Local 163

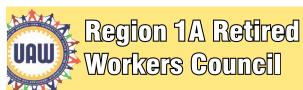
ROY GONZALEZ Retiree Advisory Council Alternate awards \$1,000 to:

EMILY SAKSEWSKI

Lyman Briggs Residential College

Grandfather: Stanley Francis Saksewski (Deceased)

"The Core Values of American Democracy" (Where are our Core Values Today?)



REGION 1A DIRECTOR

Laura Dickerson

ASSISTANT 1A DIRECTOR

Dave Pagac

DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY

Christine Neal

RETIREE COORDINATOR

Jeff Morris

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

BOB SISLER, LU 6000, Chair

PEACHES ANDERSON, LU 600 1st Vice Chair

RICH EBERHART, LU 3000 2nd Vice Chair

LINDA "Kay Kay" HAYES, LU 600 Recording Secretary

KATIE MARTIN, LU 900 Financial Secretary

STERLING MULLINS, LU 735 Executive Board Member-at-Large

RICHARD CUSTER, LU 600 Executive Board Member-at-Large

CHARLES MARTIN, LU 227 Sergeant-at-Arms

PAT GRECA, LU 898, Guide

YVONNE HARRIS, Delegate, LU 36

ROY GONZALEZ, Alternate, LU 163 Advisory Council Members

STANDING COMMITTEES

Union Label..... Linda K. Hayes, LU 600 Legislation Richard Custer, LU 600 Editorial......Maria Winters, LU 845 Bylaws Katie Martin, LU 900 CAP....Leroy Watson, LU 600 Veterans Pat Greca, LU 898 Richard Custer, LU 600 Civil Rights...... Peaches Anderson, LU 600 Consumers/ Protection Issues Linda K. Hayes, LU 600 Finance Katie Martin, LU 900 Scholarship..... Richard Custer, LU 600 ResolutionsSterling Mullins, LU 735

Shirley Poling, LU 735

Fundraising Katie Martin, LU 900 Healthcare.....Jim Barczyk, LU 372

Gwen Lester, LU 735

Black Lake Retreat Program

Yvonne Harris, LU 36 Linda K. Hayes, LU 600

Region 1A RETIREE NEWS

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

MARIA WINTERS, Editor, LU 845 BOB SISLER, Ex-Officio

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All communications become the property of the Retiree News. Letters to the Editor should be kept to 200-250 words and the Editorial Committee is solely responsible for selecting any correspondence for reprint in the Retirees News. All items selected are subject to edit.

Vote, Vote, Vote!

Greetings to our Retired Brothers and Sisters of UAW Local 36 (Wixom) former home of the mighty Lincolns-TBirds,

I am praying I find you well. Thank you to all who attend our meetings and those who want to, but for your reasons won't allow. See you soon.

The 2022 summer is now behind us. It was short, sweet, and sometimes just right. I am not much of a hot weather lady myself, but I hope you enjoyed it.

UAW will be sending "UAW voting" ballots out in mid-October asking you to vote for the IEW (International Executive Board) and your UAW Regional Director and Assistant Director. Know your candidates, then please vote and send your response back ASAP. *Vote, Vote, Vote!*

Our meetings are the third Monday of each month (except January, February, and March) at 10:30 a.m. The location is UAW Local 182, at 35603 Plymouth Road, Livonia MI 48150. By

the way, there is a "One Call Now" reminder sent out each month before the meetings. You must sign up to receive this call.

Dates To Remember

November 8, 2022, is the Election Day. Most of you are Absentee Ballot voters. Please make your vote count, know your candidates, and the proposals on the ballot. This is our right and the future for ourselves, as well as for our families. No matter where they move the line... we will vote. Solidarity forever!

November 21, 2022 – The VEBA Trust will be the guest speakers at our meeting, discussing the changes coming for 2023. Hopefully, you are able to attend with your questions and concerns. Please *keep* your 2023 Benefits Highlights booklets.

December 8, 2022 – The Region 1A Retired Workers will host their Christmas Party on Thursday, December 8th, from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at Crystal Gardens, 16703 Fort St., Southgate. Tickets will be available for \$10.00 for dues-payers and slightly higher for non-dues payers. Retiree Union dues are voluntary. Please sign up for \$3.00 a month.

December 19, 2022 – Come join us. UAW Local 36 Retirees will host their Christmas luncheon at Local 182 at 10:30 a.m. We are accepting hats, gloves, and socks for seniors in nursing homes, and coffee for veterans.

Black Lake Retiree Retreat

Region 1A's Black Lake Retiree Retreat was

very nice. The weather was a little cool, the bus ride was pleasant, the food is always enjoyable and plentiful, and there were many nice people there. Many thanks to Retired Workers Coordinator Jeff Morris, and the Retired Workers Executive Board. *Good job!*

Many former and Retired members of UAW Local 36 Ford Wixom enjoyed a long overdue reunion at UAW Local 182. What a great time, with shared reminiscing and the weather was perfect.

