



UAW Local 31
 Executive Board
 President
George Ruiz
 Vice President
A.J. Shumate
 Recording Secretary
Dedire Hawkins
 Financial Secretary
Donna Birks
 Trustees
Clarence Brown
Norma Raya
Pamela Mason
 Sgt. At Arms
Keith Crowell
 Guide
Veronica Boyd
 Shop Chairman
John Melton
 Retiree Rep.
Jack Yunghans

Inside this issue:

President's Report	2
Comm. Service committee	3
Civil & Human Rights Comm.	4
CAP Committee	5
Your Benefits Report	8
Retiree's Report	10
Obituaries	11

LOCAL 31 NEWSLINE

November 2011

Kansas City, Kansas

Volume 14, Issue 11

UAW, Big Three Conclude Talks

Overcoming early opposition, a new four-year contract at Ford has been approved by UAW members, 63 percent to 37 percent. Chrysler workers, meanwhile, were to complete their ratification process by the end of October, while at the other Big Three automaker, GM, workers had approved their own agreement in late September.

As was the case at Ford, early voting among Chrysler's 23,000 workers showed some opposition to the deal, but exact numbers were not made public.

The final vote at Ford was 26,274 to 15,225 among production and skilled trades workers, the UAW said in a statement. About 41,500 hourly workers are covered by the agreement, the most generous of those at the Big Three.

The contract contains a \$6,000 signing payment and other lump-sum payments, but Ford avoided

an increase in its fixed labor costs, including pay raises for traditional workers or restoration of cost-of-living allowances lost during concessions in 2009. Ford said the deal commits the company to creating 5,750 new jobs over the contract term.

eligible for additional annual bonuses of \$500 based on vehicle quality and other performance factors. The company also agreed to add jobs over the next four years, but just 2,100.

GM, Ford and Chrysler also agreed to increase pay for entry-level workers by several dollars an hour, but employees hired before 2007 will not receive raises.

All told, the UAW says, agreements at the Big Three would create more than 20,000 new jobs in the U.S. "Together with the jobs created in suppliers and other businesses supported by auto manufacturing, a total of 180,000 jobs will be added to the country's battered economy," King said. "Through collective bargaining and working together with the domestic automakers, we have shown that cooperation and collective bargaining work."



Some 48,000 GM workers received a \$5,000 signing bonus and at least \$3,000 more in subsequent years. GM will create 6,400 jobs and reopen an assembly plant in Tennessee.

Chrysler, seen as the weakest of the Big Three, agreed to pay only \$1,750 upon ratification. Another \$1,750 will be paid when the company meets certain financial targets. Chrysler workers are also



Who is the person in the wolf costume?

President's Report

Hello Brothers and Sisters of Local 31,

Thank you to the BBQ Committee for their hard work at putting the BBQ Cook-off together. Congratulations to the winners.

The next few months will be busy at the hall and the plant. The Chaplaincy committee will be asking for donations of peanut butter, paper towels and toilet tissue for the City Union Mission. Donation boxes are at the entry doors.

The Education Committee will be holding a coat drive starting the first of November.

The Veteran's Committee will have their celebration on the 11th of November starting on the 3rd shift. A gate drive will also be happening on that day. Please help a veteran. Monies collected are used to buy toiletries and other items to take to the local Veteran's Hospitals in Leavenworth, Kansas and Kansas City, Mis-

souri. We will be taking names and sizes for a Veteran's T-Shirt to be given out to our Veterans, as an appreciation gift for their service to our country.

The Civil and Human Rights Committee will also have a celebration on November 17th.

In December our Community Services Committee will be working on the Adopt-A-Family program for Christmas. Please help those in need by giving whatever you can. Thank you.

The Recreation Committee will have their annual Breakfast with Santa for the Kids and Christmas Dance, tentatively set up for December 17. More information will follow.

We will be asking for volunteers to help the "Occupy Wall Street" movement. We also need volunteers to help in passing out information and

putting up yard signs to get some of the candidates that we are supporting elected to state and local offices. I will be asking all of the appointed personnel to sign up for one of the walks and committee functions.

Remember that the Retirees will meet on November 15 for their Annual Thanksgiving Lunch that will be catered. The next regular Local 31 union meeting will be held on Saturday, November 19, 2011 at 2:00 pm. Please plan to attend.

