

## Golf tournament proves itself successful again!

This years Ed Steffey Memorial Golf Tournament was again very successful and even a little more exciting. Well at least for one golfer. Goodyear's own Pete Rust made a hole in one on #6 and for his efforts he was awarded a brand new 2006 Chevrolet Cobalt from Woodall Automotive. In the 14 years the tournament has been played, no golfer has ever aced a hole in one to win the big prize. Rust used a four iron to make the shot on the par three hole. "I felt good about the shot but wasn't sure it went in the hole or over the



green. When I got to the green, there laid the ball in the cup. That's when I knew I had won a new car," said Rust.

Ed Steffey, a fervent supporter of education, saw financial needs fourteen years ago within our educational system that were not being met through traditional funding. So in conjunction with the Danville Chamber of Commerce the annual golf tournament was born.

Since the tournament has started there have been approximately \$200,000 raised for classroom projects in grades K-12, as well as scholarships and other projects at Averett University and Danville Community



College. The final proceeds of this year's tournament have yet to be determined. Once they have been determined the Chamber of Commerce will distribute them.

Local 831 sponsored hole #2 and gave away divot tools to all participating golfers. Each golfer who passed by #2 also had an opportunity to sign up for prizes that would be given away by Local 831 through a drawing. Tommy Stump, playing for First Piedmont Corporation won three dozen golf balls. Steve Hair playing with Rey Chem won a golfers money clip and R.J. Lackey playing for the team Woods, Rogers PLC won the top prize, which was a Taylor Made golf bag. Closest

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## Free Trade - the Next Round Is Near

The ink on the last trade agreement isn't dry yet and there is another round moving its' way through Congress-The Thailand Free Trade Agreement (TFTA) is projected to potentially flood the market with Thai-produced pickup trucks, according to latest UAW Solidarity magazine. Forecasters warn that if the existing 25% tariff on Thailand imports is lifted, the United States could lose as many as 20,000 UAW members and cause a ripple effect in the supplier, steel and service industry.

"Honestly, I think it has already affected us," said Rob McKenzie, president of UAW Local 879 in St. Paul, Minn. "Think about the Ford Ranger remodel. We're working with an older model truck that they have not reconfigured because they are waiting to see what happens with the Thai trade agreement."

Thailand is the second-leading pickup manufacturer in the world. The auto industry is its biggest manufacturing industry in terms of

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OCTOBER 12, 2005

Jack Dodson, President, called the meeting to order. All Officers were present. There were 72 members present.

Opening prayer was led by Harper Williams followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Willie Fitzgerald and seconded by Kathy Hamlett to dispense with the business part of the meeting in order to give more time to our guest speaker, Jack Casparriello, Soar International Representative. He spoke on legislative activities being discussed in Washington concerning our Sr. Citizens and on Social Security.

The name of Earl Worsham was drawn for the attendance prize. Since he was not in attendance the amount increases to \$70.00 in November.

Door prizes were won by the following:

Oil, lube and filter change from Goodyear Service Store, Mt. Cross Road won by Erma Osborne and Patsy Debrou.

Barbara Fry and Al Medlin each won an oil, lube and filter change from Perry Bros. on Piney Forest Rd.

Fifty-fifty drawing won by Joe Price.

Motion made by Ryland Atkins and seconded by Willie Fitzgerald to adjourn. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Nancy Guill, Secretary**

**RETIREES:** Remember to attend your SOAR meeting. The next meeting will be on November 9 at the Union Hall at 11:00 a.m. Our annual Christmas lunch will be on December 14. Invitations will be mailed in November.

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## Golf tournament proves itself successful again!

to the pin on #2 in the morning round went to Andrew Doherty, at 2 ft. 2 inches. Union member, Buddy Hudson's shot at 10 ft and 9 inches was second best in the morning round on #2. Claiming closest to the pin in the afternoon round was Harry Lea at 1ft 9 inches. Each closest-to-the-pin winner received a \$125.00 gift certificate to the Goodyear Pro Shop. There were 21 teams participating in the morning round and 30 teams in the afternoon. H2O Zone also set-up shop at #2 and was offering a hot tub for anyone that could do what Rust did on #6, but no one came through. The local would like to thank all sponsors and area businesses for this year's great success. Local 831 is proud to be a part of this annual event.



