

ONLINE

HEADLIGHT



The Light of Freedom, Family, Fellowship, Solidarity, Leadership & Education

ELECTION

All members of the Retiree Chapter of Local 599, UAW, in good standing, and in compliance with the UAW International Union Constitution and Local 599 Retiree Chapter By-Laws stand nominated for the following positions:

UAW LOCAL 599 RETIREE CHAPTER

- ✓ CHAIRPERSON
- ✓ 1ST VICE CHAIRPERSON
- ✓ 2ND VICE CHAIRPERSON
- ✓ RECORDING SECRETARY
- ✓ FINANCIAL SECRETARY
- ✓ SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
- ✓ GUIDE
- ✓ One (1) REGIONAL DELEGATE-AT-LARGE
- ✓ Eight (8) REGIONAL DELEGATES

The Regional Candidate with the *Ninth (9th) Highest Vote* will be Elected as *ALTERNATE DELEGATE*.

Acceptance must be turned in to the **DUES OFFICE, UAW LOCAL 651**
3518 Robert T. Longway Blvd.
Flint, MI 48506
by **3:00 p.m. on June 11, 2025**.

Acceptance must be signed by each individual candidate, accompanied by their Social Security number.
PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME AS YOU WISH IT TO APPEAR ON THE BALLOT. PAPER BALLOTS WILL BE USED.

ELECTION WILL BE HELD AT UAW LOCAL 651

3518 ROBERT T. LONGWAY BLVD. • FLINT, MI 48506

ELECTION TIMES & DATE:

Poll will **OPEN:**
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25, 2025
10:00 A.M.

Poll will **CLOSE:**
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25, 2025
2:00 P.M.

FINAL ELECTION

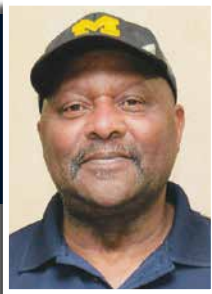
(In case of run-off, final election will be held)

Poll will **OPEN:**
SEPTEMBER 24, 2025 • 10:00 A.M.

Poll will **CLOSE:**
SEPTEMBER 24, 2025 • 2:00 P.M.

Each voter shall be required to show picture identification.

Candidates will be allowed a Challenger, provided the Name and Social Security number of the Challenger is submitted in writing by the candidate, to the Chairman of the Retiree Election Committee, submitted to the Dues Office no later than 3:30 p.m. on June 20, 2025.



RETIREE CHAIRMAN

by Jessie Collins

*Hello My Sisters & Brothers,
I hope all is well with you and your family.*

I will continue to share information with you. Please feel free to question the issues that I share with you. *Google* them or have your grands *Google* for you. I will always say that it's our struggle that we continue to fight for ourselves and our grands. I am not just attacking Donald. I'm giving you the facts.

The Social Security Administration (SSA) is offering financial incentives of \$15,000 to \$25,000 to staff who voluntarily resign from the agency before mandated staffing reductions and office closures take place. Acting SSA Commissioner Leland Dudek reportedly intends to cut the agency staff by 50%. The deadline is April 19th, and Social Security has reduced its head count by 2,000 workers so far.

The SSA intends to cut the 57,000 person workforce by 12% (to 50,000 workers) and reduce its Regional-office structure; a move critics say will disrupt and worsen Customer Services for seventy million beneficiaries. In response, Rep. John Larson (CT), ranking member of the Ways and Means Social Security Subcommittee, announced recently that he will introduce a bill to block cuts and field office closures.

Trump, through the so-called Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), has fired thousands of government workers this past month. He and DOGE leader Elon Musk have warned that even more personnel will be terminated in the coming weeks and months.

Americans working for the SSA are mostly in front-line roles and help apply for benefits, answer questions, or solve problems. There is just one Social Security worker for every 1,900 beneficiaries. On average, 118,000 Americans visit a Social Security office each day with more receiving help over the phone.

Former SSA Commissioner Martin O, Malley stated this warning on X. "Social Security is being driven to a total system collapse. I give the DOGE kids and co-President Musk 30-90 days before they crater it to the point of interruption of benefit."

"This Administration is trying to dismantle Social Security piece by piece. Trump has broken his promise 'not to touch' Social Security," said Robert Roach, Jr., President of the Alliance for Retired Americans. The Alliance stands with Congressman Larson and others to pass legislation to stop this assault on the most valuable Americans.

