

**14-A Uniserv Newsletter**  
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# Eastsider

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September 10, 2007

## WHERE'S CHUCK?

- Sept. 5 - MESSA presentation for ACC Faculty (ACC)
- 6 - Alpena EA pre-bargaining (MEA office)
- 7 - Mentoring Meeting (Grayling)
- 10 - Alpena EA pre-bargaining (MEA office)
- 11 - Atlanta ESP Bargaining (Atlanta)  
14A COPAC Meeting (MEA office)
- 12 - MESSA presentation for Rogers City ESP (Rogers City)
- 13 - Meeting with J-L ESP President (Lewiston)
- 18 - Alpena EA Bargaining (MEA office)
- 19 - 14A Presidents' Conclave (MEA office) - Tentative
- 20 - NMEA (BJ's – Gaylord)
- 25 - Alpena EA Bargaining (MEA office)
- 26 - Michigan Workforce Development meeting (Atlanta)
- 27-28 - Chuck on leave
- Oct. 2 - 14A COPAC (MEA office)



## WELCOME BACK!

Harriet and I have both commented on how fast the summer has gone! Someone said to me the other day, "Life is like a roll of toilet paper, the closer you get to the end, the faster it goes." There must be something to it. As a kid growing up in Bay City, summer seemed to last forever—not so any more.



## CASH FOR KIDS

By now you have been approached by one of the "Cash for Kids" delegates. If not, it will happen. Give lots and give often. Forty cents of every dollar comes back to the local coordinating council. This means the coordinating council can contribute to local issues, i.e., school board elections, millages, bond issues, trainings, local, state elections, judges, etc. So if not a 'Cash for Kids' contributor yet, be one. It really does not hurt.



## BARGAINING

The council has a new Project SNAP Negotiator, Paul Ciske from the Mio AuSable EA. Paul has been working diligently getting financial analyses done for several school districts that we still have bargaining. We have also tapped his expertise for the Marquette CAT report. Paul is taking five years of audits, compiling the data and producing a PowerPoint presentation which shows where and how money has been spent, questions questionable expenditures, compares wages and benefits with other districts and summarizes the overall health of the district, salary and benefits.



The final product is impressive and will be used at all tables.

He also puts together an “All in One” spreadsheet which calculates total cost of wages and benefits and has the ability to forecast those expenses into the future. This is not something we necessarily show the board bargaining team, but instead will be utilized to refute numbers, if necessary. This will be another tool for us to use at the table.

Paul is also contracted by NMEA to do comparisons of NMEA units. I have seen some of his work and it is eye opening. I’m not sure when he will be presenting at NMEA, but at that time I will make sure that the bargaining teams are privy to it.

## DID YOU KNOW...

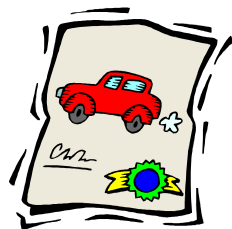


**...older people are less worried about finances** than younger

people? Sixty percent of people in their 70s say they aren’t worried about coping financially in the future, compared with 57% of those in their 60s...48% of those in their 50s...and 42% of those in their 40s. About 70% of people over age 60 say their standard of living in retirement is the same or better than it was while they worked.

Only 29% say it is worse. Future of Retirement Survey of 21,000 people, ages 40 to 79, in 21 countries, conducted for HSBC Holdings, PLC, London, England.

**...the average price of auto insurance has dropped** for the first time since 1999,



reports consumer advocate Linda Sherry. That means opportunities to pay much lower premiums. *Reasons:* Safer cars, fewer accidents and insurance companies’ focusing more on credit histories to determine pricing. *Strategy:* Strive to improve your credit record and correct any errors. Compare auto insurance prices at [www.insurance.com](http://www.insurance.com). Linda Sherry is director of national priorities at Consumer Action. San Francisco, a national consumer advocacy organization. [www.consumer-action.org](http://www.consumer-action.org).

**...cholesterol boosts brain function?** It helps maintain the central nervous system and aids higher levels of thinking. It makes up about 50% of living cell membranes, which control the flow of materials in and out of cells. It also is necessary to synthesize estrogen, testosterone and other hormones. *To maintain healthy levels of cholesterol:* Eat sufficient fiber, and take B vitamins regularly. Andrew L. Rubman, ND, director, Southbury Clinic for Traditional Medicines, Southbury, Connecticut, and adjunct professor of clinical medicine, Florida College of Integrative Medicine, Orlando.