I hope everyone enjoys their negotiated time off on November 14 – the Veteran's Holiday and the Thanksgiving time off, November 24 & 25. Drive safely.

George R. Ruiz

Vice President's Report

Sisters and Brothers,

Our newly elected standing committees are organized and functioning. Each committee is planning events and working diligently to not only educate our members, but also to provide opportunities for us to collaborate in and outside of our facility. This local is fortunate to have many members that have either served on a committee and/or volunteered to work with a standing committee. There is always room for volunteers. Please stop by or call the Un-

ion Hall to contact the chairperson of the committee that you would like to work with.

At this time, I would like to acknowledge one of our recent retired members, Mr. Mike Kane who retired as our 1st shift Safety Representative. After serving many elected and appointed positions here at Local 31, he has also served our members as Wyandotte County Commissioner. Even with his retirement he will still be a voice for the UAW in our community. We all thank him for his past work and his

future support.

I also want to acknowledge and thank all of the veterans in the plant and all of those who have retired. You have served us well and we appreciate your dedication to our country.

If any of you need my assistance, please contact me by leaving a message at the Union Hall at (913) 342-7330. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday; be safe in your time away.

A. Schmidt

Community Service Committee

Brothers & Sisters,

The holiday season is near and so is our Adopt-A-Family program. There will be sign-up sheets available at the entrances and drop-off boxes for you to place the filled out form. We sincerely hope you will continue to care and share your blessings with our families in need at Christmas time.

As we move through this holiday season we ask you to remember our many Brothers and Sisters far away from home and loved ones. Some may not be able to make it home for both Thanksgiving and Christmas. Here is an opportunity to share a festive meal and maybe a football game with your union family. This Thanksgiving reach out and

invite a union brother or sister over for dinner.

In closing we'd like to thank UAW Local 31 again for sending your Community Service Committee to the UAW Civil & Human Rights and Com-



munity Service Conference. The theme of this year's conference was "Building Coalitions: Strengthen our collective power globally". Together we will or-

ganize, build power and win justice. We are fired up ready to go and ready to serve the membership of Local 31.

Have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.

Community Service

Summer Small, Peggy Johnson, and Pamela Kyle

Inside Story Headline



UNION MEETING NOTICE

The next monthly Regular Executive Board and Membership Meetings will be held Saturday November 19, 2011 (always the 3rd Saturday). The E-Board meets at 1:00 pm followed by the Regular Membership at 2:00 pm. IF PRODUCTION IS SCHEDULED FOR THAT SATURDAY, MEETING TIMES WILL BE POSTED IN THE PLANT THE WEEK PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED MEETING TIME. (Retirees may call the Union Hall for meeting times.)

RETIREE MONTHLY MEETING TUESDAY November 15, 2011 11:00 am

The regular retiree meetings are held on the third Tuesdays of each month except for July and August. The meeting begins at 11:00 am followed by a potluck lunch. NOVEMBER DINNER IS CATERED! Spouses

Civil and Human Rights Committee

We apologize for the postponed Oktoberfest celebration. We do have a tentative date set for Thursday, November 17th. The menu will be announced in the Fairfax Report soon.

The season of Thanksgiving allows reflection on those who have come before us. What better way than to take a journey back through 500 years of African American culture.

Union Station has brought 'America I AM: The African American Imprint' to Kansas City on October 22 and continues through January 3, 2012. Admission to Union Station America I AM: for Adults \$12 Seniors/Students/Military \$10 Children 3-12 \$8 2-under Free

'America I AM' exhibit leads us through the history of African American's lives, service and critical contribution to the growth of our nation. Don't miss this opportunity to enlighten your spirit and those you love about our nation's history and the impact African American's experience on our

economic, socio-political, cultural and spiritual foundation.

One of the 13 galleries concentrates on the modern Civil Rights Movement and how Martin Luther King inspired millions to stand in solidarity against businesses, politicians and social injustice for mistreating an entire segment of the population based on the color of their skin. For more information visit: www.americaiam.org

The MLK Foundation has spent the last twenty-five years planning a memorial to King, and on August 26th, The Martin Luther King Memorial in Washington D.C. opened to the public thanks in part to GM and its generosity that was first to donate to make the dream a reality. A hurricane and earthquake delayed President Obama's dedication until October 16, 2011. President Obama spoke to the present need for change.