## PENSION & INSURANCE

By Gloria Gravely

### Dependent Verification Process

■ Everyone should have received mailings from Budco by now. If you did not receive your mailing, contact Budco at 1-800-499-8256 and request a duplicate package. All undeliverable mail that was returned to Budco was sent to Goodyear and forwarded to the local HR. offices to distribute. It is the obligation of the employee or retiree to keep their home address current.

■ Over 2,300 names were removed from the plan.

■ Everyone must send in the required documents by December 16, 2005. Failure to do so could result in termination of dependents coverage.

### North Carolina Baptist Hospital (Winston Salem)

■ Effective October 7, 2005; North Carolina Baptist Hospital signed a new 3 year agreement with B/C B/S

of North Carolina.

■ Lapse in Coverage- June 4, 2005 thru October 6, 2005. All claims with these dates of services were priced at out-of-network prices.

■ Claims with dates of service on or after October 7, 2005 will be priced in-network.

■ Providers include: North Carolina Baptist Hospital, Stitch Center, Brenner Children's Hospital and Health Services, Comp Rehab, Radiology Services at Piedmont Plaza

### Family Status Change

■ You must submit any changes in family status on the proper form to Goodyear within 31 days of the event.

■ Make sure your form is stamped and dated before sending it to Goodyear. Keep a copy for your records.

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# October Membership Meeting Minutes

USW Local 831 held its' regular membership meeting on October 13, 2005 with President Danny Barber (AM) and Vice President Terry Trull (PM) presiding. These were the highlights of those meetings:

■ Doug Jones opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

■ Roll call of officers, all were present except William McLaughlin, David Payne, Wayne Dickerson and Byron Taylor, who were all on vacation.

■ Recording Secretary Brenda Miles, presented the meeting minutes from September. They were approved as read.

■ Executive Board report for October was approved as read and contained the following:

• Thank you from Danville Braves for our continued support.

• Thank you from Liberty Tax for helping with their "cell phones for soldiers" program.

• Thank you from Benny Toller for his retirement presentation.

• Appointment of Janet Gwynn to the Education and Publicity Committee.

• Motion to over turn the grievance committee's decision on an employees grievance.

• Motion to sponsor an Angel Tree at the hall and donate \$2,000 to Salvation Army.

■ Pension and Insurance report given by Gloria Gravely (See P&I story).

■ Sylvester Mayo gave a report on the 4th R/PIC Conference.

■ Harry Hughes and Brenda Miles gave the picnic committee report.

■ Linwood Saunders gave a COPE report on the upcoming Governor's

race in Virginia.

■ President Barber and Vice President Trull talked about the current negotiations with the Goodyear Service Store. They have four major take away proposals on healthcare, life insurance, prescription drugs and employee vacation. They reminded members that this was for the Service Store, however, it is Goodyear that is making these proposals and we need to be getting ready for our 2006 negotiations.

■ 50/50 drawings were won by Gloria Gravely and Ed Hairston.

■ The door prize drawing was for \$500 however Brother Harry Waller CC#871 dept 4040 was not present.

■ Motion to adjourn and next membership meeting is November 10th.

*Continued from page 1*

## Free Trade-the Next Round Is Near

value. The negative effects don't stop with production worries. Essentially any automotive manufacturer wanting to import products to the United States would use Thailand as their gateway.

Touting itself as the "Detroit of Asia," Thailand has easily overtaken Canada and Mexico in terms of production, primarily because of its low labor cost. Consider the following facts:

\* The legal minimum wage in Thailand is 77 cents per hour-and even that is not rigorously enforced.

\* Thais in the manufacturing sector work an average of 50 hours per week with no overtime.

\* Child labor is common, with an estimated 500,000 13-14 year-olds in paid employment, and 1.2 million children ages 6-14 not in school.

\* Some 2 million migrant workers (many of them refugees from Burma) are often badly exploited.

\* Thailand has not ratified the International Labor Organization conventions on organizing and bargaining rights in the workplace, making it more difficult for workers to improve their lot.

NAFTA, FTAA, CAFTA and now TFTA, how long can we sit silently? Contact your legislators before this legislation gets ready for a vote. Tell them no more "Free" trade. These "free" agreements are costing workers too much!

