

ONLINE HEADLIGHT



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

2026 Retiree Conference **BLACK LAKE**



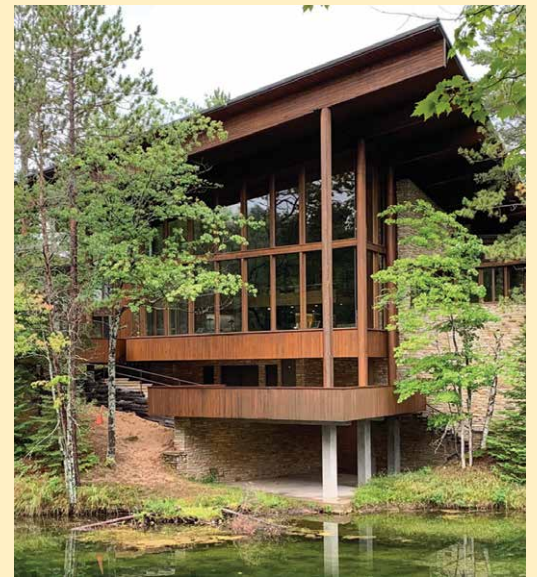
UAW Local 599 retirees and their spouses congratulate Region 1D Director Steve Dawes on his retirement. Steve is retiring at the end of his term this year, and we wish him all the best.

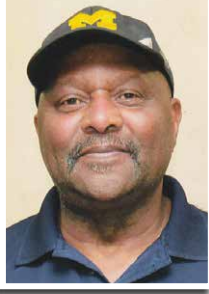


This year's Region 1D Retiree Conference at Black Lake took place May 25-29, and we had 18 of our members and their spouses attend this event. They were treated with great weather and lots of things to do. Nothing like beautiful Black Lake and all of its history to enjoy.

There were many guest speakers who shared information, including Colleen Allen from the Trust who spoke on the rights of our members. Sheriff Chris Swanson gave a presentation on scams/elder abuse and living wills, etc. Cathy and Chelsea Morena gave a presentation on Mid-Michigan Honor Flight. We also had a video presentation from UAW President Shawn Fain.

There were many additional inspiring speakers and our members received a lot of very good information that can help them and their families to do better with the way our economy has been heading.





by JESSIE L. COLLINS

Stand Up For America

Hello, My Brothers/Sisters

Hopefully, all is well with you and your family. Happy Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Father's Day, and Independence Day.

Authoritarian Policies In America

Gas prices are still sky rocketing, and the "master distracter" is still trying to have us pay attention to his war in Iran. He already had one 4-year term, but did absolutely nothing. Again, he talks about the other administrations having forty years and did nothing. He had four of those forty years and what did he and his cronies do – *nothing!* Folks, we are too smart to fall for the okie dokie.

Trump has left the country fighting and attacking leaders around the world. My friends, tell Trump we need a president here at home to fight for us – with inflation what it is and his billionaire friends making billions off the price of a barrel of oil.

Trump continues to discourage citizens from voting. He signed an Executive Order (EO) to create a federal voter list and control vote by mail. He seeks to create a federal list of citizens to use the vote by mail verification. The Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee (DSCC), Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC), Democratic National Committee (DNC), Democratic Governors Association and Democratic Congressional leaders have already filed a lawsuit in federal court to block the order.

The EO directed the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to compile "state citizenship lists" based on federal database information, including citizenship and Social Security records. States would be required to use those lists as a reference for verifying and purging their voter rolls and the U.S. Postal Service would only be allowed to send mail ballots to people on those pre-approved lists.

This is not the first time that Trump has tried to use his authority to change election rules. He has also called for "nationalizing" elections and signed a different executive order last year to introduce documentary proof of citizenship for voter registration and slash funding for states that have grace periods for mailing ballots. Most of the provisions in that order were ultimately blocked in federal court.

Trump has repeatedly referred to voting by mail as "cheating," but used that method of voting to cast his ballot for a special election in Florida in March. "Americans

should be able to exercise their constitutional right to vote without having to overcome unnecessary obstacles or worrying that their personal data will be scrutinized by the federal government. This is an outrageous attempt to suppress the vote," said Robert Roach, Jr., President of the Alliance for Retired Americans.