Less than 24-hours prior, citizens gathered under the "Occupy Wall street" in Washington. Referring to the citizen protests against the wealthy and powerful both

here and abroad, Obama said: "Dr. King would want us to challenge the excesses of Wall Street without demonizing those who work there."

White House Press

Obama urged Americans to harness the energy of the civil rights movement for today's challenges and to remain committed to King's peaceful resistance. "Let us draw strength from those earlier struggles," Obama said. "Change has never been simple or without controversy."

In closing, Martin Luther King leaves us with this question that is as pertinent today as it was when it was written in 1967, "where do we go from here?"

*Washington AP
Stacy A. Anderson*

*Share Your Thanksgiving!
Civil and Human Rights*

BRUCE DREW
MARISA REYES
TRISHA TREVINO

Thank You Local 31

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

It is with my deepest regrets that I am resigning my position as trustee on the Executive Board of Local 31 effective Nov. 4. I have accepted my relocation back home to the Wentzville Plant.

I would like to thank the entire membership for supporting and voting for me as your trustee. I would also like to thank everyone who gave me an opportunity to help volunteer and work with you on the various committees, as well as the United Way,

the retirees, etc.

I would also like to thank the entire executive board, especially John Melton, George Ruiz and former president Jeff Manning.

Solidarity forever,
Pamela Mason

CAP Committee

Sisters and Brothers of UAW Local 31:

On October 15, as the Occupy Wall Street protests spilled into Time's Square in New York City, an Associated Press reporter questioned Sandra Fox, 69 of Baton Rouge, LA, while she waited outside to enter a theater to watch the Broadway show, "Anything Goes". Not far from them, riot police pushed a knot of about 200 shouting protesters toward them, and the reporter asked Fox her impression of the Occupy Wall Street Movement.

"I think it's horrible what they're doing," she said of the protesters. "These people need to go get jobs."

And this, sisters and brothers, is a prime example of what's wrong in our country today. The average person has no clue what is going on across our nation as corporate power strengthens and the voice of the individual weakens. We, as proud union members, have the responsibility to educate our families, friends, neighbors and communities to counter the misinformation spread by those who want to silence our collective voice. So, in the spirit of education, here are a few questions and answers that have been raised recently:

Q: What is the difference between the Auto Industry bail-outs and the Wall Street Bail-outs?

A: GM and Chrysler received LOANS, not bail-outs, as a way to remain solvent and save thousands, if not potentially millions of American jobs. Federal regulations were attacked by foes of the US auto industry as a way to attack the UAW and to a lesser degree, the Big 3. The invested monies will be paid back to the government in full. The result? The American car industry is thriving, and jobs will be added as demand for American cars increases.

The Wall Street bail-outs were free, unregulated cash giveaways to the huge banking and financial institutions. The cash was used to line the pockets of the

corporate officers, and not help those individuals who were forced into financial straits by the mismanagement of the banks. The result? Average people are losing their homes as record foreclosures continue to plague the country, and billions of dollars were added to a ballooning debt, a debt that occurred under the presidency of George W. Bush.

Q: What does the Supreme Court's



Citizen's United ruling mean, and who is "Citizen's United"?

A: This ruling allows virtually unlimited campaign spending by corporations. Corporations have typically outspent unions by a 15 to 1 margin, but this decision by the high court will increase that unfair rate exponentially. The actual driving force behind "Citizen's United" is a coalition of corporate partners who want to further their control on American politics.

Q: Is the Americans for Prosperity a labor-friendly organization?

A: Americans For Prosperity (AFP) is the main driving force behind the ultra-conservative Tea Party. AFP wants to abolish worker's rights, break unions and silence opposing voices. The main people controlling AFP and the Tea Party are billionaire brothers, David and Charles Koch, who have pledged \$200 MILLION for Tea Party candidates in the 2012 elections.

Q: Who are the Koch Brothers?

A: David and Charles Koch are the sons of an oil baron, inheriting an empire without ever doing an honest day's work. They have expanded their bank

accounts with Koch industries, which own multiple subsidiary companies, particularly in the paper goods industry. The paper giant, Georgia Pacific, is owned by the Koch Brothers. They are heavily involved in national and state politics, pushing corporate policies over the rights of the average worker. The Brothers are the puppet-master of Tea Party Governor Scott Walker of Wisconsin.

Q: Is Herman Cain's "9-9-9" plan to rewrite the nation's tax code a good idea?

