

UAW NEWS



Local 1853's Official Union Paper

September 23, 2022

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I would like to inform everyone the family of Danny Taylor will be holding a celebration of life for him at the Union Hall Oct 2, at 3pm. All are invited, the family ask that everyone dress casual in UK colors or the elect Danny Taylor t-shirts.

Please Note: Solidarity magazine will be mailed out soon to all UAW members and retirees. If you do not receive a magazine that will indicate you do not have the correct address on file with the Union. And in turn, you will not receive a ballot for the International Executive Board election in the fall. If you feel your address is incorrect please contact the Union Hall to have your address updated.

Tennessee had the lowest percentage nation wide to return ballots on the referendum vote. Ballots will be mailed Oct 17th, please return it. Don't let 14 percent of the voters make the decision for all of us. Please educate yourself on the candidates and Vote! This is your Union.

Coming in November we need to educate our family and friends on amendment one.

This bill will hinder unions by making it impossible to make changes to the 'Right to Work' laws. Tennessee has had the



President Report

law in place since 1947 so please vote to keep it out of the TN State Constitution.

Our next union meeting is this Sunday at 2pm, please plan to attend. We are asking everyone to please bring can goods to support harvest share in Columbia. This food pantry helps many of our members through out the year, help us give back.

Lastly I'd like to remind all retirees active and the community to join us in our annual Fall Festival. We promise there will be something for all age groups. And if you want to show off your car, please bring it to our car show.

In Solidarity,

Cathy Busber

Hispanic Heritage Month — September 15 - October 15 —

Leaders Who Helped Change Labor History



Dolores Huerta co-founded the National Farm Workers Association (later the United Farm Workers) with Cesar Chavez in 1962. Huerta directed a national grape boycott to protest the dangers of pesticides on grape pickers, which led the entire California table grape industry to adopt safer practices. She also negotiated the first collective bargaining agreement with an agricultural business to secure better wages and working conditions for farmworkers. Throughout her career, Huerta fought for world peace and the rights of immigrants, women, minorities, at-risk youth and LGBTQ+ Americans.

Telisa Sangster, Civil Right Committee

What are you made of? Are you cut from the same cloth as the folks from 1949? I imagine that's the question a person should ask themselves after reading the article below. It's more than a history lesson of something that happened in Union history during the month of September. This is more like a testament of what a group of people achieved at one point and the wisdom, vision and optimistic mentality behind the movement. Yes, at some point those gains were lost later due to various reasons (economic downturn or etc) but I learned what it took to gain pensions the 1st time and that it will take a similar resolve and a willingness to sacrifice to get pensions back today. The 1949'ers had to answer some tough questions and those same questions will be asked of us.

“Too Old To Work And Too Young To Die,” -A Battle Fought

“There’s a pension in your future, Bugas,” said the picket sign of one old worker who marched in support of the UAW drive for pensions for workers in 1949. “How about ours?” Bugas referred to John Bugas, Ford Motor Company’s chief negotiator, who like other Ford executives, had their retirement security nailed down. But for the \$3,000-a year auto worker, life was different. They worked until they dropped from the exhaustion, and the lines had aged workers with gnarled hands and weathered faces who couldn’t afford to retire. Social Security, which had begun to pay out benefits in 1941, had been stuck at a low level for 12 years. The UAW set out to change these conditions, the double standard that characterized American industry. And we got some needed help.



Continued on back

Under President Harry Truman, The National Labor Relations Board ruled in March, 1949 that companies must bargain with their unions on pensions.

That ruling opened the door. Walter Reuther, the visionary president of the UAW, called for pro-pension rallies around the country to mobilize popular support. "Too old to work and too young to die," became the slogan of autoworkers. "We won't sign a contract at Ford in '49 that does not include a pension plan," Reuther told 5,000 Ford workers at Cass Technical High School in Detroit. When Reuther called for a strike vote, Ford workers authorized it by a huge majority.

Finally, the break-through came in September 1949 when the UAW won a \$100-a-month pension (including Social Security benefits which averaged \$32.50 a month) at age 65 with 30 years of service.

Eventually, Chrysler and General Motors also agreed to similar terms but not before a 104 day strike at Chrysler. Congress also got the message. Within 24 hours of Ford signing the contract, the U.S. House of Representatives raised Social Security benefits for all Americans. That was no coincidence. With a pro-pension fervor sweeping the country, business lobbyists saw a Social Security increase as a way to save their employers money.

Today, many think we may never see pensions again with employers placing monies into 401K plans. Some also like it this way. So, it may be something that we have progressed past. But the lessons that we can all gain from this snippet of history is timing and solidarity are key in a movement. The labor movement is again on the rise and with determination and insight from our history anything is possible when we are together in Solidarity.
 Jomane Owens, Education Committee

LOCAL 1853 COMMUNITY SERVICE

A check was presented to Carr Creek Elementary and Family Recreation Center. Becky Pigmenn and student Slone Smith said the funds that were collected through a gate collection in early September for \$6,328.47 would be used to purchase building supplies to help in the rebuild effort after the flood damage. A big 'Thank You' goes out to all those you gave. *Mike Boyer, Community Service Committee*



The Veteran's BBQ Camp is a non profit organization that helps veterans learn a therapeutic hobby of BBQ, in efforts to help alleviate the mental and emotional effects of their military service. It was started in 2020 by Frank Magana (USMC Veteran).

Some of the Veterans that have completed the camp have used their new smoking skills to help others, such as the Waverly flood, August 21st, 2021. Several alumni of the Veterans BBQ Camp deployed, with their smokers, to Waverly, and fed approximately 450 flood victims, first responders, and other volunteers. Not only

have they expressed how BBQ has helped them, but they were also able to witness BBQ helping others, bringing this beautiful thing we call "BBQ," full circle. Some of the Veterans who attended the BBQ camps have come back to teach the new group what they have learned, paying it forward to their fellow brothers and sisters.

Local 1853 donated \$1500 to the organization to help with their efforts. Pictured to the right is Veteran BBQ camp representatives and Veteran committee members Mike Martinez and Jimmy Martin along with President Cathy Busbee. If you would like to help in their endeavor please scan the QR code or message them, via Facebook, or by texting 615-484-6155.

Union News Text Distribution List

To receive the most up-to-date information from the Union, please opt-in to the texting program, send a text to 99795 with the words 1853 and the name of the company you work for, examples would be '1853gm', '1853ryder', etc. These two avenues will help our members to stay on top of important information from your Local Union, sign-up today.



NEWS YOU CAN USE

Local 1853 Union Meeting

The next Union meeting will be held September 25, 2022 at 2pm in the Banquet Hall. Please remember that elected and appointed members are required to attend two out of three Union meetings. Make plans to attend, your voice matters!

Local 1853 Retirees Chapter Meeting

Local 1853 Retirees Chapter will hold their next Meeting at the Banquet Hall Monday, Oct. 4th at 10am.



Retirement Planning Class

This month's workshop Are You Ready for Retirement will be on Preparing for a UAW Retirement: Steps to Take for a Confident Retirement! It will be offered at the Union Hall on 10/19/22 at 2pm & 4pm. RSVP @ 615-349-2160 ext 3 or ted.macri@ampf.com. Spouses are welcome.