Many "Thank yous" to our Local 36 Executive Board for all they do and their support. A special "Thank you" to our brother Mr. Greg (Flip) Wilson for the heartfelt prayers you deliver to us. God Bless.

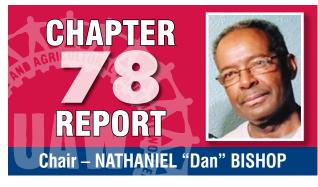
It's Flu Season

Thank you to the UAW Local 182 Retiree Chapter for offering to us, Local 36, to take part in getting flu shots on 9-8-2022. It's offered during their monthly meeting through Kroger.

In Closing

Our hearts are filled with pain and sorrow, as many of our brothers and sisters have passed. Please keep their families in your prayers. Prayers also are much needed for the sick and shut-ins.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the next meeting. I will do my best to keep you posted on any further information. To all our Local 36 Chapter brothers and sisters, stay safe, and may God bless.



Don't Believe The "Big Lie"

As we conclude the summer months, I hope that each of you and your family was able to share some enjoyable times. It is quite amazing how fast our summer days go by.

So, with the fall months upon us, which will no doubt bring many (and I say, many) challenges to each of us and our families, we need to make sure we are truly anchored and ready to weather the approaching storms of life.

You would think after over two years of the pandemic and a very turbulent election, we would be experiencing less anxiety and uncertainty. Unfortunately, that isn't the case. It is quite apparent we're seeing and feeling the residual impact of the pandemic all around us, daily. And, with the results of the 2020 Presidential election, which gave us a new President and also brought on an unimaginable falsehood and many outcries of the miscounting of ballots, and lie after lie about the election having been stolen.

You would think after over two years into the past election of 2020, things would settle down and return to a sense of being normal. But, throughout our nation, we are seeing and hearing how the "Big Lie" has almost turned this nation upside down, and has threatened our election procedures. It is unbelievable the number of those who say the 2020 election was rigged, and are fighting the battle to undo the results.

So, as we are moving quickly toward the nation's mid-term election, the dark cloud of the "Big Lie" is hovering over it. The question for most voters in this mid-term election will not be on our current issues and new policies, but it will be on the "Big Lie," which is so unfortunate. The true balance

and direction of our nation will be on the ballot come November 8, 2022. Don't allow any of the distractions, or each "lie after lie" lead you in the wrong direction.

Make sure you and all of your family members are registered to vote!

A special expression of sympathy goes out to the families of those members or spouses who may have passed away.

Reminders

We are meeting on the third Wednesday of each month, 10:00 a.m., at UAW Local 245, 1226 Monroe St., Dearborn, MI. *Come on out and join us*.

Union dues are \$3.00 per month. You can pay at our Regular Meeting or send a check to:

REGION 1A

9560 Telegraph Rd., Taylor, MI 48180

Local 78 Union Dues – Check payable to INTERNATIONAL UNION UAW.

If you have any questions concerning your pension check or any other personal matters related to your retirement:

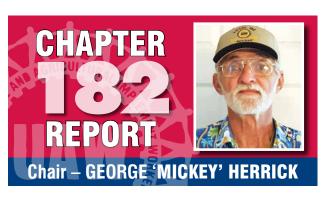
DETROIT RETIREES, CALL: **ZF (TRW) Service Center** 877-698-7910, press "2"

ROMULUS RETIREES, CALL: **PBGC – Customer Contact Center** 800-400-7242

Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.





Many Upcoming Events

I hope everyone had a good and safe summer. There's still the threat of Covid, but it's getting better little by little. Soon, they'll have a new vaccine to combat the omicron variant.

We are going to have flu shots at our Retiree

meeting on September 8th and maybe the Covid boosters 2, 3, and 4 if they need it. I'm also working on getting Bijou, who works for Kroger Pharmacy, to maybe come back in October and administer more shots.

On August 13th, our annual Local 182 Golf Outing was a success, as usual. There were over 100 golfers and we raised over \$6,100 for our annual "Labor of Love" Christmas party, which is held for local underprivileged families. We also have our annual Car Show and Chili Cookoff on October 1st, which is another fundraiser for our "Labor of Love" Christmas party.

On October 13th, we are having the American Heart Association come and inform us on CPR. We are also in the process of buying a defibrillator for our Local and the American Heart Association is going to teach us how to use it.

Then, on November 10th, the UAW Trust is coming to Local 182. The meeting begins at 10:00 a.m. and runs until 12:00 p.m., after which we will eat our lunch together.

Before I go any further, I want to say that flu shots will be made available to Local 36, as well. They are using our Local for their meetings, so I wanted to include them in our flu shot program.

If you can, please try to increase your Union dues donation per month. If you can't, please leave it the same and thank you!

On December 8th, we are partying like the Kennedys! We will have door prizes to raffle off, lots of good food to eat, and good times will be

Strength in Unity. Please be safe.



Social Security COLA Increase

Greetings Sisters and Brothers,

Where did summer go? One minute, you're doing the outside thing and the next minute you're cleaning out your closet for your fall clothing, but fall is a lovely time of the year.

