



LOCAL MOTION

VOLUME 72 • ISSUE 4

<https://region1.uaw.org/local400/>

OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2019

COMPANY SELLS US OUT

Local 400 will persevere and survive Romeo Engine closure

by David Murray, Financial Sec'y/Treasurer

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Local 400, I want to alleviate some of the concerns that have been brought to our attention since the ratification of the new UAW/Ford Collective Bargaining Agreement...

- **YES...** Romeo Engine is slated to close.
- **YES...** that will displace and inconvenience many of our members over the next few years.
- **YES...** it takes a chunk out of Local 400's membership.
- **NO...** this is not the end of Local 400.

First, to Romeo Engine members... I am as angry and as disappointed in this new agreement as the rest of you (not just because REP is slated to close). I am as angry and disappointed in the UAW leadership that has cheated our members out of our hard-earned dues money. I hope and expect all involved in any of this deception and theft are prosecuted, convicted, and are thrown out of the UAW with violent force.

And... I am angry and disappointed with Ford Motor Company for their incredible greed that would drive them to close *any* facilities while making their billions of dollars. But the fact is, the membership voted to ratify this agreement and now we have to take care of our people.

None of the officers or Bargaining Committee from REP will stop fighting for anything that may sustain the plant

and our members. If this endeavor is unsuccessful, however, we must focus on our members and what will best suit them and their families for their future. We have to remain vigilant in what we as Local 400 leaders have always done – stand for our Brothers and Sisters.

Our strength and resolve does not depend on those at the top of the UAW. I ask that those who took the oath to serve and defend our great organization band with us to practice what we preach and protect our UAW family by doing what is right. Our strength and resolve comes from what we have always done – grow tighter and stronger together as Local 400 Brothers and Sisters when faced with adversity.

As much as the press and outside influences like to think so, our Union doesn't derive its power from the top. It draws the power from the hard-working people on the floor of our facilities with grit and determination for justice and equality. With you by our side, we will rebuild our greatness from within.

As for UAW Local 400, we are not going anywhere anytime soon. We still have almost 2,000 active members, even without the members at REP. There are still over 4,000 retired members who belong to our family. We may have to make some changes over the next few years to maintain our stability and growth, but I assure you that your officers will do what it takes to keep UAW Local 400 viable for many years to come.

In the meantime, it will be business as usual in the sense that we will continue to work with all of the committees of all of our facilities in securing new work and maintaining current work, negotiating fair and beneficial Collective Bargaining Agreements, fighting for better safety

“Our strength and resolve comes from what we have always done – grow tighter and stronger together as Local 400 Brothers and Sisters when faced with adversity.”

standards, and protecting our members from *anyone* who threatens our family. We will continue to be a presence in our communities through the giving of our time and support to whomever we can. We will continue to organize new units and grow our existing ones in any capacity we are able. Your Local leaders *have not* and *will not* wane in those efforts.

Please remember that no matter how frustrated you get with your Chairperson, Steward, Bargaining Rep., or any Union official; the UAW was built with a structure to withstand. That structure requires a firm foundation and that foundation is *you!*

Do not let the outside influences crack that foundation, whether it be the press, politicians, unscrupulous leadership, the company, or anything else. As long as we tighten the ranks of our foundation in *SOLIDARITY*, and as long as we do not let those outside influences divide us as working class Brothers and Sisters, then our UAW and our way of life that was fought for – with the blood, sweat, and tears of generations before us – and is still fought for today – can never be beaten.

I am and always will be humbly yours in Solidarity.

ELECTION COMMITTEE ELECTION NOTICE (see notice on page 7)



REPRESENTING
UAW MEMBERS
from...

- ◆ Utica Trim
- ◆ Chesterfield Trim
- ◆ Romeo Engine
- ◆ Highland Park
- ◆ Yanfeng USA, Highland Park
- ◆ MPG – Hourly
- ◆ Learning Designs, Inc.
- ◆ Wes Pro Fleet – Switchers
- ◆ ABM – Romeo
- ◆ Utica Schools Clerical
- ◆ MPG – Salary
- ◆ Image America
- ◆ Bridgewater Interiors
- ◆ ABM – MI Proving Grounds
- ◆ Utica Schools Maintenance
- ◆ Union Sorters of America
- ◆ Flex-N-Gate, Shelby



from the
FINANCIAL
SECRETARY-
TREASURER

David MURRAY

UAW Local 400

FINANCIAL REPORT

for SEPTEMBER 2019 & OCTOBER, 2019

Balance as of Sept. 1, 2019..... \$632,167.29

INCOME

09/01/2019 - 10/31/2019

Regular Dues 223,314.28
Sub Dues 159.29
Initiations 240.00
Retired Workers Chapter 4,149.90
Retiree Club 477.00

FOLLOW US...