Tax Dollars

Trump wants to pay \$1.8 billion of our tax dollars to convicted criminals – 1,575 individuals charged with Federal crimes related to the crimes committed at the Capitol on January 6th. 750 pleaded guilty on attacking our police officers that were there to protect the White House. For the majority of these criminals, their faces were caught on camera and Trump pardoned them anyway. Now, he wants to use our tax dollars to pay these people. I grew up and was told *crime does not pay*. Help me make sense of this action. We deserve better.

Black Lake

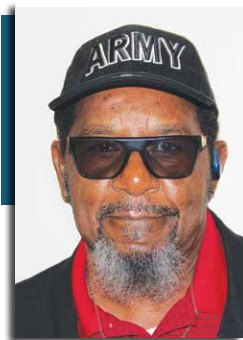
On Tuesday, the session opened with Colleen Allen from the Trust doing her fine job of explaining the rights of our members. One issue that stood out was the Wex Card. She pointed out over 47% of our members did not use all of their Wex Card last year. Region 1D Assistant Director Scott Zuckschwerdt introduced Director Steve Dawes, who will be retiring at the end of this term. He gave Director Dawes' history of honorably serving the UAW, more especially Region 1D.

On Wednesday, Genesee County Sheriff Chris Swanson gave a presentation on scams, elder abuse, living wills, etc. Cathy and Chelsea Morena gave a presentation on Mid-Michigan Honor Flight, which represents the Veterans that served in WWII, the Korean war, and the Vietnam war as they get transported free to Washington, D.C.

Navigating Health Care

Dawn, Chris and Julie Inman spoke on the importance of having an Advanced Directive. I didn't know that you don't have to use a family member. You have the right to choose. You can appoint any adult; such as a neighbor, friend or lawyer. What is an Advanced Directive? Do you have a Medical Durable Power of Attorney? Do you understand what a chronic condition is? Do you know what skilled home care is, defining Palliative care? Do you have a power of attorney? Do you know what Hospice really is? (Take out the "ice" and you have *hope*). Rather than focusing on a cure, it emphasizes pain management, symptom control, comfort and enhancing the quality of life. I will explain these in my next article.

UAW President Shawn Fain did a video presentation on the upcoming UAW Constitutional Convention Contract Negotiations/UAW IEB elections in October. Make sure you check with the Local and make sure they have your correct contact information.



1st VICE CHAIR

by JESSIE W. PERRY

Let's Vote Our Bread Box

Hello Everyone,

It is my hope that you all are enjoying the nice weather of late. It's that time of the year when the kids (well, in most cases, our grandkids and great grandkids) are getting out of school and college, and it's time for graduation open houses and summer vacations.

Some families are a little tight with their budgets. It is difficult this year, with all those unnecessary, extremely high-cost food prices, and with the cost of gas priced at \$4.00 a gallon and higher in places. It makes it difficult for a lot of our members and surviving spouses to really enjoy all the summer activities we are accustomed to. Thanks to that war monger and convicted criminal in the White House.

I hope everyone who went to Fire Keepers' Senior Power Day and to UAW Black Lake really enjoyed themselves. It's good to see your UAW Retirees Chapter funds at work.

Retiree Chairman Jesse Collins, our Executive Board,

Event Committee and Food Committee have been outstanding in making sure our Local 599 retired members enjoy their dues dollars.

We have elections coming up all summer, culminating in November with the Governor's race and quite a few local positions in the mid-term elections, which are very important to each one of us. These are the people who will be voting on issues that will affect our future concerning Medicare, Social Security, wasteful spending on unnecessary wars, White House big ballrooms, and billion-dollar weekend birthday parties for this guy who's in the White House.

So, my fellow members, be very careful when you cast your vote this year. As the old union guys used to say, "let's vote our bread box)."

OK, now for some smoke screens. First of all, there are those shootings, or attempted shootings, to take our minds and focus off the Epstein files. Second, every time Trump drops some more bombs, 20 minutes later, his friends make a lot of money on their oil investments.

Also, there are those attempted shootings, or whatever other reasons to build his big, beautiful, expensive ballroom – something else to waste the taxpayers' dollars on what is not needed.

Again, thank you for letting me serve the UAW Local 599 Retirees Chapter.

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2nd VICE CHAIR

by MARY SIMMONS

Summer Activities

Hello, June! I'm loving this heat. And I don't want to hear one person complaining about that, because you all know it will only be here for a little while. Then, it's back to the cold months. Enjoy the warmth while you can.