Inflation - Some good news maybe or maybe not. How would you like an extra \$1,800 a year?

It could be ahead, according to the Detroit Free Press on 8-21-22, page 1B, by Susan Tompor. She stated, "On average, a retiree could see about an extra \$150 a month, if there's a 9% cost-ofliving adjustment to Social Security for next year." We must wait until October for the official cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for 2023 to be announced by the Social Security Administration.

Retirees by now should have received a Referendum Card to vote in the first-ever UAW election for the UAW Executive Board from President to Regional Director. Be very careful in voting, because your future depends on it.

Also, there is the General Election in November that will also determine our future. Please vote in both of these elections.

Region 1A will be having a Christmas Luncheon on Thursday, December 8, 2022, starting at 10:00 a.m. at Crystal Gardens, 16703

Fort St., Southgate, MI. Tickets are \$10.00 for members and \$25.00 for non-dues paying members. Remember Local 227 will not be having a Christmas Party this year.

Please remember that the UAW Trust will be at our November 16th meeting at 11:00 a.m. Be sure to tell other members, so they will be aware. Our 2023 benefit like Express Scripts is going to be replaced next year.

We extend our sincere condolences to the families and friends of our deceased members of McGraw Glass Plant and Import Plant: James Graves, Tool Crib; Kevin Davis, son of Juanita Davis-McKinney; Priscilla (Pat) Quenneville, wife of Richard Quenneville, and William (Bill) Roger Williams.

There will be a lot of changes coming in the new year, and you are going to be a big part of this change. By voting, you are that change.



In Memory of Frank Eritano

It is with a very heavy heart that brings me to write for the Local 387 paper for the first time

in over 15 years. It is to honor a great friend of mine that brings me to this point. Frank Eritano, our Local 387 Retiree Chairman for the past 16 years, was small in stature but large in heart. Let me try to put down a few of the things that I know about this man. Frank Eritano



Frank was always volunteering in some way. He was an avid golfer and would mentor kids at the Southgate Golf Center. He also ran two golf leagues, one on Monday and the other on Tuesday. In fact, some of the league members

came to the hospital to get Frank's advice about the league and how to run it a few days before he passed. He so loved the game. He loved to tease people who would go play with him and ask them for a handicap. He even asked me for one stroke a hole! I told him "Are you kidding Frank? You need to give me a stroke a hole and you will still beat me." He told me, "Well, I am so old!" He always won. Frank *loved* golf.

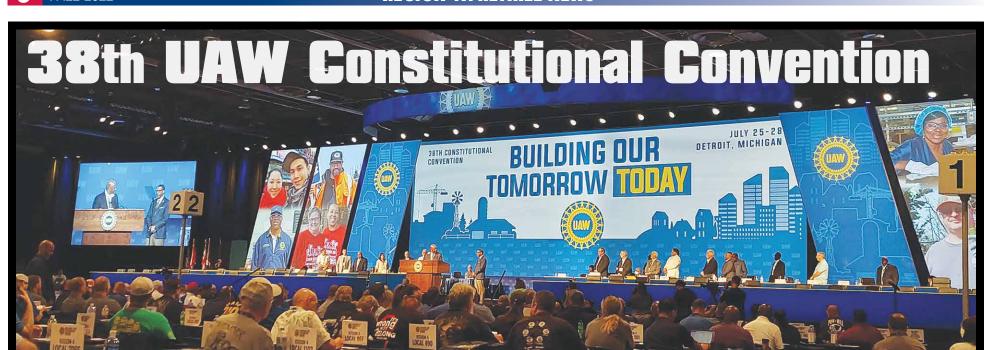
Frank also loved gardening. He grew the largest tomatoes I have ever seen. He did give me a few, on one condition, that I give him back the seeds. I did. His wife, Alice, told me he started his tomatoes 50 years ago and has been using the seeds from each crop to grow the next year's plants since he started.

Frank was a Navy veteran of WWII, discharged in 1946. He was very proud of his service. Frank, Frank Rucinski, and Ernie Segura would take full advantage of the perks that restaurants gave to military service people on Veteran's Day to show their appreciation for their service. They would start at Tim Hortons for coffee, then Duncan Donuts for a donut, IHOP and Denny's for breakfast, Bob Evans, Chilis and Cracker Barrel for lunch, then a sweep through Texas Roadhouse to get a dinner voucher, then on to Applebees, Buffalo Wild Wings, Little Caesars, Outback, and others for dinner. Crazy, but they had a full day of fun and freebies, and they did it every year.

Speaking of Frank Rucinski, Frank and Frank worked together at Michigan Forging in Dearborn before coming to WSP together. They remained good friends their entire lives. Sadly, Rucinski passed just 4 days after Eritano. RIP both of you.

Frank had a way of keeping our Retiree meetings civil and in order. He could admonish you without offending you. (I need lessons.) He truly loved "his seniors," and was proud that he was retired longer than his seniority. He was retired 25 years and he had 24 years at WSP. Frank became our chairman when Pops Nudi passed. Bruce Carrier called him at home and asked him to take the lead. Bruce knew Frank could handle himself, because he had been a Trustee for many years. Frank agreed to be the Chairman, and has been our Chairman since that day.

