

## Faurecia Staff 'FUELS' the Hungry

Faurecia might be an international company with offices and production facilities around the world, including its North American headquarters based in Auburn Hills, but that doesn't stop the company's employees from helping out people on a local basis.

Officials of the auto parts supplier are challenging employees in the U.S., Canada and Mexico to exceed last year's collection total of more than 700,000 meals donated to participating food banks.

The effort is a corporate initiative called FUELS - Faurecia Unites with Employees for Local Service. Faurecia and its employees have provided more than 1.3 million meals since the program began in 2010, said Stacie Tong, Faurecia North America's director of Communications.

Throughout September, which marks Hunger Action Month, Faurecia's more than 20,000 employees from its 47 locations in North America are challenged to collect the highest quantity of non-perishable food items to help fight hunger.

In addition to donating food, Faurecia employees will participate in volunteer days with their local partner food banks.

"Millions of people struggle every day with hunger, which affects one in six hard-working adults, children and seniors within our own community," said W. DeWayne Wells, president of Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan.

"It's inspiring to see programs like FUELS, in which citizens are recognizing community needs and reaching out to their deserving neighbors. The impact it has made has been remarkable.

Now in its fourth year, FUELS continues to evolve as the program

### Breakfast Topic: Diversity in Macomb County

The issue of diversity and how it affects businesses in Macomb County will be the topic of discussion at the "Breakfast of Nations: Diversity is Good for Business" event sponsored by the Macomb County Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday, Oct. 8, beginning at 8 a.m.

The speakers will be Kurt Metzger of Data Driven Detroit and Steve Tobocman of Global Detroit. They will talk about demographic changes in Macomb County and how diversity is good for business.

Data Driven Detroit (D3) is an affiliate of the Michigan Nonprofit Association (MNA) and provides accessible, high-quality information and analysis to drive informed decision-making about Detroit.

The association's goal is to provide essential and unbiased information that can be used by all.

Originally funded by the New Economy Initiative of Southeast Michigan, the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce, and the Skillman Foundation, a comprehensive Global Detroit study was released in May 2010 that documented the impact that immigrants have on the regional economy and identified 11 strategic initiatives to revitalize the regional economy.

To date, Global Detroit has helped launch more than a half-dozen distinct initiatives in Southeast Michigan to make the region more welcoming and to capitalize on the economic opportunity that the area's international population and connections bring.

The breakfast is at MCC's Lorenzo Cultural Center, 44575 Garfield Road. Tickets are \$25. To register, call 586-493-7600, or go to [macombcountychamber.com](http://macombcountychamber.com).

grows and participants consistently identify new ways to benefit more people in need, Tong said.

For the first time, employees are joining together to contribute more cash donations. A single dollar donation can provide three meals. Cash donations will be used to secure food from local farmers to ensure families have access to nutritious, high-quality produce, further benefiting communities by buying locally grown goods.

Faurecia will contribute monetary donations as sites' collection totals rise. For each site that meets its collection goal, the company pledges to contribute \$500 to the site's local food bank partner, Tong said.

The site that collects the most meals per employee each week will receive an extra \$1,000 dona-

tion for its food bank. Faurecia is further pledging \$5,000 for one site in the U.S./Canada and one site in Mexico that collect the most meals per employee.

"Companies are more than the products they make," said Mike Heneka, president of Faurecia North America.

"They are citizens of their communities and, above all, people who care about their colleagues and neighbors.

"FUELS is Faurecia's way of giving back to all the people and organizations that have supported us, as well as a way to help communities grow and thrive."

### Sterling Heights Chamber to Hold Raffle Dinner

The Sterling Heights Regional Chamber of Commerce's annual \$10,000 raffle gala is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 18.

This year's event is once again in the Palazzo Grande Banquet Center at 54660 Van Dyke in Shelby Township. The gala begins at 6 p.m. with cocktails, followed by a plated dinner at 7 p.m., then desserts and a deluxe coffee station at 7:30 p.m.

Only 150 raffle tickets at \$150 each will be sold, so the odds are excellent, said Chamber President Wayne Oehmke. The raffle gala is back by popular demand, he said, and one raffle ticket with two dinner/cocktails ticket is \$250. The cost of one raffle ticket and one dinner/cocktails is \$200.

One dinner/cocktails ticket costs \$60. One raffle ticket only (no attendance at event necessary) is \$150.

"We also begin paying off the last four tickets left so it keeps everyone excited and on the edge of their seat, so to speak," said Oehmke. "The first ticket drawn will be honored with a special donated 'loser' item and, at the completion of the drawing, all unsuccessful tickets will be placed back in our drum for one more Second Chance Prize, as well."

Numerous raffles, card games and a 50/50 will be held throughout the evening with the reverse drawing segment to start at approximately 8 p.m.

To reserve your ticket or for more information, call the chamber office at 586-731-5400, ext. 11, for Lori, or email her at [llcline@shrcci.com](mailto:llcline@shrcci.com).

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