

When a Coin Drops in Asia, Jobs Disappear in Detroit

Leo W. Gerard

USW International President

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Last year, free trade hammered Michigan's 11th Congressional District, located between Detroit and Flint, killing manufacturing, costing jobs and crushing dreams.

It's not over, either. Another 11th District company, ViSalus Inc., told the state it would eliminate 87 jobs as of last Saturday, slicing its staff by nearly 400 since 2013 when ViSalus was the second-largest direct sales firm in the state.

The numbers are staggering. The Economic Policy Institute (EPI) released a report last week showing that America's \$177.9 billion trade deficit in 2015 with the 11 other countries in the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade deal caused 2 million job losses nationwide.

This trade deficit reduced jobs in every U.S. congressional district except two, EPI said, but Michigan's 11th had the ignoble distinction of suffering more as a share of total employment than any other district in the country. It was 26,200 jobs. Just in 2015. It was tech workers in January and teachers in July and tool

makers in August and auto parts builders in October.

Manipulation of money killed those jobs. It works like this: Foreign countries spend billions buying American treasury bonds. That strengthens the value of the dollar and weakens foreign currencies. When a country's currency value drops, it acts like a big fat discount coupon on all of its exports to the United States. And it serves simultaneously as an obscene tax on all U.S. exports to that country.

Among the TPP countries, Malaysia, Singapore and Japan are known currency manipulators, and Vietnam appears to be following their example. EPI found that currency manipulation is the most important cause of America's massive trade deficits with TPP countries. Trade deficits mean products are shipped to the United States rather than made in the United States. The math is simple. A drop in Asian currency means a drop in U.S. jobs.

EPI looked at what types of imports the 11 countries sent the United States last year to determine what types of industry and jobs America lost as a result. The overwhelming majority was motor

vehicles and parts. That's why Michigan was the biggest loser of all of the states.

The auto sector was followed by computer and electronic parts — including communications, audio and video equipment — and primary metals — including basic steel and steel products.

In addition, EPI found job losses in industries that serve manufacturers, like warehousing and utilities, and services like retail, education and public administration.

Each of these kinds of losses occurred last year in Michigan's 11th district, located in the heart of America's car manufacturing country in southwestern Oakland County and northwestern Wayne County, where Detroit is parked just outside the district's lines.

In January, in Michigan's 11th, Technicolor Videocassette of Michigan, Inc., a subsidiary of the French multimedia giant Technicolor SA, laid off 162 workers in Livonia. That same month, what was once a vibrant chain of cupcake stores called Just Baked shuttered several shops, putting an untold number of bakers and clerks in the street, some with last paychecks that

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Vice-President's Report

From Scott Wolendowski

USW Local 115 Vice-President

(As of the publication of this newsletter President Buchanan was on vacation)^{LL} Another month has come and gone and I can't believe we are finished with winter already. Here's what's been going on the past month. The water drive for Flint has been a huge success. We even had a local Girl Scout Troop donate their cookie money to purchase a skid of water. I am guessing we will have

around 15 skids of water which equals 1,260 cases of water. Thank you to everyone who participated.

April 6, I will be in Pittsburgh for a joint Healthcare Meeting. I am hoping that our healthcare summary plan descriptions will come out soon so keep an eye on the mail for these.

It has been shared with the Partnership Committee that we will be getting a pay for performance check for the first quarter. As far as how much, it will be in the 2% range. I know this doesn't sound like much, but, we didn't think we would get anything for the first quarter. The rest

of the year looks good though, so bigger payouts could be a reality.

The Cross Connect Teams are in place and the first meeting is scheduled for April 8. Hopefully, this program is a success.

Have a safe month and thanks for keeping Local 115

100% Union Strong!!!



UNITED STEELWORKERS **WOS** **WOMEN OF STEEL**

By Denise Wagner

A big thank you to our members and Arconic for your donations to our female soldiers. We mailed out 3 very large boxes of feminine and personal care items.



We would also like to thank the membership for sending Megan Cornell, Cassie Shuler, Brandy Moore and myself to the WOS conference in Pittsburgh. We participated in a demonstration to support equal pay and paid maternity leave for all women. 1000 women marched down main street during rush hour in downtown Pittsburgh. Such an inspiring experience!

We attended several work shops. One of which 4 ladies from Carrier out of Indianapolis were in with. We were to come up with a game plan on how to help them fight this move to Mexico. There will be several rallies as well as petitions to be signed; they need our support. Carrier is in USW District 7, our district. Please show your support for them in every way possible.