With Frank's passing, I became the new Chairperson and honored to do so. Frank can never be replaced, will always be loved, and never be forgotten. RIP.



- Retired past UAW President's Rory Gamble and Ron Gettelfinger were both awarded the title of UAW President Emeritus.
- Retiring members of the International Executive Board are Vice President's Terry Dittes and Cindy Estrada, former UAW Vice President and Region ID Director Gerald Kariem, Region 4 Director Ron McInroy, Region 8 Director Mitchell Smith, and Region 9 Director Jeff Binz.
- The Delegates voted to create a new Region 6, comprised of Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, Idaho, Utah, Arizona, Hawaii, and Alaska.
- Candidates were nominated for the International Executive Board and will be voted on directly by members.

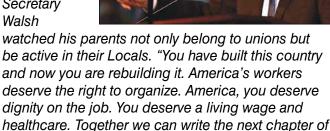




Secretary of Labor

MARTY WALSH

Former Mayor of Boston and a cardcarrying union member, the son of immigrants, Secretary Walsh



"The history of the UAW is the history of labor and of working men and women in this country. You must never forget the role that the UAW played in creating the middleclass in America."

the American Labor Movement."





the world on wheels and it was UAW members who built those wheels and the middle class."



Governor

WHITMER

GRETCHEN

making sure that the future is heading down your assembly lines. American made. Union made. And it's that

mindset, that willingness to take on new things that is going to help us build a labor movement of the future."

NAACP CEO DERRICK JOHNSON

"These days our very democracy is at stake. Standing together preserves our democracy both internally and externally. The corporations try to divide workers to weaken their power, so I encourage you to stand together."

























































FALL 2022 REGION 1A RETIREE NEWS



My UAW Family

Yes, you are my family! I hope everyone had a chance to enjoy the summer. I hope you had a chance to get out to picnics, Cedar Point, and just do other outdoor activities. The summer is now gone, fall is here, and we have so much work to do.

Local 600's first Retiree Meeting will be on September 25th. From 9:00-10:00 a.m., there will be coffee and doughnuts. The meeting will start at 10:00 a.m. The VEBA Trust will have 2023 Healthcare updates, Midwestern Vision, vendors, and flu shots will also be available.

Sisters and Brothers, we are asking all of you to please make sure your correct address is on file with your Locals. We have a lot of mail being returned because the wrong address is on file.

There are very important Elections coming up that depend on us to make the right choices. We must remember we are fighting for our livelihood. Some people are taking this as a joke, but it's not.

Just remember, we have come through troubled waters with Covid-19 and corruption, but we made it and we are still here. That's from our Almighty and the great leadership that we have come through by kicking those guilty out of the UAW. When I say "them," I mean those who have destroyed the trust of so many members of the UAW.

Life won't always be a bed of roses, nor a bowl of fresh fruit. But, one thing for sure... we have kicked out the bad seeds in our UAW! Now, let's stand strong and rebuild on each other.

We have to support the people who take care of our living concerns, for us, our families, and our friends. During the months of October and November, we have to pay close attention to what is going on.

Region 1A Retiree Christmas Party will be at Crystal Gardens in Southgate. Tickets are available at Region 1A on a first-come basis. Tickets are \$10.00 for dues-paying members and \$25.00 for non-members.

There will also be a Local 600 Retiree Meeting in October. We are trying to do everything right to be safe. After all, we still have some healthcare concerns. So, we must still do our best to be safe.

Congratulations to Brownstown Local 600 Retiree John T. Smith, who was the winner of the MGM Grand Detroit "Cruise to Win promotion" and won a 1965 Ford Mustang convertible!



My prayers and sincere condolences go out to all those who have lost family, friends, or loved ones.

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

HERE ARE YOUR BENEFITS TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

 Medical Benefits Trust, Retiree Health Care Connect: 866-637-7555 / UAWtrust.org

• Express Scripts Rx: 866-662-0274

• Delta Dental: 800-524-0149

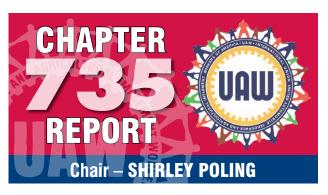
• Ford-UAW Retirement Board: 800-829-8833

• NESC: 800-248-4444 / myfordbenefits.com

• AXZ Plans: 800-348-7709

• UAW Legal Services: 800-482-7700

• MetLife Life Insurance: 833-552-3673 / mybenefits.metlife.com



Our Newly Elected E-Board

Dear 735 Retirees

After a long break in monthly meetings, we were finally able to begin meeting again this past April. We immediately got busy on the procedure to hold a long-overdue election. The following is your new Executive Board:

Chairperson	Shirley Poling
Co-Chairperson	Cynthia Averhari
Recording Secretary.	Maria Al
Financial Secretary	Jim Cantrel
Trustee	Jean Pittmar
Trustee	Randy MacLachlar
Board Member	Melba Hogue
Board Member	Steve Hunt
Sergeant-at-Arms	Tony Davenport

I want to say a hearty "thank you" to our past Board members who chose not to run again: Sterling Mullins, Daniel Jenkinson, Gwen Lester, Robena Johnson, and Donna Hogue. Your collective years of service was a great benefit to our members. We thank you for all of your time, work, effort, and dedication. We hope to continue to see your smiling faces going forward.