### U.S. Senator John Warner (VA)

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225 Russell Building, Washington, DC 20510

### U.S. Senator George Allen (VA)

(202) 224-4024

204 Russell Building, Washington, DC 20510

### U.S. Congressman Virgil Goode (VA)

(202) 225-4711

1520 Longworth Building,  
Washington, DC 20515

### U.S. Senator Elizabeth Dole (NC)

(202) 224-6342

555 Dirksen Office Building,  
Washington, DC 20510

### U.S. Senator Richard Burr (NC)

(202) 224-3154

217 Russell Senate Office Building,  
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### U.S. Congressman Brad Miller (NC)

(202) 225-3032

1722 Longworth Building,  
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## Attention: Address & Phone number changes

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## Pension & Insurance

■ If you do not have the required documents during this period, send the family status form and send the documents later. Please do not wait. Your request will be denied if it is not within the 31 days and you will have to wait until open enrollment to add dependants.

### Liberty Mutual

■ A & S claims will be processed in Kansas City, MO. If you need to check on a claim, call the toll-free number, 1-800-838-5290.

■ You will still report your claim by calling the number on the front of your A & S card.

### Open Enrollment

■ Open enrollment starts October 31st and runs through November 13th.

■ Packages will be distributed on October 15th.

■ If you need to make changes, this is the time to do so.

■ Jim Garber has asked Benny Toller to assist employees during open enrollment. Two computers will be set up in the TIP office for everyone to come by and update their information. Dates and times will be publicized thru newsletters and DQTV.

■ Everyone is encouraged to stop by the TIP office. Bring your packets with you and your Pin # will be needed. Confirmations will be printed for any updates at that time.

## USW Local 831 CREDENTIALS

285 Shady Grove Road  
Providence, NC 27315-9477  
(336) 388-5537 • FAX: (336) 388-5009  
USW District 8 • [www.usw831.org](http://www.usw831.org)

■  
Danny Barber  
President and Editor

■  
Dana Dixon  
Managing Editor

■  
Janet Gwynn & Danny Travis  
Associate Editors



# EDITOR'S COLUMN...

## *Who supports workers and who supports business?*

I have been told many times by many people that politics can be dirty and Republicans support business and Democrats support working people. Those facts are always on my mind when it comes to election cycles and whom I chose to support. While I don't totally live by or agree with my opening statement, I do think it has some merits. Voters should always listen to the candidates, the messages they provide and research their past voting records (if they have one).

In the October 1st edition of the Danville Register & Bee, one article headlined "The GOP candidate (Kilgore) raises more than seven times the amount as his Democratic opponent (Kaine) in the Danville area. Now that statement would open my eyes when it comes to voting. If you continue to read the article, it list many local businesses and/or business owners as Kilgore's contributors while most of Kaine's contributors are of such a small amount they receive little or no mention (working people giving what they can afford). If I make a contribution to anyone's campaign, I, like most people expect something in return. I would expect the candidate to support workers on worker's compensation, unemployment, organizing, etc. Now don't think for a minute that those business people aren't after the same thing I'm after. They want the candidate to support business on issues like worker's compensation, unemployment, organizing, etc. The only difference is that I expect help in strengthening those laws and businesses want help in weakening those laws.

Shelia Baynes, chairwoman of the Danville Democratic Party summarized it quite nicely, "I think it's hard-working people that are starting to realize that though they may not have money to donate, they pay attention and they vote." Baynes added, "they (Republicans) may get more money, but Democrats have grassroots support."

Before going to the polls, research the candidates to see if they support workers or they support businesses. You cannot support candidates who support business and expect to advance the agenda of working men and women.

The 2005 Virginia Election cycle includes the following offices:

### **Governor's Race**

Tim Kaine (D), currently Lt. Governor  
Jerry Kilgore (R), past Attorney General  
Russell Potts, (I), currently VA State Senator

### **Lt. Governor's Race**

Leslie Bryne, (D), currently VA State Senator  
Bill Bolling, (R) currently VA State Senator

### **Attorney General's race**

Creigh Deed's, (D), currently VA State Senator  
Robert McDonnell (R), currently VA State House Delegate

USW Local 831's COPE Committee will provide the positions the candidate takes on various issues through handouts and union meeting reports. Hopefully, we will elect the candidate that best supports our position. No matter who you vote for, please do vote!

**Dana Dixon, Managing Editor**



Irving Lawson

## Questions & Answers

If anyone has a question for *The Informer*, please submit it to Dana Dixon, Janet Gwynn, Danny Travis or your Division Chairman.