Thank you again for this wonderful opportunity.



Pictured left to right:
Denise Wagner, Cassie Shuler, Brandy Moore and Megan Cornell.



Leo Gerard
USW International President



When a Coin Drops ...

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bounced.

In February, the Sam's Club store in Waterford closed, throwing 122 in the street. Waterford municipal official Tony Bartolotta called it another "nail in the coffin" for the township's east side.

In April, Frito-Lay told 17 workers that they'd lose their jobs later that year when it closed its Birmingham warehouse.

In July, 231 teachers in the Farmington Public Schools learned they would not have work in the new school year. One of them, 25-year-old Val Nafso, who grew up in Farmington, told the Oakland Press, "I hope things change where people who are passionate about teaching can enter the profession without 1,000 people telling them "Don't do it...get out now."

In August, DE-STA-CO, a 100-year-old tool manufacturer, told Michigan it would end production in Auburn Hills, costing 57 workers their jobs.

In October, Waterford laid off 39

firefighters. The township had received a \$7.6 million grant in 2013 to hire them, but just couldn't come up with local funds to keep them. That happens when factories close and bakeries shut down. Township officials told concerned residents they'd looked hard at the budget, "We started projecting out for 2017 and it flat lined," Township Supervisor Gary Wall told them.

Later that month, FTE Automotive USA Inc., an auto parts manufacturer, told Michigan it would close its Auburn Hills plant and lay off 65 workers.

In the areas around Michigan's 11th, horrible job losses occurred all last year as well, which makes sense since EPI found 10 of the top 20 job-losing districts in the country were in Michigan. Ford laid off 700 workers at an assembly plant in Wayne County in April. GM eliminated a second shift, furloughing 468 workers at its Lake Orion Assembly Plant in Oakland County in October.

Auto supply company Su-Dan announced in September it would close three factories in Oakland County by year's end, costing 131 workers their jobs.

In October, a division of Parker Hannifin Corp. in Oxford, Oakland County, that manufactured compressed air filters told its 65 workers they wouldn't have jobs in 2016. "There's a lot of people there that are paycheck to paycheck, and it's going to hurt them," Michelle Moloney, who worked there 25 years, told a reporter from Sherman Publications.

The threat of the TPP is that it does absolutely nothing to stop this job-slaughter. Lawmakers, public interest groups, manufacturers, and unions like mine all pleaded with negotiators to include strong provisions in the deal to punish currency manipulators. They didn't do it.

They included some language about currency manipulation. But it's not in the main trade deal. And it's not enforceable.

Swallowing the TPP would be accepting deliberately depressed currency values in Asian trading partner countries and a permanently depressed economy in the U.S. car manufacturing heartland.

It's the TPP that should disappear. Not Detroit.

EEO Committee

By Ali Edwards
E.E.O. Committee
Lithium Plant

Top o' the mornin' to ya! Happy St. Patrick's day to all of my Irish Charas (friends) out there. Take the time to show your appreciation to all of our Irish brothers and sisters here at Arconic for their contribution to the advancement of USW 115 and Arconic as a whole. Here's an Irish fun fact for you; an Irish birthday tradition is to lift the birthday child upside down and give his head a few gentle bumps on the floor for good luck. The number of bumps should correspond to the child's age plus one. I guess the extra bump is one to grow on. So share this fun fact with someone you know I'm sure it will be of interest. Also, boast your Green's throughout the month of March and show your support for our Irish Co-Workers. Please make sure that you contact a member of your departments EEO Committee if you have any questions or concerns. Remember to celebrate your diversity by celebrating

ALL of USW 115.

PEC: Yes, You Have a Right To Complain!

By Doug Herr

I'm serious, less than 50% of our membership returned signed postcards for NO TPP. Less than 40% of our membership even voted in the last election. That makes us the state with the lowest voter turnout in the country with the lowest voter turnout in the world. That means Indiana has the worst voter turnout in the world.

That doesn't mean you non-voters can't complain. After all, Your refusal to vote helped elect the politicians that want to pass TPP. Yes, you helped elect them. You also helped elect politicians that passed "Right-To-Freeload" and other Union busting legislation, Daylight Savings Time, and the list goes on. They haven't done as much to hurt us this election year, because they are worried you might actually go to the polls. Rest assured, I won't be the one to tell them they aren't in any danger.