A: It is a great idea if you happen to be a multi-millionaire and/or own a large corporation. Taxes would go down for those individuals. Taxes would actually increase for almost everyone else. It should be noted that Herman Cain has direct ties to the Koch Brothers and the Tea Party. And Cain is also a corporate CEO himself.

With national, state and local elections just a year away, now is the time to act. Organized labor is financially far behind corporate interests. We will need each member of the UAW to reach out in the communities to spread the word that unions are good for the average worker and the country as a whole. If the corporate interests that have always threatened labor unions gain control of our governments, everything we've fought for in the last 76 years can be taken away with the stroke of a pen. It's our duty to work so that it doesn't come to that.

UAW LOCAL 31
CAP COMMITTEE
Don Marshall
Tracy Smith
Veronica Franks-Cato
Charles Hall
David Barnhart



We came to party.

Education Committee

Hi Everyone!

The Education committee is back and ready to blaze a trail, beginning with the 2011 Coat Drive. Fall has arrived already. It is amazing how time flies. The winter weather has really already begun.

The Education Committee will be collecting gently used and new winter coats for men, women and children from November 1st through the 22nd. So as you are putting away the summer clothes and getting out your winter things- or out shopping to prepare for the winter months, con-

sider donating a coat to someone who is REALLY in need. With Americans struggling more now than we have in so many years, and we as auto-workers are so blessed, let us dig down and really show our fellow Americans what the UAW/GM Fairfax team is all about by placing your donations in the North and South entrance drop boxes labeled EDUCATION COAT DRIVE.

Keep an eye out for the Education Committee's future programs, events and communications.

The Education Committee sponsored a trunk at the Trunk or Treat event. We hope you all enjoyed that and brought your little trick or treaters for Halloween goodies.

We wish you all a very Happy and Safe Thanksgiving Holiday. Enjoy our UAW negotiated holiday! Remember Knowledge is power!

In Solidarity,
Jacqueline Hagerman
Eric White
Aishia Shelmon

Women's Committee

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Our Breast Cancer Awareness Month was a great success thanks to the support of all of our UAW members along with members of management. Several of our own members are survivors and we wish them continued good health in the future.

Everyone had a fun evening at our Halloween Costume Party; the proceeds went towards the Breast Can-

cer Awareness Cause. Thanks for coming out in your costumes.

On November 12 at 3:00 in the afternoon (following the basketball game between the UAW Local 31 Team and the Local 184L Team) we'll have a get-together dance for everyone. We'll be doing line dancing and 2-stepping, so come on over to the Union Hall and join the fun.

We hope that everyone

will have a safe and happy Thanksgiving Holiday. Enjoy the time off with your family and friends.

--In solidarity--
Local 31 Women's
Committee
Charlotte Dickey
Shante Riding
Lori Burnett
Zandra Brown
Robin Harris

Under-Rated but Working

Wouldn't it be great to be a movie star, President or dental hygienist?

Dental hygienist?

According to CareerCast.com, that's one of the most "under-rated" jobs around. Along with other non-flashy occupations like Paralegal, Market Research Analyst and Insurance

Agent, dental hygienists have median-to-higher income levels, lower stress, lower environmental dangers and lower physical demands, according to the website, which rated jobs based on a range of criteria, including income, stress, danger, physical demands, and outlook.

"And even in this tight economy," CareerCast.com noted,

"all share one great attribute: a lower than average unemployment rate."

Other top under-rated jobs included Accountant, Loan Officer, Software Engineer, Computer Systems Analyst, Dietician, Civil Engineer, Physical Therapist and Chiropractor.

Union Label Buy American Committee

Greetings Sisters and Brothers of Local 31:

Thanksgiving will be here soon and we need to be thankful we have good-paying union jobs or good retirement incomes with benefits. We also need to be mindful of those that don't and try to purchase Union/American made products they produce.

We as consumers can make an impact on the jobless rate that is facing our country, which also can help reduce the deficit and fix other issues which our country faces.

We, as your Union Label /Buy American Committee have started writing our representatives in Washington urging them to negotiate the trade agreements with China and other countries. Below are listed items that are American made, many of which are also Union Made.