Don't forget that this is our last month for meetings until September. Also, don't forget our trip in July to Turkeyville.

I hope you all have some great things planned for your 2-month vacation. I don't have anything planned yet, but I'll come up with something (I hope).

I understand there are a lot of Juneteenth festivities lined up in Flint and surrounding areas coming up. Try to check out some of them. They sound great.

I hear ex-President Obama's Presidential Center Museum is a testament to a legacy of a man who was a great president twice. I know a lot of us remember those days and wish they were back. I know I do.

Well, I can't think of anything else to say right now, so I will sign off now. *Until next time, peace and love y'all.*

Local 599 Retiree Golfers

are invited to this year's

Annual Stan Marshall

SIT-DOWNERS

Golf Outing

August 4, 2026

with a Rain Date of
AUGUST 11, 2026

(Must be Retired)

This year's event will be held at the
IMA Brookwood Golf Course

6045 Davison Road, Burton

\$180
per team



Check-in: **8:00 a.m.**

Shotgun Start:
9:00 a.m.

This year, our Local 599 Retiree Chapter will **SPONSOR FOUR TEAMS** at half the cost (\$90 per team). If interested, contact **Jessie L. Collins** at 810-287-6621 or **Gene Ridley** at 810-516-1773. **The first four who contact us will receive this sponsorship.**

UAW LOCAL 599 RETIREE CHAPTER

HEADLIGHT



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

RETIREE CHAPTER EXECUTIVE BOARD

- Chairman Jessie L. Collins
- 1st Vice Chair Jessie W. Perry
- 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 on 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

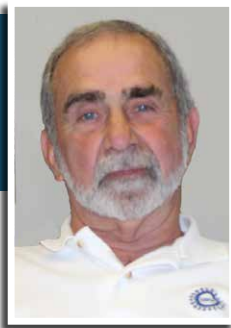


IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND WEBSITES

Retiree Health Care Connect (RHCC) ...	866-637-7555	www.benefitsweb.com/rhcc.html
UAW Trust.....	866-637-7555	www.uawtrust.org
Ford / General Motors / Stellantis (formerly FCA/Chrysler)		
Blue Cross/Blue Shield.....	877-832-2829	www.bcbsm.com
Davis Vision.....	888-234-5164	www.davisvision.com
Delta Dental.....	800-524-0149	www.deltadental.com
Legal Services Plan.....	800-482-7700	www.uawlegalservices.com
Silver Sneakers.....		www.silversneakers.com
TruHearing.....	844-394-5420	www.truhearing.com/uawtrust
United Auto Workers.....		www.uaw.org
"NEW" UnitedHealth Care Medicare Advantage Plan (Medical Benefits).....	844-320- 5021	www.retiree.uhc.com/uawtrust
"NEW" UnitedHealth Care Medicare Rx (Optum Rx - Prescription Drug Benefits).....	855-409-0219	www.uawtrustpdp.com

LIFE INSURANCE CONTACT NUMBERS

FORD MetLife.....	833-552-FORD (3673)
Stellantis (formerly FCA/Chrysler).....	888-409-3300
GM MetLife.....	888-543-3461
Social Security Administration.....	800-772-1213
Medicare.....	800-Medicare (800-633-4227)



RECORDING SECRETARY

by GENE RIDLEY

Share Your Knowledge

First, I would like to welcome back all our members who attended this year's UAW Region 1D Retirees Conference at Black Lake. I hope you all enjoyed that beautiful facility. I know that the programs offered for our retirees are great, with lots of useful information that all retirees should know. I hope now that you are back, you share the information you received with your family, friends

and neighbors. By sharing, you never know how much you might have helped them or your community.

just a few months away from the August primaries, and I hope each one of you will take the time to vote in these primaries. This is the time when we get the opportunity to choose the candidate we prefer to run for office. A time to make our voice heard on which candidate we feel will best represent all of us, and not just a few.

Also, I ask that when you make your decision on who to vote for, be

sure to research all the candidates. Find out who and what they stand for, and make sure they are going to be the best ones to represent each American citizen, not just a few. Don't be a single-issue voter, or vote for someone who says what you want to hear (just for you) and is not good for all.