So, don't believe anyone who tells you that you don't have a right to complain about the government if you didn't vote. Those of you who haven't called about TPP, grab your smartphone and call your Congressmen today.



Women in Labor History

Profile. Zinn Education Project. 2014. At <http://zinnedproject.org/materials/women-in-labor-history/>
Brief bios of a few noted women involved in the labor movement.

Louise Boyle: Photographer Louise Boyle figures prominently among those of her time whose penetrating images documented the devastating effects of the Great Depression on American workers. In 1937, at the height of a wave of labor militancy, Ms. Boyle was invited to photograph the living and working conditions of the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union members from several Arkansas communities. Her provocative recording courageous people linking their futures together despite devastating poverty, physical hardship, and brutal police-endorsed reprisals. Most portray African American farmers in their homes, at union meetings and rallies, or at work with their families picking cotton. Boyle returned in 1982 to rephotograph some of the people and places she had documented earlier.

Hattie Canty: Legendary African-American unionist Hattie Canty migrated to Las Vegas from rural Alabama. In contrast to the AFL-CIO's George Meany, who bragged that he had never been on a picket line, Canty was one of the greatest strike leaders in U.S. history. Her patient leadership helped knit together a labor union made up of members from 84 nations. "Coming from Alabama," Canty observed, "this seemed like the civil rights struggle ... the labor movement and the civil rights movement, you cannot separate the two of them."

May Chen: In 1982, May Chen led the New York Chinatown strike of 1982, one of the largest Asian American worker strikes with about 20,000 garment factory workers marching the streets of Lower Manhattan demanding work contracts. Chen, then affiliated with the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, was one of the strike organizers.

"The Chinatown community then had more and more small garment factories," she recalled. "And the Chinese employers thought they could play on ethnic loyalties to get the workers to turn away from the union. They were very, very badly mistaken."

Most of the protests included demands for higher wages, improved working conditions and for management to observe the Confucian principles of fairness and respect. By many accounts, the workers won. The strike caused the employers to hold back on wage cuts and withdraw their demand that workers give up their holidays and some benefits. It paved the way for better working conditions such as hiring bilingual staff to interpret for workers and management, initiation of English-language classes and van services for workers.

Jessie de la Cruz: On September 5, 2013, Jessie de la Cruz passed away at age 93. A field worker since the age of five, Jessie knew poverty, harsh working conditions, and the exploitation of Mexicans and all poor people. Her response was to take a stand. She joined the United Farm Workers union in 1965 and, at Cesar Chavez's request, became its first woman recruiter. She also participated in strikes, helped ban the crippling short-handle hoe, became a delegate to the Democratic National Convention, testified before the Senate, and met with the Pope. She continued to be a political activist until her death in 2013.

Elizabeth Gurley Flynn: "I will devote my life to the wage earner. My sole aim in life is to do all in my power to right the wrongs and lighten the burdens of the laboring class." In 1907, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn became a full-time organizer for the Industrial Workers of the World and in 1912 traveled to Lawrence, MA during the Great Textile Strike. With the arrests of Joseph Ettor and Arturo Giovannitti Flynn at the end of January she became "the strike's leading lady."

She was a major organizer of the various trips by children of textile workers to supportive cities like New York. She called the children's demonstrations "the most wonderful that I have ever seen. I have been in strikes and battles for free speech but I have never seen such an outburst of human brotherhood as I saw Saturday."

Velma Hopkins: "I know my limitations and I surround myself with people who I can designate to be sure it's carried out. If you can't do that, you're not an organizer."

Velma Hopkins helped mobilize 10,000 workers into the streets of Winston-Salem, NC, as part of an attempt to bring unions to R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company. The union, called Local 22 of the Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers of America-CIO, was integrated and led primarily by African American women. They pushed the boundaries of economic, racial and gender equality.

In the 1940s, they organized a labor campaign and a strike for better working conditions, pay, and civil rights. It was the only time in the history of Reynolds Tobacco that it had a union. Before Local 22 faced set-backs from red-baiting and the power of Reynolds' anti-unionism, it gained national attention for its vision of an equal society. This vision garnered the scrutiny of powerful enemies such as Richard Nixon and captured the attention of allies such as actor Paul Robeson and songwriter Woody Guthrie. Although Local 22 ultimately failed to slay the giant, the union influenced a generation of civil rights activists.