Thanksgiving Dinner:

Sweet, Red, Golden or White potatoes, grown in the U.S., can be found in abundance along with vegetables that are available both fresh, frozen and canned here in the states. Another option to purchasing the traditional turkey, ham or roast is to opt for organic and free-range. Without preservatives, most of those marked 'Organic' are from local growers. Another option beyond metro grocers is

our local farmer's markets which might be closed by your shopping trip for Thanksgiving. However our City Market is open and is a great place to experience FRESH PRODUCE from local vendors.

The City Market
20 E. 5th Street, Suite 201
Kansas City, MO 64106
Phone: 816-842-1271
Fax: 816-471-6168



Hours:

MARCH - OCTOBER:
SATURDAY 6:00 am - 3:00 pm
SUNDAY 8:00 am - 3:00 pm
NOVEMBER - FEBRUARY:
SATURDAY 7:00 am - 3:00 pm
SUNDAY 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

USA made Shoes, Boots, and more...

Red Wing Shoes:

Antioch Shopping Center, 5408 Antioch Rd, KCMO is offering a 10% discount. Be sure to read the label. Phone (816) 452-3828
5622 Johnson Dr., Mission KS (913)831-4488

13924 E Noland Rd, Indep., MO (816) 232-0377

411 S Belt Hwy, St. Joe, MO (816)232-0377 and Mace Shoe Store, 20 N Main St., Liberty, MO

SAS Shoes:

301 Armour Rd, N Kansas City, MO (816) 471-5130

3803 W 95th St. Overland Park, KS 913-385-5500

Brown's Shoe Fit, 1403 N Belt Hwy, St. Joe, MO (816) 671-9931

Foot Locker carries New Balance Tennis shoes:

Men's- #2002 Running \$264.99, #1260 Running \$144.99, #1080 Running \$134.99, #993 Running \$144.99, #940 Running \$119.99, #880 Running \$99.99 and #860 Running \$99.99

Ladies- #1260 Running \$144.99, #1080 Running \$134.99, #993 Running \$144.99, #880 and #860 Running \$99.99 and #577 Fitness \$67.99.

Please consider these products when shopping for your Thanksgiving dinner and please remember to always READ the LABEL when buying anything. Have a safe and happy holiday.

Union Label Committee
Kay Meyers
John Anderton
Bill Folsom

Chaplaincy Committee

*A Note from God
My Beloved,*

Thousands of years ago, with the birth of my Son in a manger, I gave a gift to all mankind. Empty hearts still hunger to receive it. Yet many are unwilling to accept it.

Every day I feel the anguish of families whose livelihoods have been stripped away and who, for the very first time, can't provide a safe place for their children to lay their heads. I know the regret of addicts who traded their self-esteem for the hollow

comfort of a drink or a drug. I hear the cries of the homeless and destitute who believe their futures are no longer within their control. But I'm in control. And when I lead these hurting souls to the Mission, they come to know they are my children..and worthy of my grace, hope and love.

I'm honored by your compassion for the poor and your sacrificial support of this special place called City Union Mission.

Please remember to place your dona-

tions of paper towels/toilet tissue and peanut butter in the boxes placed at the north and south entrances, or drop them off at the hall.

Thank you and have a wonderful
Thanksgiving!
Herb Taylor
Mike Flores
Sean Watson
Regeneita Langham-Nichols

About Your Benefit

UAW RETIREE

Statement from the: UAW RETIREE MEDICAL BENEFITS TRUST

RE: 2012 Retiree Benefits Administered by the Trust

The UAW Retiree Medical Benefits Trust (the "Trust") provides health care benefits for all current and future eligible UAW retiree members of General Motors, Ford and Chrysler. The Trust is an independent entity and not part of the autos or the UAW.

The recent contract negotiations and reports in the news have caused speculation regarding retiree benefits administered by the Trust. The Trust will be formally announcing the details of 2012 benefit changes in November. However, because of questions raised and speculation on this issue, the Trust is releasing the following preliminary information on 2012 changes. These changes were approved by the independent Board of Trustees at their August 22, 2011 meeting. This is not meant to serve as a substitute for formal communications nor is it all inclusive of the details and changes to the benefit plan. Additional details regarding 2012 benefits will be provided in November via mail to all retirees.