UAW Local 400's website:

<http://region1.uaw.org/local400/>



**UAW Local 400's official
FACEBOOK page:**

[https://www.facebook.com/
groups/UAWLocal400/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/UAWLocal400/)

Get your Solidarity Magazine:

<https://uaw.org/solidarity/>

Exchange 730.18
Interest 27.70
TOTAL INCOME 229,098.35

DISBURSEMENTS

09/01/2019 - 10/31/2019

Wages 42,775.84
Lost Time..... 7,145.27
Reimbursed Expenses..... 1,489.85
Payroll Withholding..... (14,450.77)
Payroll withholding forward 16,172.83
Payroll Tax Employer..... 4,309.23
Arbitration..... 602.49
Donations 2,100.00
Insurance - Employee Benefits..... 3,257.98
Labor Day Parade 131.69
Local Motion Newspaper 6,434.20
Maintenance & Repairs..... 2,625.99
Pension Opeiu..... 936.32
Per Capita Taxes -
Aug & Sept 2019 adj Rebate..... 162,544.95
Retired Workers Chapter 240.00
Retiree Club 474.66
Supplies 470.41
Telephone & Internet..... 816.38
UAW Software 950.00
Utilities 1,263.32
Exchange 1,285.98
Total Disbursements (241,576.62)

**Total to Account for at
October 31, 2019 \$619,689.02**

ALLOCATION of CASH ASSETS

Commercial Checking - Comerica \$249,289.97
Petty Cash..... 345.00

Money Market Account -
Comerica Bank 169,018.49
Money Market Account - Chase Bank... 201,035.56
Total Cash Assets \$619,689.02

FUND BALANCES

General \$554,041.81
Education 21,226.78
Recreation 3,534.85
Retired Members..... 2,376.71
Community Service Fund 1,466.06
New Member Orientation..... 2,366.00
Local 400 Retiree Club..... 18,757.83
Retired Workers Chapter 15,918.98
Total of All Funds..... \$619,689.02

STATEMENT of ASSETS, LIABILITIES and NET WORTH

Total Cash Assets..... \$619,689.02

Current Liabilities:

Per Capita Tax- Int'l UAW

Net of Rebate 64,727.65

Per Capita Tax -

Affiliates and CAP 3,131.55

Accounts Payable - General 6,000.00

Total Current Liabilities..... (73,859.20)

Net Cash Worth..... \$545,829.82

Fixed Assets:

Building & Land,

50595 Mound Rd., Utica, MI..... \$501,946.50

Furniture & Fixtures at Cost 68,550.59

Total Fixed Assets 570,497.09

GRAND TOTAL NET WORTH

at October 31, 2019 \$1,116,326.91

*What's
in
Santa's
Bag?*

**UP TO 1% OFF
any loan rate***

Select your own
rate discount from
Santa's Gift Bag!

 offered on
all loans


Michigan's Only Labor-Focused Financial Institution

39139 Mound Road
Sterling Heights
Michigan USA 48310
586.264.1212
TheLocalCreditUnion.com



Member must take application or loan closing
in November and December 2019. *Rate
decrease on new money only, does not apply to
Mortgages, Home Equities, Lines of Credit or
VISA®. Promotion ends December 31, 2019. The
Local Credit Union is federally insured by NCUA.

The Official Publication of Amalgamated UAW Local 400

 **LOCAL MOTION**

LOCAL MOTION is published quarterly with additional publications when necessary by
UAW Amalgamated Local 400, 50595 Mound Rd., Utica, MI 48317, (586) 731-6270.

Subscription rate is membership requirement in UAW Amalgamated
Local 400, no additional fees are charged to members.

Periodicals Postage Paid at 7007 16 Mile Rd., Sterling Heights, MI 48311.

