

SEARS HOLDINGS

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ALUMNI

Newsletter

Summer 2017

Our Continued Commitment to Success

The past year will be remembered as one of the most challenging periods for “brick and mortar” retailers – and our company was one of the many affected by these headwinds. We remain a proud, competitive business built on a strong foundation – with thousands of associates working towards the success of our company.

It is important to remember that the retail environment is as difficult and dynamic today as it has ever been, but Sears has always been adapting to customers' needs and preferences, whatever they want, wherever and however they want it. So how are we going to adapt now? How are we going to compete? We will make fundamental changes to our business to remain competitive over the long term.

We will concentrate our innovation and investments on Shop Your Way – our robust membership platform that provides unique membership experiences through rewards, services and partnership benefits. We have made substantial progress toward our transformation over the past year, but we will continue to do what is necessary to improve our business performance.

We achieved a great deal over the past year, but have more work to do. That said, we have full conviction that we can compete as a leaner, more focused retailer because we have what it takes: valuable assets and the right strategy.

Sears and Kmart brands represent two of the country's most iconic retailers with rich, long histories dating back over 100 years – and make no mistake – they are still highly relevant to American consumers. Since World War I, companies within Sears Holdings have been proud supporters of America's military and those who have served. In 2016, Sears Holdings hired more than 5,200 veterans and military spouses, many of whom are currently serving in the National Guard and Reserve forces.

A successful transformation always requires three critical elements: committed employees to drive the necessary change; financial flexibility to support the company's evolution; and long-term, supportive investors who are willing to see things through.

We are fortunate that in the case of Sears Holdings, we have all three.

SHC Chairman and CEO: “We Are Fighting Like Hell”

Our Chairman and CEO Eddie Lampert stated at our Annual Shareholders' Meeting that “We are fighting like hell” and doing everything in our power for Sears and Kmart to succeed. He also shared this sentiment in a recent post on our corporate blog, SHC Speaks. To view this post and to subscribe, please visit blog.searsholdings.com. The blog is also a great source to stay up-to-date with our executive team and stories regarding the company and our associates.

Obituaries

Thomas B. Trimble

Mr. Thomas B. Trimble, 91, of Shrewsbury, Pennsylvania, passed away on June 10, 2015. Tom worked for the federal government for close to 31 years before retiring. While working for the government, he also worked part-time for Sears Roebuck & Co. for over 40 years. Most of his years were spent in the automotive department.

He was known for consistently being number one in sales and maintenance agreements in his division as well as the store. Tom enjoyed working for Sears so much that he retired in 1986 only to return and retire again in 1996. He had a reputation as a hard worker who went above and beyond. He was also known for his helpfulness, courtesy, diligence, attention to detail, knowledge and loyalty. He received numerous awards throughout his career. In 1966, he was honored to be asked to provide details of his sales technique so that it could be included in a new Tire Salesman's Manual.

He is survived by two daughters, a son and a grandson. His beloved wife, Mary, passed away in 1976.

Angelo V. "Sonny" Vinci, Sr.

Mr. Angelo Vinci, Sr. passed away peacefully on March 7, 2016 at his home in Newtown Square, Pennsylvania at the age of 80. Angelo was born and raised in South Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In 1956, he began his career at Sears Roebuck & Co. as a salesman in the South Philadelphia location. In 1958, he joined the United States Navy, where he served for two years. After his time in the Navy, Angelo returned to Sears, where he remained a proud member of the Sears family for 37 years, working as a salesman and as a department manager in several Pennsylvania locations including South Philadelphia, Chester, and St. David's, as well as the Deptford, New Jersey location. Angelo would often say that most of his customers became his friends.

He was a loving husband of 56 years to his wife, Joanne, and a devoted Father and Grandfather.

Lorene C. Brown

Mrs. Lorene Carwile Brown, of Huntsville, Alabama, passed away on Nov. 27, 2016 at the age of 93. Lorene was born Aug. 8, 1923 in Limestone County to Norris and Lula Cornelia Turner Carwile.

Lorene retired from Sears after 25 years as a retail manager. She enjoyed her retirement years spent in homemaking, travel and time spent with family. She was an extremely loving and generous person and will be missed by many. Her family has grieved her continuously as she suffered from Alzheimer's disease for the past 20 years.

She is preceded in death by her parents; her six siblings; and her husband, Marvin W. Brown. Survivors include her daughter, grand-daughters and three great-grandchildren.

Evelyn E. DeFalco

Mrs. Evelyn Eberts DeFalco, 67, of Las Vegas, Nevada, formerly of Greensburg, Pennsylvania passed away on May 5, 2016. Evelyn worked at various Kmart's throughout Pennsylvania and Nevada during her 30 years with the company.

She is survived by her beloved husband, William DeFalco. She is survived her brothers and sister.

Beecher N. Washburn, Jr.

