



# UAW LOCAL 387 NEWS



VOL. 55 — NO. 2

April, May, June 2020

## President's Report



Local 387 Brothers and Sisters,

As you are aware we have been dealing with a Crisis that has affected our state, our country, and most of the rest of the world. We are at war with an invisible enemy that does not discriminate against age, gender, or ethnicity. The Coronavirus (COVID-19) has not only caused serious health conditions or fatalities to our UAW family or people we may know but it has also caused a financial crisis, a shortage of health supplies, a lack of education for our children, and has changed the way most of us conduct everyday business. Because of this virus and our Governor's Executive Order which "directs all Michigan businesses and operations that are not necessary to sustain or protect life" we have closed the local to the public for our staff's safety as well as to help stop the spread of the virus. I understand that some of our members may have urgent and necessary concerns or questions that need to be addressed before this Executive Order is over and we will do our best to address these

ASAP. If these concerns can be handled by phone or email please do so by calling my office at (734) 782-2771 ext 3 or emailing me to [president@local387.com](mailto:president@local387.com). This Crisis has also caused cancellations and policy changes here at the local. Our women's committee was unable to host our annual Easter party this year, our retirees were not able to hold their monthly meetings, and membership meetings have been cancelled as a result of this global pandemic. There may be future membership meeting cancellations as we evaluate the status of this virus and we will continue to relay this through social media, plant postings, and emails.

In the last month we have had many retirements at both the Woodhaven Stamping and Woodhaven Forging plant due to the buy-out packages that were negotiated in our recent Ford collective bargaining agreement. I would like to recognize and congratulate all of our newly retired Local 387 members and wish them good luck. I realize these were not the conditions that they had previously imagined it would be like when they retired and it is sad that they weren't even able to go in the plants, shake hands, and say their goodbyes to friends they have worked with for many years but we appreciate all their years of service and are glad to have worked with them!

Please pay attention to our Local 387 Facebook page for updated information on future events and meetings and if you are not a member of the page please call the local and we will send you an invite to join. We will continue to take all precautionary measures to protect our members and ourselves from this virus and I urge everyone else to do the same by following all CDC Guidelines as well as any additional Orders from Governor Whitmer or our President. These are trying times for our nation and our members and if we stick together, help one another, and abide by the laws that our

*Continued on page 2*

# Dates to Remember

- April 26th Membership Meeting  
(Cancelled due to COVID-19)
- May 17th Membership Meeting 12pm  
(Subject to Cancellation due to COVID-19)
- June 28th Membership Meeting 12pm  
(Subject to Cancellation due to COVID-19)

**\*\*\*ALL LOCAL 387 EVENTS AND MEETINGS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED THROUGH APRIL 30TH DUE TO GOVERNMENT EXECUTIVE ORDER**

**\*\*\*ALL RETIREE MEETINGS ARE CANCELLED UNTIL THE SEPTEMBER 2020 DUE TO PREVIOUS MEMBERSHIP ACTION THAT STATES "IF SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED THERE IS NO MEETINGS"**