Jimmy Caygill President
Johnny Verellen Vice President
David Murray Financial Secretary/Treasurer
Jim Sorgi Recording Secretary
Randy Lashbrook Chairperson/Romeo
Denise (Lavolia) Taylor Chairperson/Ford Highland Park
Erik Emmons Chairperson/MPG Hourly
Jason Germonprez Chairperson/MPG Salaried
Khirhana Ingram Chairperson/Bridgewater Interiors
Mark Hemphill Chairperson/Yanfeng, Highland Park
Randy Schultz Sergeant-at-Arms
Sam Russo Guide
Larry Farhat Trustee
Roy Rotary Trustee
Carla Wallace Trustee
Stacey Carstarphen Executive Board
Mark Emerson Executive Board
Ronda Laritz Executive Board
Regina Patton Executive Board
Elisha Trpevski Executive Board
Mary Ann Calabro Chairperson/Retired Workers Chapter
Dominic Zerilli Retiree Executive Board

POSTMASTER, Send address changes to:
UAW LOCAL 400, 50595 Mound Rd., Utica, MI • Phone (586) 731-6270





from the
RECORDING
SECRETARY

Jim SORGI

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Local 400,

The National UAW/Ford negotiations are now over and the new Collective Bargaining Agreement has been ratified. Living in the United States gives us all the right to have free speech and our own opinion. Well, my opinion of this agreement is this: It is Unfair! Here's why:

1. *The scheduled closing of Romeo Engine Plant. The Brothers and Sisters in that facility are, by far, the best engine builders in the world. We were (and are) the company's "Crown Jewel."*

2. *The Ford Retiree Bonus checks that were previously distributed each December have been eliminated.*

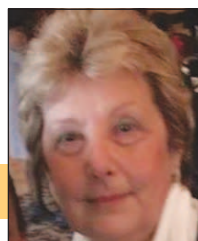
Ford Motor Company is making billions of dollars in profit and should never close ANY plant and take away the little Retiree Bonus we had. Where is their loyalty?!

Our annual UAW Retiree Benefits Trust Health Fair for Ford retirees went well! I want to thank everyone that came. I hope

those that attended found it as informative as I did. For those that could not make it – take heart – there are no changes to your medical benefits for the 2020 plan year. The only changes are in regard to your prescription benefits through Express Scripts – and that is going to be cheaper! As always, you can call me or stop by if you have any specific questions regarding your benefits.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of the members of Local 400 and their families a very healthy and happy Merry Christmas and New Year.

Remember: May all of our members in Local 400 always have each other's backs and STAY UNION STRONG!



from the
RETIRED WORKERS
CHAPTER CHAIR

Mary Ann CALABRO

Retirees of Local 400,

As many of you have read or seen on TV, our Romeo Engine is closing. Many of us have watched our Ford plants of Local 400 close the doors. We all know how this feels for those active employees of Romeo Engine.

Our President, Jim Caygill, has been very upset with this news. This I will say. The officers of our Local have gone above and beyond for all of us retirees and active workers. It is a fact that they have fought to get jobs at Romeo since they were elected, and so has the Plant Chairman, Randy Lashbrook.

However, I have believed all along that Ford and the International have been wanting to shut down the East side Ford plants for years.

We've been blessed to have the best Local officers, who care for us retirees, as well as all active Union Brothers and Sisters.

Question: Now what is going to happen to our Retiree Chapter? Are we going to merge?

We just do not know if or when this is going to take place. So, for the moment, we will continue to have retiree

meetings and retiree events.

(Editor's Note: As long as there remains a Local 400, the Retiree Chapter will stay with UAW Local

400. We have almost 2,000 active members other than Romeo Engine Plant, so the viability of the Local is not yet in danger.)

We had our Health Fair on November 6th at our Local 400 hall. I want to thank our Retiree Benefit Rep., Jim Sorgi, for doing a wonderful job making all the information from the UAW Medical Benefits Trust and the providers available for the current and future retirees. *Thank you again, Jim Sorgi, for always thinking of us retirees.* God be with you always!

As you know, our annual Christmas Party on Thursday, December 12th at the Palazzo Grande is getting close. (See all details on page 8 of this issue of *The Local Motion*!) If you have not gotten your ticket yet, what's stopping you? If you haven't been to one yet, please join us at our new venue!

Stop by Local 400 and purchase your tickets or you can call the Local at (586) 731-6270 for more information. Please get your tickets ASAP, so we can have an accurate count for food and seating.

I, also, would like to wish everyone a blessed

Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas. May you have a healthy New Year and make beautiful memories throughout the Holidays.

For all our snow birds, drive or fly safe and enjoy your time away from Michigan.

There will not be any retiree meetings (other than the Retiree Christmas Party) until 2020! God bless all of our UAW Local 400 Retirees.



Dave Hohensee	Gloria White
Rose Gershick	Ann Butler
Millie Ousley	Josephine Ziarno
Frank Potestato	Mike Carrier Sr.
Tina & Al Hochinson	
Nina Daskekevicz	
All Our Local 400 Union Officials	

ATTN: All Retiring UAW EMPLOYEES



Doug Gravelle, CFP
Investment Professional



Michelle Gravelle, CFP
Investment Professional

Are You Retiring?