House Passes Budget Proposal That Slashes Medicare and Cuts Taxes for the Rich

The House of Representatives passed a FY 2025 Budget Resolution in a 217-215 party-line vote Trump personally lobbied several House Republicans to vote for the proposal. The budget blueprint calls for \$4.5 trillion in tax cuts for the wealthy individuals and corporations and deep cuts to Medicaid (\$880 billion) and food assistance (\$230 billion) for low-income Americans over ten years.

Medicaid is the primary program providing comprehensive coverage of health and long-term care to low-income people in the United States. Medicaid accounts for one-fifth of the nation's health care spending including providing care for almost 2 in 3 nursing home residents.

This vote demonstrates how House Republicans will stop at nothing to give tax cuts to the wealthiest Americans; even if it threatens the livelihood of millions of seniors. However, we still have an opportunity to prevent these cuts from being enacted and to hold every politician who voted for this cruel budget accountable. My sisters and brothers, we have to stay focused on our daily lives, groceries, gas, Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, family members losing their government jobs, etc., while they gut the programs that impact us in our living rooms on a daily bases. They would have us focus on wars, hating immigrants, hating each other's religion, and being fearful of each other. I was taught to respect others and their right to be different... *AMERICA, AMERICA, AMERICA!*

UAW LOCAL 599 RETIREE CHAPTER

HEADLIGHT



The Light of Freedom, Family, Fellowship, Solidarity, Leadership & Education

RETIREE CHAPTER EXECUTIVE BOARD

- Chairman Jessie Collins
- 2nd Vice Chair Mary Simmons
- Recording Secretary Gene Ridley
- Financial Secretary Liz Melchor
- Guide Barb Young
- Sergeant-at-Arms..... Billy Henderson
- Delegate-at-Large..... Gene Ridley

EDITORIAL POLICY

The HEADLIGHT is the voice of the Retirees Chapter of UAW Local 599. The purpose of this paper is to inform and educate the membership of issues of our Chapter and the community in which we live. Articles from members and stories about members are welcome. While your contributions are welcome, they should be constructive. At no time shall the Editor tolerate any defamatory remarks regarding policies of our Chapter, International Union, or UAW person or persons. The Editor reserves the right to edit any article for clarity and/or length. Opinions reflected in signed articles do not necessarily reflect the position or opinions of the Chapter.



HEADLIGHT Editor Gene Ridley

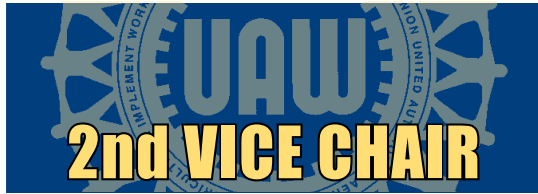
BRIAN L. WALKER ATTORNEY AT LAW

is at the **UAW LOCAL 651 UNION HALL**
TUESDAYS: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
and the **LOCAL 659 UNION HALL**
TUESDAYS: 12:00 noon - 3:00 p.m.

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by MARY SIMMONS

A Bizarre World

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

Has the shock worn off and you now realize that Trump is really our President? And you see that he is the disaster that we all knew he would be. I mean really, what a concept.

Now we are all trying to find a way to live in this bizarre world we find ourselves in. I know we are not supposed to be petty and small minded, but when I hear the people in Nebraska ask "does anyone care about us?"... I have to say Hell Naw! You all voted for your own demise, and now you want everyone to feel bad that you are all going bankrupt... ha! ha! ha! See

what racism gets you?

In addition, the recent debacle about war news being talked about openly on a unsecured phone line just goes to show us the looney tunes cabinet of Trump, and just how arrogant and unqualified they are.

However, the one good thing that has come out recently is the resignation of De Joy, director of the postal system. *Yea!*

Well, I'm not going write anymore about the sense of doom that is hanging over our world and just end with this. Please try to envision a change is going to come sooner rather than later. So dear ones, until next time, Peace and Love.



A REMINDER...

Our Local 599 Chapter meets at 10:00 a.m. on the last Wednesday of each month at

UAW LOCAL 651

3518 Robert T. Longway Blvd., Flint, MI 48506

ATTENTION: All Retiring UAW EMPLOYEES

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CHAPTER MEETINGS are held at UAW LOCAL 651 UNION HALL

on the last Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m.