# President's Report

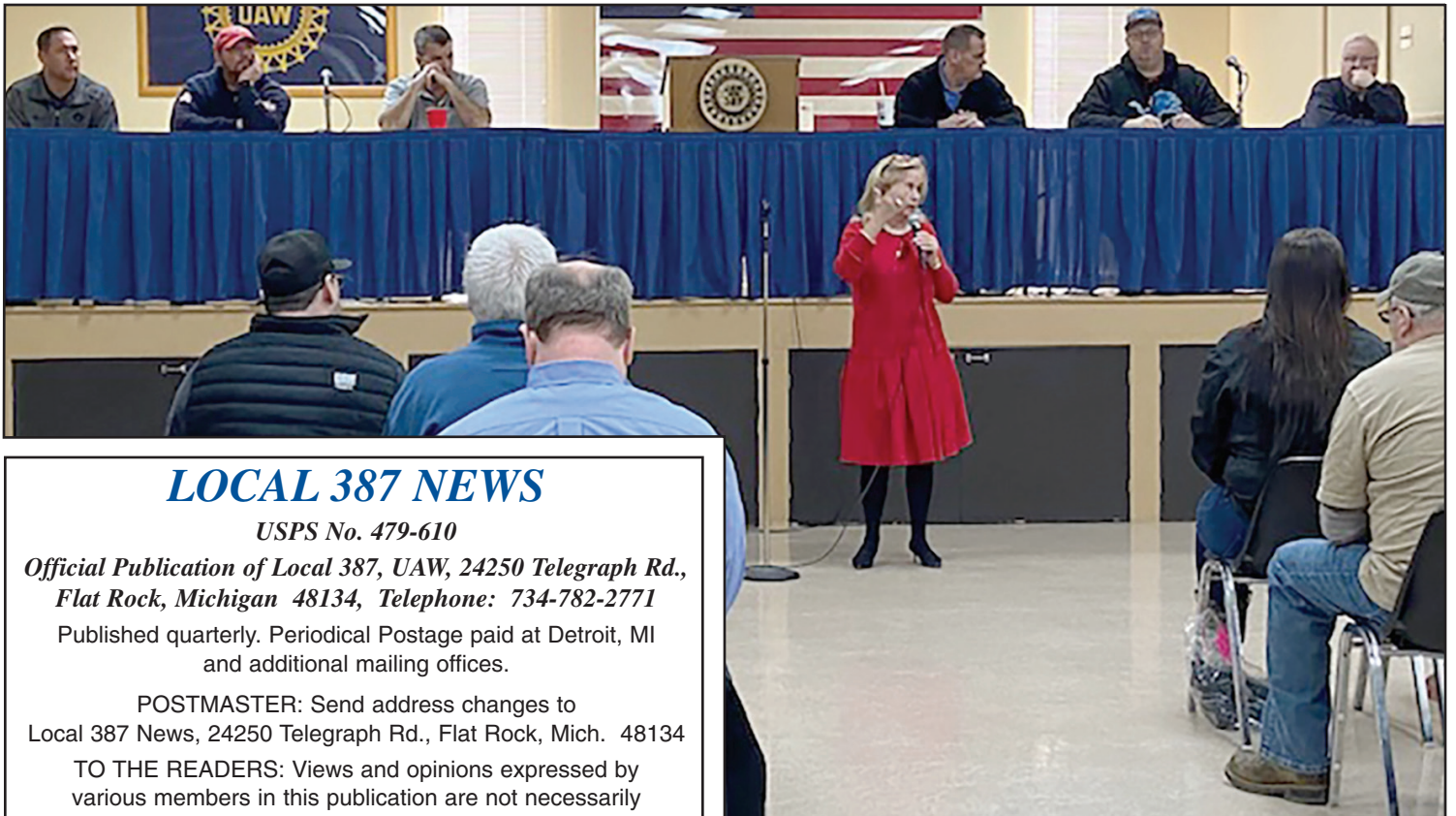
Continued from page 1

government has set to protect us from this virus we will get through this hard time and back to normal life. Please pray for our doctors, nurses, and paramedics as well as all public service men and women who are on the "front lines" fighting and helping our brothers and sisters to survive and putting themselves and their families at risk. You are our heros and if you know someone or have family who are serving in these fields please let them know that Local 387 appreciates everything you are doing for us right now! God Bless our nation, Stay Home and Stay Safe, and see you all soon!

In Solidarity,  
Jamie Storm

*"We must accept finite disappointment, but we must never lose infinite hope."*

– Martin Luther King Jr.



**Congresswoman Debbie Dingell speaks to our members at the February 23rd Local 387 Membership Meeting**

## LOCAL 387 NEWS

USPS No. 479-610

Official Publication of Local 387, UAW, 24250 Telegraph Rd., Flat Rock, Michigan 48134, Telephone: 734-782-2771

Published quarterly. Periodical Postage paid at Detroit, MI and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Local 387 News, 24250 Telegraph Rd., Flat Rock, Mich. 48134

TO THE READERS: Views and opinions expressed by various members in this publication are not necessarily those of Local Union Administration.



Recycled Paper



# Hard Labor

Submitted by  
Jim Arnold

## April 1941 Strike at River Rouge Plant

In 1941, Ford Motor Company remained the last major auto company to refuse to recognize the UAW or any union as the bargaining agent for its workers. The UAW had already signed contracts with General Motors and Chrysler, but Henry Ford remained opposed to unionization. Nonetheless, organizing did go on in the Rouge Plant and many workers did sign up. In April 1941, Ford's head of security, Harry Bennett, reputedly fired eight union members. The labor force as a whole walked out in a wildcat strike, blockading the plant. A few workers loyal to Henry Ford, remained inside the plant. They, along with additional strikebreakers, were paid \$1 per hour for their time even though no work was done. The union kept up the pressure for ten days, at the end of which Henry Ford, urged by his wife, Clara, capitulated, making concessions beyond union demands.

## May Battle of the Overpass

On May 26, 1937, UAW members from Local 174 arrived at Ford Motor Company's River Rouge Plant to pass out leaflets, with city permit in hand, as part of a campaign to secure union representation for Rouge workers. As UAW leaders Walter Reuther, Robert Kantor, Richard Frankenstein, and J.J. Kennedy posed for

photographers, they were approached by members of the Ford Service Department and severely beaten. Women from UAW Local 174's Ladies Auxiliary, reporters, and photographers standing below the overpass were also attacked. As one of the most famous events in the history of the American labor movement, the "Battle of the Overpass" set in motion a series of efforts that resulted in a crippling strike at the Rouge Plant and final recognition of the UAW by Ford Motor Company in 1941. It also cemented Walter Reuther's importance within the UAW and paved the way for his pivotal years as president.