CALL TODAY – We Are Your UAW Rollover Specialists.

Or Are You Retiring With An Early Buyout?

We Specialize in UAW Families.

No cost or obligation for UAW Members

- RETIREMENT PLANNING
- IRA'S • ROLLOVERS

Whatever your financial needs
...We can help!

CALL DOUG OR MICHELLE TODAY TO SCHEDULE YOUR PERSONAL APPOINTMENT

Securities offered
through LPL Financial

1 800 668-7135

Member
FINRA/SIPC





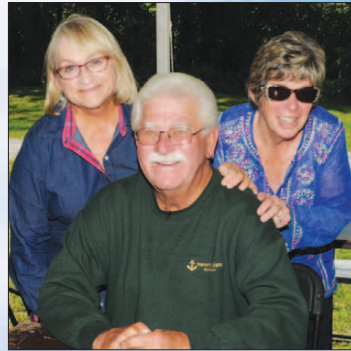
Another GREAT YEAR for our Picnic

2019



On Thursday, September 12, 2019, we, once again, had a wonderful day to celebrate our retirees. It was a fantastic turnout for a beautiful day of food, friends, and memories. A big “thank you” to the Shelby Police, who brought out their K9 Unit to do some demonstrations with their well-trained dogs. Also, thank you to Johnny Verellen, Mary Ann Calabro, the Retiree Board, and all of the volunteers and officers who made this day a smashing success. Finally, thank you to Dave Stonoski for, once again, providing us with photo memories at our events. See you at the Retiree Christmas Party in December!





THE ALL NEW



**COME VISIT THE ONLY
VULTAGGIO TEAM IN THE BUSINESS**



Andrew Vultaggio
General Sales Manager

Antonio Vultaggio
Sales Manager

Alfonso Vultaggio
New & Used Car Sales

Josie Vultaggio
Sales Assistant

Joe Yosif Vultaggio
New & Used Car Sales

**BUY FROM THE ONLY UNION APPROVED
VULTAGGIO FAMILY**



ELDER FORD OF ROMEO

63300 Van Dyke • Washington, MI 48095 • 586-752-5500



from the
**ROMEO ENGINE
PLANT CHAIR**

Randy LASHBROOK

Greetings Brothers & Sisters,

The past couple of weeks have been very emotional, to say the least. President Caygill and I were called down to Ford World Headquarters on November 8th and met with various leaders from Region 1 and IUAW staff.

At that meeting, we were told that Ford Motor Company has decided to close our beloved Romeo Engine Plant. President Caygill and I were outraged with that decision and strongly voiced our displeasure on why we feel that's a terrible business decision. We argued that Ford Motor Company is making billions of dollars and there should not be *any* plants in the United States closing! There should *not* have been any concessions in this contract.

I can assure you that, since we've been elected, we have tried wholeheartedly to ensure Romeo would stay viable. In the end, the company is

more concerned about making money and not so concerned with uprooting our members and their families in some cases.

I am committed to this membership in that I will continue to work hard and explore every option available for us to find work as close to home as possible.

I want to thank each and every one of you for your support through these tough times, as this decision from the company has weighed on me heavily. I will not sit back. I will still preach to anyone who will listen on why our doors should remain open.

All information I receive will be shared with you as soon as I get it. With that said, I want to wish you and your families a Happy Holiday season.

IN MEMORIAM

The Officers, Representatives and members of Local 400 extend their deepest sympathy to the families of our recently deceased members.

CHESTERFIELD

Ronald Crozier
James "Butch" Hofford
Charles Mihelic, Jr.

ROMEO

Richard Gonda
Ronald Wolak
Lee Roy Wright, Jr.

BRIDGEWATER

Nakia Underwood (Active)

HIGHLAND PARK FORD

Joseph Monastiere

UTICA

Roerto Aleman
Michael Bennett
Joseph Ciaravino
Theodore Czajka
James Divo
Charles "Chuck" Ruman
Elaine Sikorski



NAKIA UNDERWOOD was an active employee at Bridgewater Interiors. The loss of this wonderful woman is being felt hard by her family, friends, and co-workers. Please pray for peace for all of us as we mourn our loss.

"Nakia's pride and joy of her life was her children and grandchild. All who knew Nakia loved and adored her. She loved to travel, was always smiling, and liked nothing better than conversation with friends and co-workers. Her very presence will be missed. Rest in Peace, Sister."