If you need assistance, call Chairman Jessie Collins at 810-287-6612 or Recording Secretary Gene Ridley at 810-516-1773

If you have Benefits questions, call UAW Local 659 Benefit Rep. at 810-232-4130, ext. 213

— IMPORTANT NUMBERS & WEBSITES —

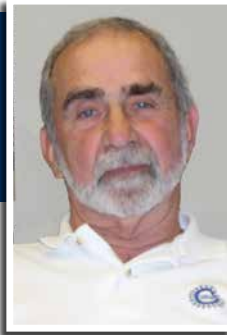
- UAW Trust866-637-7555
Ford / General Motors /
Stellantis (formerly FCA/Chrysler) www.uawtrust.org
- Elder/Child Care Resources800-733-3702
- GM Benefits and Sevices800-489-4646
www.gmbenefits.com
- GM Benefits TTY877-347-5225
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Group Life Insurance • Basic, Dependents & Optical
Supplement Life Insurance
- Social Security Administration.....800-772-1213
www.SA.gov
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www.bcbsm.com
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- Flexible Spending Acct.. 866-567-3993
- Medicare 800-633-4227
- Physical Therapy 888-636-8786
- Retiree Health Care Connect... 866-637-7555
- Silver Sneakers www.silversneakers.com
- TruHearing..... 844-320-5420
- UAW Legal Service 800-482-7700
- United Auto Workers..... www.uaw.org

— DISCOUNTS —

- Pep Vehicle Purchase www.gmfamilyfirst.com
- Gm Vehicle Purchase.....800-235-4646
- Gm Parts Discount..... 855-462-2737 (Prompt 5)

If you live in Genesee County and need an attorney, we recommend...
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Workers Compensation Lawyer UAW Legal Service Lawyer

FIND LOCAL 599 UPDATES AT...
region1d.uaw.org/uaw-local-599/login?destination=uaw-local-599/about-us



by GENE RIDLEY
**Stand Up For America
Spring**

Well, spring is here and it is that time of the year when we all want to get out and do our spring cleaning. I just want to remind everyone to start slowly. It has been a long winter and we sure aren't as young as we may think we are.

So, remember while you are working in the yard or garden, to pace yourself and drink plenty of fluids to stay hydrated. The most important thing is to keep yourself healthy so family and friends can enjoy spending time with you.

Politics

Well, the president is doing what he does best, and that is to divert attention from the real issues so as he can undermine our government and take control of every aspect of our nation.

When you look at what has just happened with the security leaks of war plans, you have to ask yourself how can one appoint a TV personality to a position over our complete military and all the confidential material that affects our military might and position in the world. It is dangerous for someone who has no

knowledge of how to run the military to be appointed in that position only to do exactly what Trump tells him to do.

While everyone has constantly condemned bullying, the president of this great nation is allowed to bully other countries into bowing down to him and giving him everything he wants. I hope that Canada, Europe, and the rest of the world have the guts to stand up to this big, blow-hard, bully on what he is doing. We are the greatest country on earth only because we have looked out for others who depend on us for their existence. That is all changing under this president. Instead of being respected and looked up to, our friends are now being bullied and starting to dislike the United States.

If the president thinks that he, Musk and Putin can take on the world and demand whatever they want, they need to think again. The citizens of this great country won't stand for it.

I will leave you with one thought and that is the Trump administration is moving as quickly as possible before the mid-term election to have full control and to determine who will be elected and who won't because AI will be in control of the election machines and Musk controls AI. Now that is something to think about.

We need to take back our country. It doesn't matter if you are a Republican, Democrat or Independent, we all must stand up against what is happening in our government.

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Local 599 Chapter Members

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Used Chevy Van
In good shape to take 5 kids to school.
Call 989-871-3741

Local 599 Retired Workers Chapter members may submit one ad of fifteen words or less by 10:00 a.m. on the last Wednesday of every month.

Email to: riddler07@comcast.net
or mail **GENE RIDLEY** at
4034 W. Dodge Rd., Clio, MI 48420

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**UAW Region 1D
Veterans Council
CORNHOLE
TOURNAMENT**



Challenge your friends and co-workers for bragging rights as we raise money for VA Hospitals in Saginaw, Battle Creek, and Iron Mountain

Snacks, lunch, and beverages available on-site



Public Welcome!