## June The Women's Day Massacre

During the Great Ohio Steel Strike of 1937, there were numerous street battles between workers and police, including the Youngstown Riots and Poland Avenue Riot on June 21st. On June 19th, there were smaller battles that some believe were initiated by the cops to test the likely extent of union resistance in a real fight. When the cops in Youngstown couldn't find any union leaders to beat up, they went after women picketers who were sitting in chairs to support the strike. One union organizer later recalled, "When I got there, I thought the Great War had started over again. Gas was flying all over the place and shots flying and flares going up and it was the first time I had ever seen anything like it in my life..."

## \*\*\*\*\* NOTICE \*\*\*\*\*

**If you have a deposit down to book the local's hall for an event in May or June and we are still under Executive Order during that time please contact the Local and we will either refund your deposit or look for a later date to re-book your event.**

# Veterans Committee

## Thank You! Thank You:

As you know, I've been the Chairman of your Veterans Committee for 18 years. I was very proud and honored to be your Chairman. Now, it is time for me to step down and pass the torch, if you will. Noble Smith will be taking over as Chairman of your Veterans Committee. Noble is an eight year Army Veteran and served his time in South Korea during Desert Storm. Noble will be an asset and do a great job fulfilling his duties as your Chairman. I'm not going anywhere, as I am on staff with the UAW Veterans Affairs Department and a member of (NVAC), National Veterans Advisory Council and on my third term as Chairman of Region 1A Veterans Council after two terms as Vice Chairman.

I would like to thank all past and present Officers, Committeemen, Local Membership, Retirees and Veterans Committee for your tremendous support as your Chairman. Our Local 387 Veterans Committee is one of the best Committees in Region 1A because of your involvement and support of this Committee. Over the years we have supported Detroit VA Hospital, Ann Arbor VA Hospital, Detroit Vet. Center, Monroe Vet. Center, as well as numerous other Veteran's projects helping Veterans and their families. This is the reason that I am, and always will be, proud and honored to serve as your Veterans Committee Chairman.

**(GBA) God Bless America**

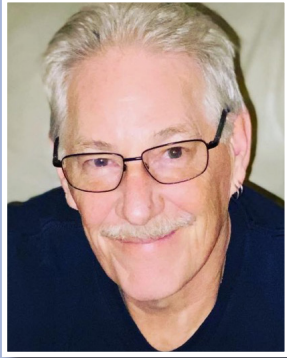
**Bob Harvey**

**Past Veterans Committee Chairman**



The Local would like to publicly recognize and thank Local 387 Retiree Bob Harvey for ALL of the countless time and effort he has put into our Veteran's Committee for the last 18 years that he has been the Chairman for. He has answered the call to help all of our veteran brothers and sisters whenever they had needs for whatever reason and at all hours of the day. He has worked with and introduced our local to some great organizations such as the Downriver for Veterans, handed out coats and books to our retired veterans, and represented Local 387 and Region 1A with honor and pride. We thank you for your service to our country and our Local and wish you all the best in the future!

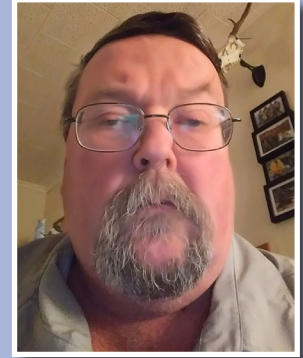
# Newly Retired



**Brian Nowicki**



**Al Pigeon**



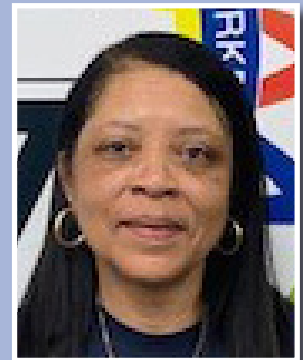
**Tim Bryson**



**Tim Lucas**



**Eric Mann**



**Cynthia Russell**



**Randy Keck**



**Joanne Dickerson**



**Tim Crane**

**Greg Tuszynski**  
*(No Photo Available)*

*\*PLEASE NOTE THAT DUE TO THE PANDEMIC/DIFFERENT RETIREMENT DATES NOT ALL RETIREES ARE IN THIS ISSUE AND WILL BE IN THE FOLLOWING ISSUE. PLEASE SUBMIT A PHOTO TO THE LOCAL IF YOU HAVE NOT.*