Seryetta Womack, BWI Bargaining Rep and friend of Nakia Underwood



ATTENTION ACTIVE & RETIRED MEMBERS



ELECTION NOTICE

FIVE-MEMBER ELECTION COMMITTEE AND FIVE ALTERNATES

At the November 20, 2019 Joint Council Meeting, authorization was given to hold an election for five (5) members and five (5) alternates of the Election Committee. All members in continuous good standing for one (1) year are declared nominated.

ELECTION WILL BE HELD:

DATE: **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2020**

TIME: **12:00 PM to 5:00 PM**

PLACE: **UAW LOCAL 400 HALL
50595 MOUND RD., UTICA, MI 48317**

NOMINATION ACCEPTANCES:

Nomination forms are available at the Local 400 office. Acceptances may be dropped off at the Local office during business hours from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 18, 2019, or acceptances may be by certified or registered mail addressed to:

Jim Sorgi, Recording Secretary

UAW Local 400, 50595 Mound Rd., Utica, MI 48317

Nominations must be postmarked no later than midnight of December 18, 2019 and signed by the nominee.

Drawing for position on the ballot will take place at the Local 400 Union Hall, 50595 Mound Rd., Utica, MI 48317, on Friday, January 3, 2020 at 11:00 a.m.

Ballots will be counted immediately after the closing of the polls on Election Day.

RULES FOR CONDUCT OF THE ELECTION

1. Voting will be by secret ballot.
2. Voter must show positive identification and sign registration card at time of voting.
3. Each candidate will be allowed challengers during election and during counting.
Challenger must be a member of UAW Local 400.
4. Challengers' names must be submitted to the Recording Secretary no later than Monday, January 13, 2020 by 12:00 noon.
5. All new members who have signed dues authorization forms from a participating employer and/or are current with their dues with UAW Local 400 are "members in good standing" and are eligible to vote.
6. A candidate shall have the right to submit her/his commonly known name as she/he wishes it to appear on the ballot.
7. Anyone wishing to withdraw must do so before 11:00 am Friday, January 3, 2020 in writing and any corrections, misspellings, etc. must be received no later than this date also.
8. Results will be tabulated by the Recording Secretary after the closing of the polls, at the UAW Local 400 Hall, 50595 Mound Road, Utica, Michigan.
9. The Financial Secretary may be present at the polls at the time of voting for the purpose of guarding the records and books for which her/his office is responsible.
10. The Recording Secretary and his designated assistants shall remain neutral and not campaign for or favor any candidate.
11. Term of election: until two months before the next general election.
12. Candidates may observe the printing of the ballots. Contact the Local 400 Recording Secretary, for time and date after Monday, January 6, 2020.
13. All reasonable requests for absentee ballots will be met for members (on union or company business only) by contacting the Recording Secretary.
14. Campaign mailings request must be in writing delivered by regularly used or dependable means to the Recording Secretary. Local 400 will comply with any reasonable request by a candidate to distribute campaign literature at the candidate's expense.
15. Retired members may vote in this election, as well as active members.

submitted by JIM SORGI, Recording Secretary, UAW Local 400



Have a SAFE and HAPPY
Holiday Season



The Official Publication of Amalgamated UAW Local 400

LOCAL MOTION

50595 Mound Rd., Utica, MI 48317



UAW PROPERTY • ILLEGAL TO DUPLICATE
USPS PUBLICATION #533-170

We look
forward to a
Happy and
Prosperous
2020!

Jim Caygill
President
Johnny Verellen
Vice President
David Murray
Fin. Sec'y/Treas.
Jim Sorgi
Recording Sec'y

LOCAL 400 RETIRED WORKERS CHAPTER

Christmas Party

THE PALAZZO GRANDE

54660 Van Dyke Ave.

Shelby Township, MI 48316

(South of 25 Mile Road)

FREE VALET PARKING!

Thursday, December 12th

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE LOCAL 400 OFFICES.

Pre-purchased Ticket: \$10.00 Tickets at Door: \$20.00

PLEASE PURCHASE TICKETS IN ADVANCE, SO WE ARE ABLE TO
ACCOMMODATE PLENTY OF FOOD AND SEATING.

ADULTS ONLY

Doors Open: 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

OPEN BAR

Dinner: 12:00 PM (Promptly)

Please arrive early if you wish to share tables
with specific people. There will be no special
accommodations for those who arrive later.

~ NO SPECIAL SEATING IF LATE ~

50/50 DRAWING AND RAFFLES WILL BE AVAILABLE.