UAW TRUST 2012 BENEFIT CHANGES INCLUDE:

NEW COVERAGE FOR GM and Chrysler Members

Preventive Dental Program that includes coverage for:

Cleanings twice yearly

X-rays

Fillings

Routine Vision Exam-Every 24 months with \$25 copay

For all Ford, GM and Chrysler Mem-

bers:

New Coverage: Four (4) Primary Care Office Visits for Non Medicare

NEW COVERAGE Four (4) Primary Care Office Visits for Non-Medicare* members and their dependents enrolled in the Traditional Care Network (TCN) Plan

1 Wellness and 3 Routine Visits

*Medicare currently provides office visit coverage for Medicare-eligible members

- No Increase in current Monthly Contributions and Prescription Drug copays from current levels

- No Increase in copays for Urgent Care, Emergency Room or HMO Office Visits for existing plans

- Increase to Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum level depending upon plan chosen

- NEW Health Plan Options for Medicare Eligible Members in the following eight (8) states Ohio, New York, Missouri, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Tennessee and Florida

A series of informational meetings will be held for members in these states

All Members:

Pre-Hospice

Coverage for pre-hospice consists of evaluation, consultation, education and support services with a lifetime maximum of 28 visits available prior to the enrollee electing hospice care. Pre-hospice coverage allows concurrent continuation of curative treatment until the enrollee is ready to forgo curative care.

Hospice

UAW GM members will now be eligible for hospice if life expectancy is 12 months or less (changed from 6 months). There is a lifetime maxi-

um of 365 days (was 210 days) which may be extended through case management.

Hearing aid coverage is expanded to include diagnostic testing and two (2) hearing aids every three years within a \$2000 maximum benefit.

Legal Services Plan

All current plan benefits will remain in force until December 31, 2013. At that time, any pending legal matters will be processed to their conclusion.

HOURLY ACTIVE MEMBERS

Office visits, effective January 1, 2012, will have unlimited office visits by in-network providers at a \$25. Co-pay per visit. Also, an annual wellness physical will be included and paid in full.

Coverage will expand to include an urgent care benefit at participating providers with a co-payment of \$50 and emergency visit co-pay of \$100 if the patient is not admitted to the hospital for treatment.

Improved dental care coverage

Dental care coverage was upgraded so that UAW GM hourly members now receive composite resins for all fillings when restoring posterior teeth, regardless of surface. Additionally, enrollees at risk for oral cancer or with un-resolving oral lesions or ulcerations will now have coverage for one (1) brush biopsy per calendar year.

Other improvements include:

Single tooth, endosteal-implant with coverage up to 50 percent of cost and subject to annual maximum.

Enrollees will now receive one (1) occlusal guard covered up to 90 percent and subject to annual maximum every five years instead of just one (1) in a lifetime.



Caption describing picture or graphic.

Retiree's Recreation Report

For those of you who went on our Branson trip, a huge thanks. Without each and every one of you, this annual trip would not be as fun and memorable as it continuously turns out to be. We always seem to have such a wonderful group of people, which makes for a wonderful event. Each year we hear people say that they didn't think it could get better than the year before, yet it always does. For those of you who decided not to go to Branson, you don't know what you missed! We hope the word spreads and more retirees will participate in future events.

Each January the Executive Board and the retiree Recreation Committee meet to discuss and plan that year's events. If you have suggestions for one-day trips or longer, please talk to one of the board or committee members. Due to the demand and success, we always plan 2 events to The New Theatre Restaurant during the year. The first one will be on Saturday, June 23rd, featuring the play "Hairspray" starring KC's own terrific local talent (you may re-

member the movie version with John Travolta). We'll also enjoy a wonderful lunch. Although this is months away, our group tickets sell out quickly. If you want to go, please call Clint Simmons at 816-505-7111 to reserve your spot. Your money won't be due until next March. Group sales at the theatre have priority; we obtain good seats by booking early. Our second matinee will be next November or December, so be watching for that info in the spring.

Receiving the *Newsline* in time has always been somewhat of an issue; unfortunately sometimes union events come and go before our paper arrives. But we have been assured that the paper will be updated and available online well before we actually receive it in the mail. Depending on the union hall's schedule, you should be able to read the entire *Newsline* after the first week of each month. Go to: www.uawlocal31.org, and click on Retirees at the top of the page for upcoming news and retiree trips. This website provides not only current informa-

tion about retirees, but all union events, reports, and news, so take the time to look at everything the site has to offer.

If you don't attend already, please consider joining us for the monthly holiday dinner meetings. Our Thanksgiving meeting is on November 15th; our Christmas meeting is on December 20th. Both begin at 11am, but due to the large number of retirees, who attend, should come early! These holiday dinners are catered so there is no need to bring a dish. We will have raffles, prizes and giveaways, plus you'll see union co-workers you haven't seen in a while. It's always a great time!