We held a summer picnic this past August for the first time in two years. The continued presence of Covid forced us to make some changes in our menu and in our serving methods, but it did not stop our members from coming out to enjoy the day. The estimated crowd was about 350 people. It was a day full of smiling faces.

Our October meeting will be our annual Healthcare Fair. The date is October 12th. Our meeting location, for those who might not know, is at Local 163, 450 S. Merriman Rd. in Westland. The meeting starts at 10:00 a.m. We will have a representative from the UAW Trust present, in addition to representatives from Blue Cross, HAP, and Delta. We hope to have a representative from the new prescription company we will be changing to January 1, 2023.

Also, at the October meeting, we will begin selling tickets to our Christmas Party. It is big news that we are having one now, after missing one in 2020, and 2021. *Please note*: Ticket sales have been limited to 250 people, by action of the membership. When we have sold 250 tickets, no more will be sold.

The party will be at Burton Manor in

Livonia. It will be held Wednesday, December 14, 2022. The party is from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; however, we do serve coffee and donuts beginning at 9:00 a.m. for all our early birds!

The ticket cost is \$25 per person for duespaying members. This price includes lunch, dessert, coffee, soft drinks, beer, wine, and door prizes. Anyone who wishes to purchase a ticket and does not pay dues will have to pay the full price for the ticket. Members may only buy 2 tickets (a ticket for themselves and one guest).

Finally, a reminder that Tuesday, November 8, 2022 is Election Day for the mid-term elections. Please vote, and I encourage you to vote for the candidates who have been endorsed by the UAW, because those candidates are supportive of working families and their issues. Having people in elected office who strongly support unions is critical to the survival of all the unions in this country. I hope your vote will reflect that.

Also, please remember that you may vote ahead of time by applying for an absentee ballot at your local Clerk's Office or you can vote at the polls on Election Day. *Please vote!*

This will be the last edition of the Region 1A *Retiree News* for this year. At this time, on behalf of your Executive Board we offer up a prayer for a safe and happy Holiday Season for each and every one of you. Let's all hope and pray for a new year with a lot less Covid and a lot more socializing!



Retiree Reunion Held

We had a wonderful time at the Sheldon Road Reunion. Well, those of us who were able to be there did. We were very sorry that the rest of you were unable to make it. You were missed. Each year our Local supplies the meats and refreshments for the Retiree Reunion, while the members bring a dish to pass along. There were many different delicious appetizers, vegetables, and desserts from family recipes.

Our next party is going to be a Holiday Celebration. Yes, we will be having a Christmas Luncheon this year. We will celebrate the holidays with a luncheon at our Local on December 1st. Come enjoy the Christmas spirit with your friends from the past. We will be sharing our memories from noon until ??? Usually, the party starts to break up around 2:30 p.m. After all, us old timers can only stay awake for a little while. Bring an unwrapped toy for our Marine friends to give to Toys For Tots.

Now, just a little news for everyone who reads this paper. This year, we have many things going on. There are local, state, and federal elections that we must review very carefully. Please be aware of those who are running in your district.

Try to get as much information as possible to ensure that you are a wise voter. Vote for those who share your views. Many seniors vote absentee. Please do so responsibly.

Next, of course, is that this will be the first time that the membership will be voting for the UAW Executive Board. The offices to be filled through the election are the offices of International President, International Secretary-Treasurer, three International Vice Presidents, and nine Regional Director

positions.

UAW delegates to the 2022 Constitutional Convention (July 26-28, 2022) will nominate candidates for these offices, and mail-in ballots will be distributed to UAW members beginning in October 2022. To ensure that you receive a ballot package for the 2022 Election, please provide your updated mailing and email address information to your Local Union as soon as possible, and advise your fellow members to do the same.

All UAW members in good standing as of October 31, 2022 are eligible to vote in the Election, including members who are parttime workers, reinstated members, and retired members. In order to have your vote counted in the Election, your mail-in ballot must be received by the final deadline of November 28, 2022. It is strongly encouraged that all return ballots be placed in the return mail by November 18, 2022, in order to ensure arrival by the deadline.

Please contact your Local Union Office to ensure that the correct mailing address is on file for you. Vote responsibly for the persons of your choice to help to run our Union.

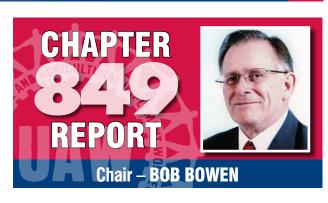
Finally, a nod to all our brave members who once offered to give their life in protection of our great country. We have all heard about the Veterans Crisis Line. This is the service that has helped many of our volunteers through tragic issues. There has been a telephone hotline for years. That number has been widely used and will remain a good number, 800-273-8255.