Dolores Huerta: Before becoming a labor organizer, Dolores Huerta was a grammar school teacher, but soon quit after becoming distraught at the sight of children coming to school hungry or without proper clothing. "I couldn't stand seeing kids come to class hungry and needing shoes. I thought I could do more by organizing farm workers than by trying to teach their hungry children."

In 1955, Huerta launch her career in labor organizing by helping Fred Ross train organizers in Stockton, Calif., and five years later, founded the Agricultural Workers Association before organizing the UFW with Cesar Chavez in 1962. Some of her early victories included lobbying for voting rights for Mexican Americans as well as for the right of every American to take the written driver's test in a native language. A champion of labor rights, women's rights, racial equality and other civil

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rights causes, Huerta remains an unrelenting figure in the farm workers' movement.

Mother Jones: "I asked the newspaper men why they didn't publish the facts about child labor in Pennsylvania. They said they couldn't because the mill owners had stock in the papers." "Well, I've got stock in these little children," said I," and I'll arrange a little publicity."

On July 7, 1903, Mary Harris "Mother" Jones began the "March of the Mill Children" from Philadelphia to President Theodore Roosevelt's Long Island summer home in Oyster Bay, NY, to publicize the harsh conditions of child labor and to demand a 55-hour workweek. During this march she delivered her famed "The Wail of the Children" speech. Roosevelt refused to see them.

Mary Elizabeth Lease: "Wall Street owns the country. It is no longer a government of the people, by the people, and for the people, but a government of Wall Street, by Wall Street, and for Wall Street."

These words were spoken more than 120 years ago by Mary Lease, a powerful voice of the agrarian crusade and the best-known orator of the era, first gaining national attention battling Wall Street during the 1890 Populist campaign. As a spokesperson for the "people's party," she hoped that by appealing directly to the heart and soul of the nation's farmers, she could motivate them to political action to protect their own interests not only in Kansas but throughout the United States.

"You may call me an anarchist, a socialist, or a communist, I care not, but I hold to the theory that if one man as not enough to eat three times a day and another man has \$25,000,000, that last man has something that belongs to the first." Mary spent most of her life speaking out in favor of social justice causes including woman suffrage and temperance, and her work reflected the multifaceted nature of late nineteenth-century politics in the United States.

Clara Lemlich: "I have listened to all the speakers, and I have no further patience for talk. I am a working girl, one of those striking against intolerable conditions. I am tired of listening to speakers who talk in generalities. What we are here for is to decide whether or not to strike. I make a motion that we go out in a general strike."

Clara Lemlich was a firebrand who led several strikes of shirtwaist makers and challenged the mostly male leadership of the union to organize women garment workers. With support from the National Women's Trade Union League (NWTUL), in 1909 she lead the New York shirtwaist strike, also known as the Uprising of the 20,000. It was the largest strike of women at that point in U.S. history. The strike was followed a year later by the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire that exposed the continued plight of immigrant women working in dangerous and difficult conditions.

Pauline Newman: "All we knew was the bitter fact that after working 70 or 80 hours in a seven-day week, we did not earn enough to keep body and soul together."

Pauline Newman, a Russian immigrant, began working at the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory in 1903 when she was thirteen years old. Finding that many of her co-workers could not read, she organized an evening study group where they also discussed labor issues and politics. Newman was active in the shirtwaist strike and the Women's Trade Union League. She became a union organizer for the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union (ILGWU) and director of the ILGWU Health Center. Courtesy of the Kheel Center.

Rose Pesotta: When Rose Pesotta arrive in Los Angeles in 1933 to organize employees in the garment industry who's workforce was 75% Latinas, the local leadership of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU), consisting of mostly white men, had no interest in organizing female dressmakers, feeling that most either leave the industry to raise their families or shouldn't be working in the first place. On October 12, 1933, a month after Rose Pesotta arrived, 4,000 workers walked off the job and went on strike. Their demands included union recognition, 35-hour work weeks, being paid the minimum wage, no take home work or time card regulation, and disputes to be handled through arbitration. The strike ended on Nov. 6 with mixed results. The workers gained a 35-hour workweek and received the minimum wage. While the end seemed less than eventful, the message sent was far more powerful than the end result. What Rose Pesotta knew all along was now clear to the garment bosses and her male union counterparts; women, specifically women of color, should not be discounted. When it comes to the demands of dignity and respect, these workers would not be ignored.