Mr. Beecher Noah Washburn Jr., 72, died on Feb. 3, 2017 after a battle with lung cancer. Beecher was born to the late Beecher N. Washburn and Elsie P. Washburn in Hartford, Connecticut. He was an employee of Sears from 1967 at the Landmark, Alexandria, Virginia store, other metropolitan Washington, D.C. stores and Gaithersburg and Bethesda, Maryland stores. He retired from the Nebraska 824C division in 2007, a few months short of his 40th anniversary with Sears.

He is survived by his loving wife of nearly 46 years, his children and two grandchildren.

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Who to Contact

For Questions on:	Contact:
Address Change:	See each plan below for contact info.
Death of a retiree or spouse:	See each plan below for contact info.
Retiree Medical Benefits for general questions or to enroll in medical coverage:	See Aetna information below.
For specific questions about the Aetna Medical plans and prescription drugs, you can call Aetna directly at the numbers provided below:	
Aetna Medicare Rx Access Prescription Drug Plans	1-800-254-2239 http://searsretiree.aetnamedicare.com
Aetna Member Services (for general questions)	Pre-65: 1-800-432-1623 Post-65: 1-800-254-2239
Aetna Rx Home Delivery™	Pre-65: 1-800-432-1623 Post-65: 1-800-254-2239
Aetna preferred drug list (Formulary)	Pre-65: www.aetna.com/formulary Post-65: www.aetnamedicare.com
Retiree Life Insurance: For questions about reporting a death, change of address or investment changes.	Securian 1-888-887-3277 (option 1)
Group Universal Life Insurance: For questions about reporting a death, change of address or investment changes.	Prudential 1-800-778-3827 (option 1)
Pension Plan: For questions about reporting a death, change of address, checks, pension options or direct deposit.	Sears Holdings Pension Service Center 1-800-953-5390
The Savings Plans (formerly 401(k) Savings Plan): For questions about reporting a death, change of address or investment changes.	Sears Holdings Benefits Center 1-888-88sears (option 1) Follow the prompts to financial benefits and speak to a Benefits Center representative.
Retiree Discount Cards: For questions about reporting a death, change of address or ordering a replacement card.	Sears Holdings HR Support Services 1-888-887-3277. Follow the prompts to speak to a representative (option 6).
Credit Customer Service: Sears Card® Sears MasterCard®	1-800-917-7700 1-800-669-8488
To find a Sears or Kmart store:	Go to Sears.com or Kmart.com
Sears Holdings Archives E-mail: Sears / Kmart archives website	Mediarelations@searshc.com www.Searsarchives.com
Sears / Kmart Retiree website:	www.SearsHoldingsAlumni.com
Sears Holdings Retiree Newsletter:	Submit stories/ideas to e-mail: CorpComm@searshc.com

Obituaries: We send our sincere apologies to those of you who have recently lost a family member or fellow retiree. If you would like to share an obituary in the next newsletter, please send a message to the Corporate Communications team at CorpComm@searshc.com. We thank you for your response, and again, send our deepest sympathies.

Alumni Clubs

Are you looking to increase the membership of your local Kmart or Sears retiree club? Send your club name along with the name, phone number and/or email address of your club's contact to CorpComm@searshc.com. Club information will appear in the next issue on SearsHoldingsAlumni.com.

Did you just have a great event? Please feel free to send images of your time together or submit stories you would like to share with your fellow retirees.

Bangor, Maine Club: Contact Richard Duffton at 207-862-4275 or at Ddufton@gmail.com. The club meets on the second Tuesday of each month at various restaurants in the area.

Cumming, Georgia Club: The group meets at 8:30 a.m. on the second Thursday of each month at IHOP for breakfast and fellowship. Please contact Earl Holbrook at eholbr2@aol.com or 770-887-2512 for additional information.

Dallas, Texas Club: Contact Paul Briggs at 972-222-6041 or pwb@netzero.com. The club meets on the third Thursday of each month at the Dallas Athletic Club in Dallas, Texas. All are welcome!

Derby City Club: All Sears retirees from Louisville and Southern Indiana are welcome! Please contact Dale Winchell at 812-246-1927 for more information about the group.

Detroit Region Club: Contact Stanley Hreneczko at 586-268-3656. The group meets five times a year at various restaurants in the metro area. Stan welcomes all calls and encourages retirees to leave a voicemail if your call goes unanswered.

Dubuque, Iowa Club: Contact Denny Gansemer at 815-747-3762 or jdgansemer@mchsi.com.

Durham, North Carolina Club: The club meets for lunch on the first Wednesday of each month at The Hibachi Grill on Avondale Drive, North Carolina. Contact Harold Scroggs at 919-810-1355 or hscroggs@frontier.com.

Great Northern DieHards Club: Contact Edie Lester at 440-327-4048. The group meets at 12:30 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of every month at Canary's Restaurant in North Olmsted, Ohio. Please call Edie if you plan to attend so she can request a table for the group.