The retirees will be having a Holiday Get-Together on Friday, December 9th, from 1:30 to 9:00pm. at the union hall. There will be music, snacks, soft drinks, games, etc. B.Y.O.B. There is no charge, and dress as you please. Please plan to come and enjoy yourself - hope to see you there!

*Clint Simmons,
Recreation Committee*

Continue Benefits

Fluoride trays for patients undergoing radiation therapy treatment for head and neck will now be covered at 100 percent.

Physical, occupational and speech therapy benefit expanded to now receive physical, occupational and speech therapy provided in a doctor's office

setting in addition to all PTO therapy facilities. Diagnosis codes for physical therapy will also be expanded to include things such as wound therapy and debridement.

Please be certain you contact your UBR, (913) 573-7421 OR 7422, regarding effective dates for services.

Have a safe Thanksgiving!

1st Shift
Craig Dumortier, Cheryl Millican
2nd Shift
J.D. Hogan, Bobbie, Dunnell
(913) 573-7480 3rd Shift
Sandy Martinez
Delphi and Leeds Caretaker
Bob Fiscus (816) 455-0200

Retiree's Report

"Never laugh at anyone's dream; people who don't have dreams don't have much."

Unknown

On Thursday, September 22, 2011, The Southwest Missouri Retiree UAW Chapter held their Annual Fish Fry and Auction meeting at the Warsaw Community Center. Our Local 31 bus had 40 to attend from the K. C. area. Many others drove themselves and altogether there were about 350 people at the meeting. To raise money for the Council, people donated different items that were auctioned off. Local 31's own Harold Bahrenburg is the Chairman and our own Danny Gingerich was the auctioneer. Three hundred dollars was collected for the 50/50 drawing, \$275 for an electric smoker and \$433 for a hand-made quilt. Anyone who would like to get in touch with the chapter may contact them at 1-660-438-4681.

At the Tri-County Labor Council Meeting, chaired by Donna Birks on September 27, Unified Government Councilman Nathan Barnes and Jesse Hope who is the CEO of the Old Quindaro Museum spoke about the recent ownership of the house that is the home of the museum. They need volunteers to get the house in shape to meet the city codes (professional roofers). To contribute items, labor or money, contact (913) 224-8497 or go to www.oldquindaro.org. Tri-County will start working on Christmas bikes in

October.

On Thursday, September 29, 2011 (my 72nd birthday) we attended the UAW Region 5 Missouri State UAW CAP Council Meeting at Lake Ozark, Missouri. The following CAP officers were elected: Nick Robinson – President

Jeff Wright – Vice President
Randy Bland – Recording Sec.
Van Simpson – Financial Sec.
Bobby Thompson – Trustee
Gene Cobb – Trustee
John Miller – Trustee

After the elections, Brother Robinson introduced Region 5 Director Jim Wells who gave one of his usual rousing speeches. The speech was to make sure that we do a better job in the 2012 elections than we did in 2010. We, the workers and retired workers, are responsible for Wisconsin and anywhere that the Tea Party candidates got elected and there is now and all-out assault on working/labor/poor and senior Americans. He gave praise to retirees who in 2011 have raised \$113,417 for V-CAP. He also announced that the Wentzville, Missouri plant will be recalling workers.

On Tuesday, October 18, 2011 our retiree Executive Board meeting opened with the pledge of allegiance and a silent prayer led by Brother William J. McNeal. All executive board members were in attendance except Sister Bobbie

Bennett who was excused. Chairman Yunghans notified the board that there would be a collection at the regular meeting for down and out retirees for Christmas.

At 11:00, Chairman Yunghans called the regular meeting to order. Sister Mary Green led us in prayer and the pledge of allegiance to the flag. The guests at this meeting were from the vision provider SVS and one of the visiting nurse programs was available to give Flu shots.

Benefit Representative Cheryl Milligan gave us some good news and some bad news. She announced that we got back some of our lost dental and eye coverage. The bad news was that we won't get our Christmas bonus. All details will be sent to us by mail in November. Brother J. D. Hogan who is also a benefit representative announced that he would be retiring come January 1, 2012.