# Benefits Report



Greetings Active and Retired Brothers and Sisters,

I hope everyone is doing well and staying healthy amid this worldwide pandemic known as COVID-19. As of the date of this writing, the State of Michigan is under a mandatory stay-at-home order, so I am sending this message from my home. It has been a little over three months since taking the position as your Benefits Representative and a lot has gone on since that time. I would first like to thank all of those that have been patient with me during this short learning curve. There is still a lot to learn about the job but in the last 3 months we have accomplished a lot. There has been close to 50 employees that have either retired or initiated their retirement. Non-skilled employees who initiated their retirement should receive the SRI bonus that the company has offered. As for the skilled employees, only three of our skilled trades were eligible for the SRI with one do-not-repopulate welder repair set to receive it. Most of the retirements have been processed without a hitch but I've found three areas that future retiree's need to be aware of that can potentially delay their retirement benefits after they have separated from the company. With these following three situations a retiree's credited service time needs to be manually calculated causing the delay. The three areas are as follows: 1) a retiree

that has reached the age of 70 1/2; 2) a retiree who has received workmen's compensation; and 3) a retiree that has a Qualified Domestic Relations Order (QDRO). If either of those apply to you, please think about imitating retirement six(6) months in advance.

As for our new in-progression employees, the biggest issue that I have found is that their medical benefits (health, dental, vision) have not automatically updated. Employees have found that they were not automatically enrolled. In that situation, a call needs to be made to the NESC at 1(800)248-4444 and their account can be updated. Employees can make that call on their own or are more than welcome to reach out to me so that I can make that call on their behalf.

In sum, the biggest topic related to benefits has been retirements and SRI bonuses. But there are many other things going on as it relates to benefits. If any active or retired member has a question about their benefits, please feel free to reach out to me. If I don't have the answer I will do my best to find it.

Stay Safe,  
Sean Perkins, Esq.  
Benefits Representative

# Gone but not Forgotten



**Lapious "Poe" Williams**

born 2/15/36  
retired 12/1/99  
passed 3/14/20



**Lebaron Davis**

born 12/23/45  
retired 2/3/44  
passed 3/25/20



**George Dalton**

born 4/19/51  
retired 3/1/05  
passed ??



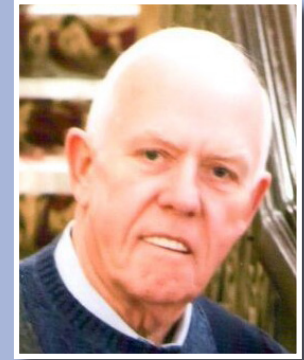
**John Rogers**

born 12/12/48  
retired 7/1/16  
passed 6/25/18



**Bruce Noble**

born 6/29/57  
retired 6/1/15  
passed 2/13/2020



**Alvin Loeschner**

born 9/27/40  
retired 1/1/96  
passed 12/26/2019



**Jack Hungate**

born 4/9/42  
retired 6/1/02  
passed 7/18/19



**Richard Eder**

born 8/2/40  
retired 1/1/99  
passed 1/2/20



**Robert Milne**

born 11/25/35  
retired 8/1/97  
passed 1/5/20



**Alfred Mason**

born 9/6/54  
retired 2008  
passed 3/24/20



**UAW Local 387**  
 24250 Telegraph Rd.  
 Flat Rock, MI 48134

© 161

**Deadline for articles for  
 Next Edition is . . .  
 June 15, 2020**

## NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

24250 Telegraph Road, Flat Rock, MI

**Notice:** You must be a member to attend Local 387 Membership Meetings,  
 & show proof with a Union Check-Off Card if requested.



**ALL MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND MONTHLY MEETINGS**

### NOTICE

**APRIL  
 MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
 CANCELLED DUE TO  
 THE GOVERNOR'S STAY  
 HOME ORDER**

### NOTICE

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
 PENDING GOVERNOR'S ORDERS  
 MONTHLY AGENDA:  
 MAY 17, 2020 at 12pm**

- Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
- A moment of silence for our departed Members
- Roll Call of Officers, Committeemen, Appointees & Standing Committees
- Minutes of Previous Meeting
- Communications
- Committee Reports
- Chairman's Report
- President's Report
- Financial Report
- Old Business
- New Business
- 15 Minute Question & Answer Period
- Good & Welfare
- Adjournment

### NOTICE

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
 PENDING GOVERNOR'S ORDERS  
 MONTHLY AGENDA:  
 JUNE 28, 2020 at 12pm**

- Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
- A moment of silence for our departed Members
- Roll Call of Officers, Committeemen, Appointees & Standing Committees
- Minutes of Previous Meeting
- Communications
- Committee Reports
- Chairman's Report
- President's Report
- Financial Report
- Old Business
- New Business
- 15 Minutes Question & Answer Period
- Good & Welfare
- Adjournment

**To all Standing Committees:** If you cannot attend meetings, please call the Local (734-782-2771) and justify your absence by **Friday, before the meeting.**