Huntsville, Alabama Club: Contact Jim Duncan at cdduncan@outlook.com. The club meets once a quarter at 9 a.m. at the Blue Plate Café in Huntsville. Please email Jim as the date varies.

Key West Club: Contact Zenaida Rojas at Geraldrojas@comcast.net.

La Grange, Illinois Club: The group meets for lunch on the second Thursday of each month at Via Bella in La Grange, Illinois. Please contact Pat Fruhwirth to confirm your attendance at Pat.Fruhwirth@gmail.com.

Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania Club: Contact George Ryba at 610-398-1786 or gcryba@aol.com.

Louisville and Southern Indiana Derby City Club: Contact Dale Winchell at 812-246-1927 or gin8ge@yahoo.com.

Medina, Ohio Club: The retirees of Medina, Ohio have formed a group on Facebook under Kmart Medina Ohio #7135 #3786. All those who worked at the Kmart #7135 or the Super K #3786 are welcomed to join the group online. They typically meet at 5 p.m. on the last Tuesday of every month at Bob Evans in Medina, Ohio. Anyone looking to attend the meetings can contact Rosemary Gardner at 330-769-2470 or rosemary@neo.rr.com.

Washington, DC Club: Contact Tom Nally at 703-451-5358 or nally1000@cox.net. The group meets in the DC area two to three times a year.

Wilmington, North Carolina Club: A small group meets at 11:30 a.m. on the first Thursday of each month (except July) at Jackson's Big Oak Barbecue in Wilmington, North Carolina. Please contact Sam Moore at 910-779-5212 for more information.

New Executive Feature: Human Resources



As we continue to accelerate our transformation, our focus also remains on ensuring that our associates and the company's culture are in sync with our evolving operating model. To help us continue to build on our efforts, we recently welcomed Julie "Jules" Ainsworth to the company. Jules is the new Chief People Operations Officer at Sears Holdings.

Jules has an extensive background in aligning people and operations with an organization's strategy. She was most recently chief executive officer and co-founder of celectiv, LLC., a human resources consulting firm. In addition, she has held senior leadership and consultant roles in both the financial services and energy industries. Jules' expertise in building high-performing teams, strategic planning and implementation, as well as financial and operating analysis, make her an asset to SHC and the human resources business model we are working to build.

Jules holds a Bachelor of Social Science in Economics and History from The University of Birmingham, UK and is also a Chartered Accountant.

She started in March 2017 and has already made a great impact on SHC in her short time with the company. "I've been so impressed by the "roll up our sleeves" attitude of everyone I've met," Jules shared. "I look forward to playing a role in SHC's transformation."

Obituaries Continued...

John 'Jack' A. Murphy Sr.

Retired U.S. Air Force Colonel, Mr. John Albert 'Jack' Murphy Sr. passed away on March 13, 2017. He was married to his best friend and love of his life, Gloria Camacho Murphy, for 43 years before her death in 2000.

John built a long and impressive career in management and real estate development for Sears Roebuck & Co. before retiring in Virginia. He was a retired colonel in the U.S. Air Force Reserves, and actively served a tour of duty in Korea during the Korean War and a deployment at the Pentagon.

John was extremely proud of his 11 children, 25 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He loved spending time with them, and they loved spending time with him, especially during frequent, large family gatherings.

Phyllis I. Barnett

Mrs. Phyllis I. Barnett, 91, passed away peacefully on April 29, 2017 in Akron, Ohio. She was a faithful member of Granger United Methodist Church. She was also a member of the Pythian Sisters Comet Temple & Independent Telephone Pioneers Association.

She retired as a supervisor for General Telephone Company, where she was fondly known as "Mrs. B". In retirement, she continued to work for Super K-Mart Medina as their telephone operator. She never knew a stranger and will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

She is survived by her children, grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband of 48 years, Charles E. Barnett.

ATTENTION SEARS ALUMNI

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WWW.SEARSVACATIONS.COM/ALUMNI

UPCOMING EVENT!

FAMILY & FRIENDS

In Store & Online

Sunday, July 16
through Tuesday, July 18

Store hours may vary by location.

Hackensack and Paramus, NJ; St. George, West Jordan, Ogden, Salt Lake City and Provo, UT; and Charleston, WV hold the event all day on Saturday, July 16.

Not valid in Sears locations in Glen Burnie, Bel Air, Annapolis, Columbia, Baltimore, Cockeysville and Westminster, Maryland or Puerto Rico locations.

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Thank you! And,
Have a great
summer.

Thank you for subscribing to our first retiree newsletter online!

You can expect to see the next edition of the newsletter in December 2017. Thank you for your understanding as we transition to a more eco-friendly and cost-effective solution. Enjoy your summer and we look forward to bringing you the latest SHC news around the holidays.