### When and how will my vacation get scheduled for 2006?

According to the contract language found on pages 83 & 84 of Collective Bargaining Agreement. This is Article IX, Section 4, Vacations. You can read the exact language, however, here are a few tips to make scheduling understandable:

\* A two-week notice will be posted prior to the actual canvassing begins. Watch for the notice on your business center's boards. Canvassing should start on the second Monday in November.

\* Vacation, other than vacation shutdown week can be scheduled throughout the calendar year.

\* Two or more consecutive weeks can be scheduled if your seniority allows.

\* An employee not designating available weeks when canvassed will be by-passed and the canvass will continue.

\* If you are absent from work due to leave of absence, vacation etc, it is the employee's responsibility to notify management of the desired weeks of vacation. If you are not at work you will be by-passed.

\* A vacation receipt will be given to employees to indicate their selected weeks. Please keep this receipt; it has been needed for evidence when errors occurred in the canvassing or especially when you transfer to another department.

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## EPC Welcomes New Member

The Education & Publicity Committee (EPC) has gone through a lot of changes over the years to get to the status of producing an award-winning newspaper. The latest change is that of a new associate editor. Janet Gwynn will be replacing Gloria Gravely as Gloria has moved on to become our new Pension & Insurance Representative. Gloria will continue to prepare the P&I report for the *Informer* and we (the EPC) thank her for her contribution throughout the years. "The fact that I would have to leave the EPC made it difficult in my decision to accept the P&I job. Working with communications has been the most rewarding experience I've had in the union movement," stated Gravely.



The EPC has a lot of duties in addition to preparing the *Informer*. They must offer assistance in offering a broad educational program as well as gathering and preparing information for the International newspaper "Steelabor." The committee also assists in distribution of handbills and gate collections. Basically, this committee is the link to anything concerning education and publicity.

Janet Gwynn is a shear operator at Goodyear with eight years seniority. She is married with four children. She worked as a Childcare & Outreach worker at W.W. Moore Detention Home prior to coming to Goodyear. The banbury area was Janet's first stop in Goodyear-Danville before moving to the shear department. She attends The Bibleway Cathedral where she is a member of the Radio Choir. "I look forward to working with the committee and solicit any and all suggestions offered to continue to make this an award-winning newspaper," stated Gwynn.

Janet reminds anyone coming through the shears to stop by #7. "If you see my mouth moving, just know I am still singing," added Gwynn.

Gwynn was selected by President Danny Barber as all committee members are. "Janet brings computer knowledge, a professional attitude and team spirit to the EPC group," stated Barber.

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# Rubber/Plastic Industry Conference held in Pittsburgh



The 2005 USW Rubber/Plastic Industry Conference (R/PIC) was held from October 3 - 4 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The conference is held every four years. Representing Local 831 as delegates at this years conference were; Terry Trull, David Payne, Wayne Dickerson, Monica Gray and Sylvester Mayo. President Danny Barber also attended the conference by virtue of his office. Brenda Miles attended as a R/PIC Advisory Committee member.

The R/PIC conference has been held every four years since the merger between the Rubber Workers and

Steelworkers. The conference was put in place just for Rubber workers to send representatives from every local to vote on resolutions and approve new appointments. Delegates also hear from leaders of the Steelworkers on issues that effect not only Rubber workers but issues that affect all working people.

At this year's conference, there were 26 resolutions presented and all 26 were passed. On the first day, International



*Vice President of R/PIC Ron Hoover*

Vice President of R/PIC, Ron Hoover, introduced former Vice President John Sellers. He spoke on the accomplishments that had been made during his term and challenges that rubber workers would face in the future. International Secretary/Treasurer of United Steelworkers Jim English spoke on the devastation in the south caused by the recent hurricanes. He spoke of how there were over 8,000 Steelworkers affected by the hurricanes. Over 2,500 of them suffered a complete loss of everything. "All contributions made by USW members go to Steelworkers. We have now collected \$550,000.00," stated English. Special praise was also given to Local 831 for their

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Former Vice President John Sellers

contributions. Local 831 collected more money than any other rubber or plastics local. "That says a lot about our people in the Danville plant," said President Danny Barber.

Later in the day, Coordinator of Political Action Committee (PAC)

Mike Scarber, gave the group a list of Steelworker locals that had given the most to PAC through the check-off system. "Rubber workers do a much better job with PAC than other Steelworker locals," said Scarber. Executive Director for the Institute of Career Development (ICD), Harmon Wisnow gave a presentation on training and

education for members who have lost jobs. He also gave a report on trends in tire production, consumer influence in motor vehicles, the rise of gasoline prices and the impact auto companies are experiencing due to the bad economy. He also predicted that consumers would shift from SUV's and trucks to smaller mid-size vehicles due to the increase cost of gasoline.