Ai-Jen Poo: When Poo started organizing domestic workers in 2000, many thought she was taking on an impossible task. Domestic workers were too dispersed, spread out over too many homes. Even Poo had described the world of domestic work as the "Wild West." Poo's first big breakthrough with the National Domestic Workers Alliance (NDWA) happened on July 1, 2010, when the New York state legislature passed the Domestic Workers Bill of Rights. The bill legitimated domestic workers and gave them the same lawful rights as any other employee, such as vacation time and overtime pay. Though the bill was considered a major victory, the NDWA did not stop there, expanding operations to include 17 cities and 11 states.

Florence Reece: Florence Reece was an activist, poet, and songwriter. She was the wife of one of the strikers and union organizers, Sam Reece, in the Harlan County miners strike in Kentucky. In an attempt to intimidate her family, the sheriff and company guards shot at their house while you and your children were inside (Sam had been warned they were coming and escaped). During the attack, you wrote the lyrics to Which Side Are You On?, a song that would become a popular ballad of the labor movement.

Song Lyrics

CHORUS: Which side are you on? (4x)

My daddy was a miner/And I'm a miner's son/And I'll stick with the union/'Til every battle's won [Chorus]

They say in Harlan County/There are no neutrals there/You'll either be a union man/Or a thug for JH Blair [Chorus]

Oh workers can you stand it?/Oh tell me how you can/Will you be a lousy scab/Or will you be a man? [Chorus]

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In Memorial

Dennis E. Manning
02/20/2016

*Pray for
the dead,
Fight for
the Living*

7:30AM UNION 1:00PM
MEETINGS 3:30PM
3rd Tuesday of Every
Month

Watch the boards for emergency exceptions.
BE ACTIVE, STAY INFORMED,
ATTEND YOUR UNION MEETING

(Continued from page 5)

Don't scab for the bosses/Don't listen to their lies/Us poor folks haven't got a chance/Unless we organize [Chorus]

Fannie Sellins: Fannie Sellins was known as an exceptional organizer that also made her "a thorn in the side of the Allegheny Valley coal operators." The operators openly threatened to "get her." After being an organizer in St. Louis for the United Garment Workers local and in the West Virginia coal fields, in 1916 Sellins moved to Pennsylvania, where her work with the miners' wives proved to be an effective way to organize workers across ethnic barriers. She also recruited black workers, who originally came north as strikebreakers, into the United Mine Workers America. During a tense confrontation between townspeople and armed company guards outside the Allegheny Coal and Coke company mine in Brackenridge on August 26, 1919, Fannie Sellins and miner Joseph Strzelecki were brutally gunned down. A coroner's jury and a trial in 1923 ended in the acquittal of two men accused of her murder.

Vicky Starr: "When I look back now, I really think we had a lot of guts. But I didn't even stop to think about it at the time. It was just something that had to be done. We had a goal. That's what we felt had to be done, and we did it."

"Stella Nowicki" was the assumed name of Vicki Starr, an activist who participated in the campaign to organize unions in the meatpacking factories of Chicago in the 1930s and '40s. Here's a video clip of actress Christina Kirk reading Vicky Starr's account of the conditions of working in the plants and tactics used to organize workers.

Emma Tenayuca: "I was arrested a number of times. I never thought in terms of fear. I thought in terms of justice." Emma Tenayuca was born in San Antonio, Texas on Dec. 21, 1916. Through her work as an educator, speaker, and labor organizer, she became known as "La Pasionaria de Texas."

From 1934-48, she supported almost every strike in the city, writing leaflets, visiting homes of strikers, and joining them on picket lines. She joined the Communist Party and the Workers Alliance (WA) in 1936. Tenayuca and WA demanded that Mexican workers could strike without fear of deportation or a minimum wage law.

In 1938 she was unanimously elected strike leader of 12,000 pecan shellers. Due to anti-Mexican, anti-Communist, and anti-union hysteria Tenayuca fled San Antonio for her safety but later returned as a teacher.

Carmelita Torres: On Jan. 28, 1917, 17-year-old Carmelita Torres led the Bath Riots at the Juarez/El Paso border, refusing the toxic "bath" imposed on all workers crossing the border. Here is what the El Paso Times reported the next day: "When refused permission to enter El Paso without complying with the regulations the women collected in an angry crowd at the center of the bridge. By 8 o'clock the throng, consisting in large part of servant girls employed in El Paso, had grown until it packed the bridge half way across.