There has been a number added to this, to make sure that our brave men and women are getting a rapid response. It is easy to remember... 988. It is just 3 numbers... 988.









Our Chapter Is United

Like the Marine Corp, Local 849 does not like to leave anyone behind. That's why we report the deaths of our members, and it's why we ask those who have not joined the Chapter to sign up. Before our retirements, every one of us played a role in making Local 849 strong.

Because we were united, we were able to successfully make the Ypsilanti Plant of Ford

See CHAPTER 849 on Page 10



898 Celebrates 87 Years

On July 23, 1941, Local 898 became a registered Local with the UAW. Our Local 898 is now celebrating 87 years! We have so much to be thankful for, the list is long.

There are people who put our Union down, even some of our members, yet they are enjoying all the benefits. I challenge each one of you to find your voice and tear down all the negative comments, as we are still the standard bearer for the American workforce.

This is an election year for the mid-term cycle, but also for the International Union. Since only 14% of the members voted, the naysayers out there are doing real damage to our Union. When your ballot gets delivered to your mailbox, *please vote!* Voting is not just a right we have earned as American citizens and Union members, it is a responsibility we should perform and cherish.

Covid is still out there making people sick. Get your shots, boosters, and let's get rid of this

Recently, I attended the United Way of Washtenaw County's Labor and Management Golf Outing fundraiser to volunteer my time. Remember to give during their campaign season that is coming up. They are our safety net for many less fortunate people in our communities.

The Trust will be at our Local November Retiree Meeting. If you are planning on attending this meeting, please let us know. Bring all your questions and join us.



Meetings Have Resumed

Hello Local 1776 Retirees, *welcome back!*My apologies for the miscommunication of

the date we were to resume. Over the past two and a half years, we have been unable reach out to many members. Therefore, at the present time, we are relying on our newsletter and your help to reach out and inform other Retirees of Local 1776 of this information.

We will once again open the doors for Local 1776 Retirees Union Meetings on the third Thursday of each month beginning Thursday, September 15, 2022, at UAW Local 182 35603 Plymouth Road Livonia, MI 48150. Meeting will be held at 11:00 a.m.

On January 1, 2023, there will be several benefit changes. We are working towards

having a Benefit Representative available at our meeting in October. Please write down any questions you may have, so they can be addressed.

Let's continue to keep each and every one of our members and their families in our prayers.

If you have not received your vaccines or boosters, you can contact your local CDC Department or one of your local pharmacies. Some locations accept walk-ins.

Anyone attending any of our Chapter meetings is asked to wear a mask! Masks will be available if needed.

Looking forward to seeing you soon.



Updating Activities

We hope everyone had an exceptional summer. Our retirees went to the Black Lake Retiree Retreat. We had 10 of our members in attendance. Hopefully, next year, we will have

more who will join us.

We are gearing up to do some charity work on Saturday, October 1, 2022. The Local 3000 Community Service Committee will be having their Mobile Food Pantry from 10:00 a.m. til 12:00 noon. We need volunteers, please call the Local if you want to participate.

Our Senior Breakfast will be held December 3, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. til 1:00 p.m. at Woodhaven Community Center, 23101 Hall Rd., Woodhaven, MI 48183.

This year's Children's Christmas Party will be December 10, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. til 1:00 p.m. at UAW Local 3000.

UAW Region 1A Retirees Holiday Party is Thursday, December 8, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. til 2:00 p.m. at Crystal Gardens Banquet Hall. Call the Local for tickets (first come/first serve).

Toys for Tots – Please bring toys to the December 13, 2022 retiree meeting. We will have a catered Christmas Luncheon. We welcome all of our Local 3000 retirees.

MEETING DATES

All Meetings start at 12:00 noon October 11, 2022 November 8, 2022 December 13, 2022

I hope everyone has a prosperous new year!

OBITUARIES

John Tejkl Joe Vincent Wolfgang "Mike" Stoehr Sandy Sutten Boyd Burton Tom Richmond Steve DeGregorio

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Motor Company one of the best places in the world to work at.

The work of our Union doesn't end when we retire. It increases. Benefit representatives, bargaining representatives, and behind-thescenes brothers and sisters work to ensure our health and economic situations are sustained.

We have been blessed to be represented by a Union that cares about our physical and mental well-being. By Federal Law, a union cannot force a company to bargain on behalf of those who have retired. So how does the UAW manage to improve our situation? When our benefits improve, it's because the active workforce has agreed to take less so we can have more.

It's true that our pensions haven't increased, but health insurance has kept pace and avoided the disastrous downturn of the early years of this century. The auto industry is living through the most challenging time it has ever faced. It's reassuring to know that we have a Union that will challenge the industry to keep faith with those who have faithfully served them through the years.

The Ypsilanti Plant is history, but Local 849 hopes to be here for a while longer. While we are here, we owe it to one another to stay active; meeting and greeting, and sharing our concerns with the representatives who

take our concerns to the bargaining tables and delivered the facts of life to oversight boards that have been charged to do what's in the best interest of country, including us, the retired workers who built this great nation.