I have placed in this *Headlight* how to get the facts and sites (below) you can go to for accurate information on issues that you are concerned with. With this digital era, artificial intelligence (AI) is being used extensively in the candidate campaigning, so we must be on guard to make sure that we get factual and correct information, and then share it.

Some Tips On How To Get The Facts



November elections are coming real soon, and the need to make informed decisions becomes more critical and harder to do in today's digital era.

Candidates are filling the air waves with issues about them and their opponents, *which may be true or false*. They are designed to get you to vote for them, which makes it hard to decide on a particular issue that we feel affects us.

All of us have our favorite news station that we turn to for information. There is one problem with this, and that is you must remember these stations are not really in business to give you the accurate information. They are there to sell for their advertisers. If you don't think so, just think about every news station comes on with *Breaking News!* and that news is a day or more old. They just add more to it, or spin it a different way, to get your attention.

Most important is to do your fact checking to make sure the information you are getting is true and factual – not false. This does take time, and if you really want to make good, informed decisions, it is a must. Always remember that your Union has done indepth research, and then endorses candidates who will do the best for working families and seniors.

HOW TO GET THE FACTS...

FIRST: Watch at least three different news stations because they all have their analysts that give you their opinion not just the facts. Compare the three and what is being said if it is nearly the same then more than likely it is true.

NEXT: Stay away from the information that is being posted on the social media platforms like Facebook, TikTok, X and other social media platforms they have the most inaccurate information being posted every day and people share that post not checking to see if it is true or not.

- **Google's Fact-check Explorer** is a great tool to use because it focuses Google's search engine on stories by established fact-checkers.
- **Fact Check** is a non-partisan fact-checking website that focuses primarily on US politics. It is also a non-profit project. The site regularly debunks claims by politicians and viral fake news. But it also lets users submit their own questions to the website.
- **Reuters Fact Check**, a globally recognized news organization, also offers a high-quality fact-checking service. The fact-checking portion of Reuters' website scores in the top 2% of all sites measured by *The Factual*.
- **The Washington Post Fact Checker** focuses specifically on fact-checking major events in mainstream U.S. politics. Its articles incorporate extensive evidence to back up their claims.
- **The Associated Press (AP) Fact Check** publishes weekly roundups of misinformation and occasional in-depth looks at specific issue.

MOST IMPORTANT: If you share information (*please do*) make sure it is accurate, factual and truthful.



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 Cadillac CT4
 Cadillac CT4-V Series
 Cadillac CT5
 Cadillac CT5-V Series
 Chevrolet Corvette
 Ford Mustang
 Ford Mustang GT
 Ford Mustang Dark Horse

UAW TRUCKS

Chevrolet Colorado
 Chevrolet Silverado*
 Chevrolet Silverado HD
 Chevrolet Silverado EV
 Chevrolet Silverado 3500
 HD Chassis Cab
 Chevrolet Silverado 4500
 HD/5500 HD/6500 HD
 Ford F-150
 Ford F-150 Raptor
 Ford F-250/350/450/550
 Super Duty
 Ford F-650 & 750
 Ford Ranger
 Ford Ranger Raptor
 GMC Canyon
 GMC Sierra 1500*
 GMC Sierra HD*
 GMC Sierra EV
 GMC Hummer EV Pick-up

Jeep Gladiator
 Ram 1500*

UAW SUVs/CUVs

Buick Enclave
 Cadillac Escalade
 Cadillac Escalade ESV
 Cadillac Escalade IQ
 Cadillac Escalade IQ L
 Cadillac Lyriq
 Cadillac XT5
 Cadillac Vistiq
 Chevrolet Bolt
 Chevrolet Suburban
 Chevrolet Tahoe
 Chevrolet Traverse
 Dodge Durango
 Ford Bronco
 Ford Bronco Raptor
 Ford Explorer
 Ford Explorer Hybrid
 Ford Expedition
 Ford Escape
 Ford Escape Hybrid
 GMC Acadia
 GMC Hummer EV SUV
 GMC Yukon
 GMC Yukon XL
 Jeep Grand Cherokee
 Jeep Grand Cherokee L
 Jeep Grand Wagoneer
 Jeep Grand Wagoneer L

Jeep Grand Wagoneer REEV
 Jeep Wrangler
 Lincoln Aviator
 Lincoln Corsair
 Lincoln Corsair Hybrid
 Lincoln Navigator
 Volkswagen Atlas
 Volkswagen Atlas Cross Sport
 Volkswagen ID.4 (Electric)