"Led by Carmelita Torres, an auburn-haired young woman of 17, they kept up a continuous volley of language aimed at the immigration and health officers, civilians, sentries and any other visible American."

Ella Mae Wiggins: "She died carrying the torch for social justice."

Ella Mae Wiggins was an organizer, speaker, and balladeer, known for expressed her faith in the union, the only organized force she had encountered that promised her a better life.

On Sept. 14, 1929, during the Loray Mill strike in Gastonia, NC, a Textile Workers Union members were ambushed by local vigilantes and a sheriff's deputy. The vigilantes and deputy forced Ella Mae Wiggins' pickup truck off the road, and murdered the 29 year-old mother of nine. Though there were 50 witnesses during the assault and five of the attackers were arrested, all were acquitted of her murder. After her death, the AFL-CIO expanded Wiggins' grave marker in 1979, to include the phrase, "She died carrying the torch of social justice."

Her best-known song, A Mill Mother's Lament, was recorded by Pete Seeger, among others.



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Members can find our Facebook group
and request to join



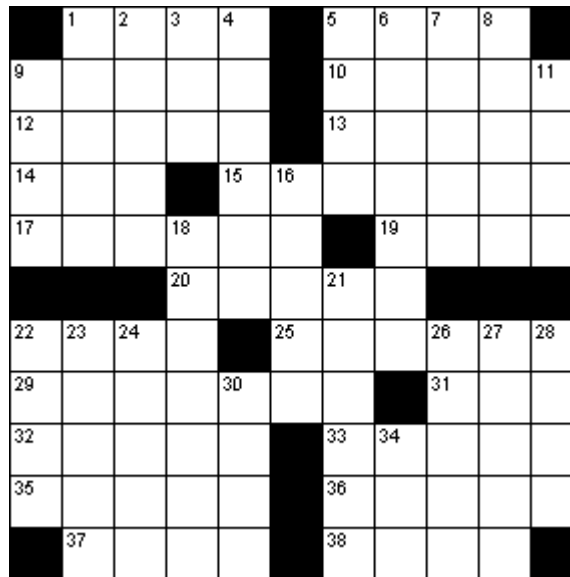
Puzzle Solutions

2	5	3	6	7	4	9	8	1	5	2	3	4	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9	4	1	8	2	6	3	5	7	1	6	4	3	2	5	8	7	9	3	7	8	6	5	4	2	1
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8	3	5	7	6	1	9	4	2	1	6	4	3	2	5	8	7	9	3	7	8	6	5	4	2	1

Across

1. Fathers
5. A vaulted recess on a building
9. A friction match
10. Piloted a vehicle
12. Pastoral
13. A life estate for a widow
14. A cost
15. Craving
17. Admiration
19. To a point on
20. Pertaining to cities
22. Not right
25. Member of an ascetic Jewish cult
29. Unpaid debts
31. Promise
32. Growl
33. Angry
35. Entice
36. Opposing groups
37. Perceives visually
38. Anagram of "Dote"

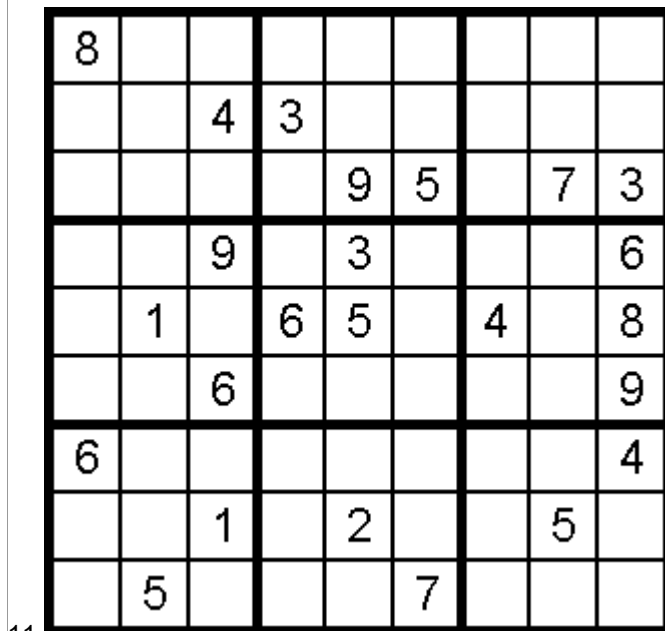
<http://www.crosswordpalace.com>

**Down**

1. Dandies
2. Until now (2 words)
3. Delete (abbrev.)
4. Vendor
5. Augments
6. Sub-atomic particles
7. Plant seeds (2 words)
8. Something that happens
9. Type of flute
11. Therefore
16. Medium to dark brown
18. The Muse of music (Greek mythology)
21. Help
22. Persist
23. Sea eagles
24. Encircles a picture
26. Avoid
27. Famous
28. Sheep
30. Anagram of "Salt"
34. ____ de Janeiro