Your concerns will not reach the ears of your representatives unless you share them. Phone calls and emails are good, but the most effective way to communicate is still face to face. Our Retired Workers Chapter is a great place to share what's on your mind. Your concerns are passed on to Union representatives, government officials, and one another.

Our Chapter is more than a social club where old folks get together and chow down at a potluck. Meeting and greeting friends are an important part of keeping our Chapter alive. Don't be negligent. Take advantage of the opportunities our Chapter offers, to learn about available resources and benefits, and to get firsthand help from experts such as our Benefits Rep. Carolyn Clay.

If you are not a Chapter member and would like to join up, email Bob Bowen at *bowen59@ gmail.com*, or call (734) 482-6213 and leave me a message. Please leave your name and phone number if I am away. I will gladly send you an application. It only costs \$3 a month to be a member.

Meetings are held on the third Thursdays of every month, with the exceptions of December,

January, and July. Please note that our meeting schedule for the remainder of this year is printed in this report.

MEETING SCHEDULE

We meet on Thursdays, with a 12:00 noon potluck (bring a dish to pass), and a 1:00 p.m. Business Meeting. The upcoming dates are:

- October 20 56th Chapter Anniversary
- November 17 UAW Benefits Trust and Providers will be at meeting.
- Tuesday, December 6 Meeting and Christmas Party

IN MEMORIAM

We are mourning the loss of Local 849 members reported since the summer edition of Region 1A *Retiree News:*

Hargus Stidham	12/26/42 - 4/9/2019
Palmer Reid Hampton	10/19/29 - 8/29/2021
Peggy J. Norris	6/6/41 - 5/7/2022
Daniel E. Hughes	2/18/32 - 5/24/2022
Joseph J. Rosenberger	10/3/33 - 6/24/2022
Marcella Henderson	2/24/33 - 7/18/2022
Berneda Fay Powers	2/8/38 - 8/15/2022
Earl W. Wiseman	4/2/37 - 9/10/2022
Frank Rymanowicz	6/2/25- 9/11/2022

To report a Local 849 member's death, email bowen59@gmail.com or call (734) 482-6213 and leave a message.



Region 1A Happenings

After a summer hiatus, the retirees will start back up with monthly meetings. The group meets in person the first Monday of the month during September to May. The exception to the rule is any month that a holiday falls on that date. Then, the group meets the second Monday. The September meeting will be September 12, 2022 at 10:30 a.m., because of Labor Day.

In-person meetings are held at UAW Region 1A, 9650 S. Telegraph Road, Taylor, MI 48180.

If you are unable to attend in-person meetings, the *Zoom* platform is available. *Zoom* codes for meetings will be posted on Facebook site Local 6000 Retired Workers Region 1A or call or text Bernard Nowakowski at 586-767-9303 for information.

This year, the retired workers group will hold an election of officers for the positions of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Sergeant-at-Arms, Guide and Delegates. An Election Committee was assembled at the September 12, 2022 meeting, with elections forthcoming. Please consider running for office (a 3-year commitment), or heading a committee (a 1-year commitment).

I recall a story of four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done. Everybody was sure Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but *Nobody* realized that *Everybody*

wouldn't do it. It ended up that *Everybody* blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done. - LOLLY DASKAL Support SB 775 – Removing Cap on COLA

Contact your state senator and urge a hearing and passage of SB 775. This bill removes the \$300 annual cap on the COLA in the defined benefit pension plan of retired State workers and gives an annual 3% increase in retirement allowance.

Contact Jim Stamas Chair of the Senate Appropriation Committee to have a hearing on Senate Bill 775 at 517-373-7946 or senjstamas@senate.michigan.gov For information on Local 6000, visit www.local6000.org

Facebook: UAW Local 6000 Retired Workers Region 1A

An e-newsletter of events and legislation is sent out to members on Local 6000 Retirees' Region 1A email list. Contact Bernard Nowakowski at big.cobra@gmail.com or call or text 586-767-9303 to be added to mailing list.

BOB SISLER from Cover Page

you have little to no security, you lash out. When you live with that much hate, you must be miserable. Perpetrators are a shell of their human nature. As we are led to believe that less bullets or background checks will protect us, I remember the Oklahoma bomber. He used fertilizer, diesel fuel, and other chemicals.

Therefore, what has happened to increase this hate? Is the problem created by the government, that instead of making simple sense, there are complicated issues? Is it by design to keep citizens struggling every day? The NRA and political officials agree that mental health is a major factor to the violence in this country. Should everyone as a result support Medicare for All?

When Wayne County Sheriff Benny Napoleon was running for mayor of Detroit, he was asked what was needed for city improvement. First on his list was health care. He noted how police are called to police emergencies because of health care; that there is a lack of available medication and general treatment for mental illness, along with diabetes, blood pressure, and many other untreated conditions.