Date: Saturday, May 3

Practice open Friday night, May 2nd

Time: Bags Fly at Noon


Arrive by 11AM to confirm properly registered

Entry Fee: \$30⁰⁰ per person

Payable via Venmo (preferred) – Cash at door

Location: Auto City Eagles

Aerie 3485, 7445 Clio Rd., Mt. Morris, MI 48458

- Please register by scanning QR code "sign up here" via the Scoreholio App 
- Pay entry fee by scanning the Venmo QR code (on the right)
- We urge everyone to preregister & prepay to help things run smoothly
- 6 round switcholio to seed double elimination blind draw
- Cash payouts 1st thru 4th – 60% of entry fees collected
- **NO** outside food or beverage permitted except bottled water.
- You are welcome to bring your own shade source and bring your own lawn chair(s)
- Price of snacks, lunch, and beverages **NOT** included in entry fee









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TICKETS: Adults \$10⁰⁰ Veterans \$6⁰⁰
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www.marine-corps-league-auxiliary-flint.net



MORNING Seating Times available for Faster Service:
8:30 9:30
10:30 11:30

In Memoriam

Our prayers go out for these beloved Local 599 retired members and also to their friends and families.

Harvey Case Charles Ursery Elizabeth Eichoff

They are already missed.



Sharp

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Region 1D Retired Workers CONFERENCE

Greetings,

We are pleased to announce this year's Retired Workers Conference will be held at the UAW Family Education Center at Black Lake from May 27 to May 30, 2025.

Please read this notice carefully. There have been some changes made since the previous conference.

All retirees will be roomed with their spouse or double-housed this year. If an attendee uses oxygen, it is their responsibility to notify their oxygen company to deliver to Black Lake. Attendees need to list on their registration form if they have any handicap needs. There are only a few handicapped-accessible rooms available at the center. Those in wheelchairs, walkers, or Amigos will be considered first. We ask that each retiree who has been selected by their Chapter or IAC to fill out this registration form and mail it back to the Flint office **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 2025.**

We encourage anyone who has never attended a Retired Workers Conference at Black Lake to do so. There is a 3-year No Repeat Policy, excluding Region 1D Council Executive Board Members, Chapter Chairs and the Region 1D Council Recreation Committee.

At right is a registration form to be filled out by the retiree, and/or their spouse, selected to attend. Allotment is based on delegate allocations per Chapter or Council. This allotment total includes spouses. Housing is based on double occupancy, this could be couples, or two delegates who would be sharing a room.

You must be a dues-paying retiree, dues-paying spouse, dues-paying surviving spouse, or associate member to be eligible to attend this conference. There will be NO CHARGE for retirees, their spouses, surviving spouses, or associate members if they are dues-paying members.

Retiree delegates who show up to the conference unregistered and unannounced will be turned away.

Please return forms as soon as possible to assure your members rooms, as we are short on housing. If you have any questions regarding the conference, please contact Scott Zuckschwerdt at 810-787-0910.

In Solidarity,

STEVE DAWES
Director

SCOTT ZUCKSCHWERDT
Assistant Director

MIKE BIEBER
Retired Worker Chair

UAW REGION 1D RETIRED WORKERS CONFERENCE

Tuesday, May 27 thru Friday, May 30, 2025

- ✓ Please return to the Regional Office no later than Friday, April 18, 2025
- ✓ NO EXCEPTIONS – AFTER DUE DATE, THEY WILL BE SENT BACK

Local Number: _____

First-Time Attendee

Your Name: _____

Male Female *(circle one)*

Address: _____

Telephone(s): _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Spouse's name *(if attending)*: _____

Please list any medical needs, such as dietary restrictions: _____

Please list special housing requests or use of walker, wheelchair, or mobile device: _____

There will be no charge for dues-paying retirees, dues-paying surviving spouses or associate members. However, if you are registered and cannot attend, you must call Region 1D UAW and cancel prior to May 16, 2025, or your Local Retiree Chapter will be charged for your stay.



UAW LOCAL 599 RETIREES CHAPTER MEMBERS ONLY, please return this application form to be authorized by **APRIL 18, 2025** to:

UAW LOCAL 651
Attention: JESSIE COLLINS
3518 Robert T Longway Blvd., Flint, MI 48506