How to play: The numbers 1 through 9 will appear once only in each row, column, and 3x3 zone. There are 9 such zones in each sudoku grid. There is only one correct solution to each sudoku. Good luck!

Difficulty level: medium.



- | | | | |
|------------|----------|---------|---------|
| accent | family | lucky | rousing |
| beers | green | orange | rovers |
| blarney | hats | parades | saints |
| boisterous | imps | partner | sate |
| clover | join | party | singing |
| corn | jokes | pubs | tavern |
| cots | kiss | rats | tenor |
| everyone | lace | relax | |
| eyes | laughter | rife | |

USW115 Pulse

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The Last Word

By Larry Lewis

Cynic: *noun: a person who believes that people are motivated purely by self-interest rather than acting for honorable or unselfish reasons or a person who questions whether something will happen or whether it is worthwhile.*

I was having a conversation with someone the other day about 2 Press when towards the end of the conversation it turned to our newsletter. The person mentioned agreement with some of my politics but that I was a bit too cynical. YA THINK! I have a life's perspective based on 53 years of living and observation, working with people at all levels of manufacturing. And sadly the one reoccurring theme is "what's this going to get ME?"

We've gotten lost in this country. Business for the sake of business is pointless. We've developed shortsightedness in our culture where we can only be concerned with maximizing this week's paycheck or bonus without thinking of the future. When I was younger I was taught it was our responsibility to be stewards of this country, for the well-being of all its

citizens and their communities. Yeah kinda sappy, I didn't get it then, I do now.

It's time for America to grow up. As a civilization we are young in comparison to the rest of the world. It's time we realize that we are one with the environment and we are one with each other. This is the "We Thing" we have to come to grips with. For profit at all costs, the offshoring jobs and the privatization or elimination of the basic social needs are prices too high and one that will be paid for by our children, also.

Is this what we want?

This "experiment in Democracy" is nowhere near over. The Founding Fathers set this Democratic Socialist system up long before that name even existed. Their fear and loathing of a monarchy was only equaled by their fear of mob rule. Search out their history, why do you think there are so many universities named after them. One of their 1st Land Ordinances in 1785 began the ability to start funding public education and subsequent acts made the schools central to the community. It was their goal to also try to develop a well informed and educated citizenry. Educate yourselves.

In Solidarity.

UNITED STEELWORKERS



Local 115

LEADERSHIP

Executive Board

President	Spencer Buchanan
Vice President	Scott Wolendowski
Recording Secretary	Dylan Buchanan
Financial Secretary	Kenny Cox
Treasurer	Brian Schoolcraft
Guide	Willard Hammond
Inside Guard	Rick Parker Jr.
Outside Guard	Douglas Herr
Trustee	Larry Lewis
Trustee	Hilory(Butch)Hammond
Trustee	Clark McCorkle

Grievance Committees

LABOR UNIONS:

THE FOLKS WHO BROUGHT YOU THE WEEKEND.

CHILD LABOR LAWS, OVERTIME,

MINIMUM WAGE, INJURY PROTECTION,

WORKMENS COMPENSATION INSURANCE,

PENSION SECURITY, RIGHT TO ORGANIZE . .ETC.

District 1 Ingot

Committeeperson	Terri Waymire
Assistant	Willard Hammond

District 2 Tube Mill

Committeeperson	Mike Wortman
Assistant	Rick Parker Jr.

District 3 Maintenance

Committeeperson	Aaron Eldert
Assistant	Doug Herr

District 4 Extrusion/Sonic/Storeroom

Committeeperson	John Ragan
	Robin Buschman
Assistant	Brian Schoolcraft

District 5 Tool & Die/Lithium Plant

Committeeperson	Susie Bending
Assistant	Hilory(Butch)Hammond