REMEMBER THAT THE NOVEMBER & DECEMBER MEETINGS WILL BE CATERED, SO DON'T BRING A COVERED DISH ... SEE YOU ON NOVEMBER 15, 2011.

W. J. McNeal

Retiree Editor &
2nd Vice President

Credit Union News

GM has sent many of UAW-MO-KAN Federal Credit Union's members a letter regarding payroll deductions. The GM payroll department has confirmed members can have payroll deductions going to only one (1) Credit Union. GM payroll department wants to con-

firm UAW MO-KAN Federal Credit Union is the Credit Union our members want to have their deductions sent to. Members can bring the form or get a new form from the Credit Union confirming their deductions. Members can come thru the Credit Union's drive

-thru window and drop off the form. The Credit Union will also fax the form letter for our members.

Call (913) 342-3408 with any questions.

*The Executive Board and Membership of UAW Local 31
would like to extend their deepest sympathies
to the families and friends of the following members who passed away recently*

DEATHS

ROBERT BROOKE
Joined: September 1994
(transfer)
Retired: August 2006
Department 48
Died: November 13,
2011

C. DALE GIBSON
Joined: August 1969
Retired: August 2006
Department 50
Died: October 20, 2011

LOWELL DAVIS
Joined: June 1977
Retired: September 2007
Department 25
Died: October 13, 2011



**GARY SCOTT
DICKERSON**
Joined: March 1978
Retired: November 2001
Department 17
Died: October 16, 2011



Dept. of Labor Awards \$32.5 Million to Combat Child Labor

More than 215 million children around the world are engaged in child labor, the International Labour Organization estimates. More than half perform hazardous work.

Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis, joined by Sen. Tom Harkin (D - Iowa), released three new reports on child labor and forced labor October 3, and announced \$32.5 million in grants to combat child labor across the globe.

"These reports provide an overview of international efforts to protect children from hazardous work and identify critical gaps in policy and enforcement that leave them vulnerable," said Secretary Solis. "Through increased education and

awareness, and critical assistance to families and governments, we can help make exploitative child labor a thing of the past."

The grants were awarded to three organizations:

- A \$15 million Global Action Program grant was awarded to the International Labour Organization in Geneva to provide assistance to targeted countries in order to promote sustainable livelihoods for vulnerable populations; support innovative research and monitoring systems to aid with policy development and program design; and encourage new efforts to protect children from exploitation in domestic work.

- World Vision in the Philippines was awarded \$15 million to address the worst forms of child labor in sugarcane production.

- The International Labour Organization also received \$2.5 million to support the Labor Department's programming and implementation of impact evaluations to identify best practices for addressing child labor.

Copies of the three new reports and additional information on the Labor Department's efforts to combat child labor are available at <http://www.dol.gov/ilab>.

United Automobile-Aerospace
-Agricultural Implement
Workers of America

500 Kindelberger Road
Kansas City, Kansas 66115
Union Hall

#913.342.7330
Fax #913 342.3408
E-mail: editor@uawlocal31.org

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
KANSAS CITY, MO
PERMIT NO. 189

www.uawlocal31.org

UAW Local 31 Newsline
Published Monthly at
500 Kindelberger Road
Kansas City, KS 66115
Phone (913) 342-7330

A Test of Your Physical Therapy Knowledge

- The top of your computer screen should be:
 - Above eye level
 - At eye level or slightly below
 - 40 degrees below eye level
- True or False
You should rest your arms on your arm rests of your chair while typing.
- If you injure your Left leg, you should use a cane:
 - In your Left hand
 - In your Right hand
 - In which ever hand feels more comfortable
- If you are running and you are feeling sharp pains in your right knee you should:
 - Push through the pain and continue running
 - You should stop running and just try walking
 - Lie down immediately
- True or False
You are taller in the morning than you are at the end of the day
- Proper standing posture should include:
 - Shoulders in front of your hips and knees straight
 - Shoulder stacked on top of your hips and knees locked
 - Shoulders behind your hips and knees straight
- The best way to strengthen and tone your abdominal muscles is:
 - To do 50 reps of the hardest abdominal exercise you can do, pushing your abdominal muscles as hard as you can.
 - Do 10-20 reps of an abdominal exercise with good technique isolating the proper muscles.
 - Do as many sit-ups as your age.
- The balls of your feet are located:
 - On your heels
 - On the tips of your toes
 - On your arches
 - Between your toes and arch