On Tuesday USW President, Leo Gerard spoke. He talked about how all companies want to do away with health care and pension benefits because of the expense. Companies want workers to absorb the cost of health care. "Every strike today is over pension and insurance issues. The next ten years will be more important for workers than the last ten years," stated Gerard. He also said that by the year 2020, China would surpass the size of the American economy unless things change. Civil Rights Director, Maxine Carter gave a civil rights presentation and spoke on how important it was to continue the fight. "Life is about choices, let's stop asking what is in it for me, and start

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## Something to be proud of! United Rubber Workers Community Federal Credit Union a 35 Year Union Tradition!



On December 1, 1969 members of United Rubber Worker Local 831, signed a charter to start URW 831 Members Federal Credit Union. The charter was signed by Jack Jones, Peter George, John Thompson, Charles Denny, Jack Dodson, Jimmie Foster, Ray Deel, and Al Lewis. What started small, has grown into a tradition, serving our families, friends and neighbors.

Oct 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> we will be celebrating International Credit Union Day. Stop by and help us raise \$10,000 for the AMC Katrina Relief Fund. Anyone donating \$100 will be entered into a drawing for 2 club level tickets to the Dec. 4th Panthers/Falcon game in Charlotte!

Please, join us as we show the community what these men knew 35 years ago. At URW....

*Members make it happen!*

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## Rubber/Plastic Industry Conference

asking what's best for all of us. Start talking more about character and less about color," said Carter. After Carter's presentation, Danny Barber nominated Ron Hoover for Executive Vice President of R/PIC. He was unopposed. The final day brought National Director of USW Rapid Response, Tim Waters to the podium. Water's talked about the affects of NAFTA and the affects CAFTA may bring. "CAFTA will be just like NAFTA. No workers rights, more child labor and products protected but not human beings," commented Waters. "The most touching thing during the whole conference, was brother Mike Thacker's slide show of pictures of Hurricane Katrina's aftermath," said Delegate Sylvester Mayo. Thacker went to the Gulf Coast to help the hurricane victims. He is a member of Local 753.

## We Send Our Sincere Condolences To

Robert Arnold, Tracie Carter, Ronald Cassell, Steven Cook, Courtney Dixon, Michael Eanes, Jimmy Eanes Jr., Roger Erb II, Terrence Fitzgerald, Luther Harris, Robert Haskins, Darrell Jones, William Knight, Larry Lea, Hampton Martin, III, Joseph Meeks, Norman Moore, Jr. Broderick Norman, Jeffrey Petrovich, Jimmy Reece, Kelvin Royster, Bruce Saunders, James Shelton, Sean Stockton, Arthur Thompson, Adam Turner, Donald Walker, Jerry Walker, Stacy Walker, Harry Waller, Hobart Wann, Robert Watlington, Randolph Witcher, Richard Wrenn

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>NOVEMBER 2005 CALENDAR</b>						
October AC <b>30</b> Time Change "Fall Back"	BD Halloween <b>31</b>	BD <b>1</b>	AC <b>2</b>	AC <b>3</b>	BD <b>4</b>	BD <b>5</b>
BD <b>6</b>	AC Executive Board Meeting 7:30 AM <b>7</b>	AC Election Day <b>8</b> 	BD SOAR Meeting 11:00 AM <b>9</b>	BD Union Meeting 7:30 AM/PM <b>10</b>	AC Veteran's Day <b>11</b> 	AC <b>12</b>
AC <b>13</b>	BD <b>14</b>	BD <b>15</b>	AC <b>16</b>	AC <b>17</b>	BD <b>18</b>	BD <b>19</b>
BD <b>20</b>	AC <b>21</b>	AC International Officers Election at Union Hall <b>22</b>	BD <b>23</b>	BD Thanksgiving Day Holiday (T) (C) <b>24</b>	AC Thanksgiving Day Holiday (T) (C) <b>25</b>	AC <b>26</b>
AC <b>27</b>	BD <b>28</b>	BD <b>29</b>	AC <b>30</b>	December AC <b>1</b>	BD <b>2</b>	BD <b>3</b>