UAW VANS

Chevrolet Express
 Chevrolet Express (Cut-Away)
 Ford Transit
 Ford E Transit
 Ford E-Series Cutaway
 GMC Savana
 GMC Savana (Cut-Away)

UNIFOR CARS

Dodge Charger 2 Door and
 4 Door
 Dodge Charger EV

UNIFOR VANS

Chrysler Pacifica
 Chrysler Voyager

UNIFOR TRUCKS

Chevrolet Silverado*
 Chevrolet Silverado HD

These vehicles are made in the United States or Canada by members of the UAW and Canada's Unifor union, formerly the Canadian Auto Workers (CAW). Because of the integration of vehicle production in both countries, all vehicles listed as made in Canada include significant UAW-made content and support the jobs of UAW members.

Vehicles marked with a single asterisk (*) are also produced in Mexico.

This list is a snapshot in time. Automakers frequently shift production between plants and countries, so vehicle sourcing can change. **The most reliable way to ensure a vehicle is union-built is to check the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) and look for the union label, typically found on the dashboard or inside the door frame.**





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— ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS —

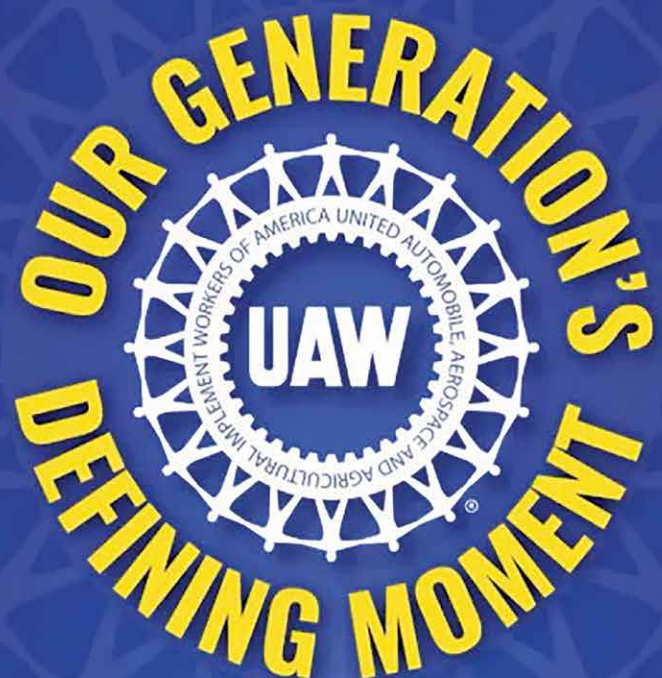
Fenton Chapel 810.629.9321

Linden Chapel 810.735.7833

Miller Rd. Chapel 810.635.4411



— 2026 —
**UAW CONSTITUTIONAL
— CONVENTION CALL —**



The UAW National Convention is being held in Detroit, MI and will be determining the bargaining strategy for the upcoming contract negotiations. More importantly, they will be nominating those members wishing to run for the offices of the UAW Executive Board, along with the President. You will then be mailed a ballot to vote for those candidates.

YES, RETIREES GET TO VOTE FOR OUR UNION LEADERSHIP. LET'S TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IT.

Make sure you have your name and address information updated with the International Union, so you will receive a ballot to vote.

You can do this through the dues office at Local 651, Monday and Tuesday, 9:00am - 4:00pm

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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[^]APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Subject to approval based on creditworthiness. Rates may vary based on each individual's credit history and underwriting factors. The Credit Union will reduce the rate of your existing non-Financial Plus loan by 1% (subject to a minimum rate of 3.99% APR for auto, 4.99% APR for boat, 5.49% APR for RV, and 5.99% APR for motorcycle and powersport loans). Proof of the current rate and terms of the loan to be refinanced is required. Promotion only applicable to secured auto, boat, RV, motorcycle, and powersport loans. Promotion does not apply to existing loans with the Credit Union, purchases or lease buyouts. Rates and terms are subject to change without notice. Cannot be combined with Loyalty Rate Discounts. The Credit Union reserves the right to modify or discontinue this offer at any time without notice. Some restrictions apply. See Credit Union for details.