The present health care system has been evaluated by the Congressional Business Office and they noted the positive outcomes from citizens receiving adequate health care. With the removal of fear from medical bills and bankruptcy, people can try to stay healthy. With a system that supports you as you go for treatment (emergency room, urgent care, or doctor's office), instead of hearing "What is your insurance coverage?" you hear "What is wrong, how can I help you?" Instead of "Pay your deductible and/or when you're done go to that office for finance."

What if the shooter from Lake Orion

Schools had asked for mental health treatment? That massacre may not have happened if that young teenager had access to health care as a human right.

Doctors complain that their ability to practice medicine is stopped or *controlled* by a clerk with no degree in medicine using a finance chart, even for an ingrown toe nail. Medicare for All would help develop internal control, and at the same time correcting how doctors and professionals deliver care.

Then, we have a Bill about full employment. The Congressional review of our present unemployment has the following summary: "The effects of this unemployment plague are devastating. In addition to wreaking havoc with finances of its victims and their families, it is associated with increased rates of both mental and physical illness (including death rates). Marital and relationship breakups, behavioral problems and lower academic performance for the children of the unemployed, worsening rates of both suicide and attempted suicide, and increased hopelessness, especially for young adults denied the opportunity to realize their full potential."

The full-employment Bill would transform the current system into rehab while being paid.

Why do we allow the politicians to talk about bullets? Why are we not demanding *Medicare* for All? We need to develop a coalition between the NRA and the advocates for gun control who agree that mental illness is a part of the problem and support Medicare for All as a real solution. Why not full employment? Why not the PRO Act? Why not Biden's Build Back Better plan?

If we don't take pride in ourselves and demand people over profits, as FDR said, Fascism will return. Do most American's live in a dream world, mesmerized by the rich and famous while accepting less and less to make sure the distribution of wealth goes to the top, while the working people struggle? As we are

taught to blame a segment of the population for our misery, we fail to see the plot to rob our pocketbook. As a result, you pay your taxes, and the wealthiest in our nation pay, in many times, zero. If the CBO reports social improvements, then why are those Bills not law? Is there a purpose to keep working people struggling, sick, feeling hopeless, and with a lack of dignity and respect?

Three bills could help develop self-control and a safety network to replace harmful presentday systems to operate and make a profit for corporations over the common good. These are only a beginning; with education, homelessness, and climate change, all needing action.

Call your Representatives and Senators. Tell them to give the American people Medicare for All, full employment, the PRO Act, and to go back to the Build Back Better Bill. Tell the truth. Why do we have to wait years for negotiated pricing on drugs? Why is it only for seniors? Make your voice heard! It takes very little time.

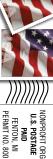
Let us grow this country united, as Americans. After all, we are the United States of America and not the Divided States of America. Remember when Henry Ford attempted to divide the workforce by race and sex? Walter Reuther wouldn't let it happen, and now after his death we have allowed business people to do just that. When Ford Motor tried to pay blacks and women less, Walter Reuther would not allow it. If you do the work, you get the same pay, full pay.

As a society, members need to have institutional support for self-control, the external control is an admission of institutional failure. Small steps create large accomplishments.

At the January Delegate Meeting, the process to elect the Regional Board will resume from 2019.





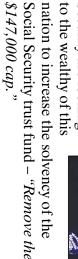






Social Security System

advocates of Social to the wealthy of this Security are looking The major



money to provide adequate food, other Bills of Rights were law. They not have to remove the cap if the worker. His design was also to include clothing, and recreation. The right included the right to earn enough seven other Bills of Rights. We would rights were passed. President Roosevelt died before these to a decent home and medical care. Security trust fund for the common on trust funds and he started the Social FDR was a wealthy man who lived

replaced with a living wage (\$20.00 plus). If and change. Minimum wage needs to be have to change. possibly believe that you can live on \$7.00 the words "minimum wage." No one could it was a right, by law the government would Our government has misrepresented

now works 40 hours and needs government would resonate in the country. to live? The dignity and respect of workers assistance, why not subsidize the business and send the worker home with a just pay Instead of subsidizing the worker, who

assistance would change. When people feel The whole system of welfare/public There are just so many working poor.

secure, there is less need for violence.

each worker an increased benefit at the supply the trust adequately and give given a living wage, the Social Security Security? Simple, if every worker was out of this "Slavery Mentality?" What do mistreated. is the common worker's trust fund, and Security. Remember that Social Security time of their retirement to collect Social withdrawal taken from every check would the improvements in wages mean to Social the common worker should never be Is it possible for this country to grow

Security with the common workers to to keep citizens at odds with each other create a system for all. There is a desire Union Yes! Unite the elderly on Socia



with paying workers less. Walter Reuther noted that it had to do

"subjects suffer because of their nonsense." Government does affect self-Washington, D.C. The Representatives have become millionaires while their We need to demand a living wage from

Gun Control/Need by Design

control on you." The staff saw the need to seniors, "if you fail to develop internal develop self-control of students. control, the society will place external As a teacher told young high school

by hate, and propelled with fear. When As a society, we have been directed

See **BOB SISLER** on Page 11