

LABOR NEWS & REPORT

UAW Local 774

2939 Niagara Street
Buffalo, New York 14207

BUY UNION
BUY AMERICAN



Volume 37 Issue 1



January - March 2025

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**"Teamwork in the Leadership,
Solidarity in the Ranks"**



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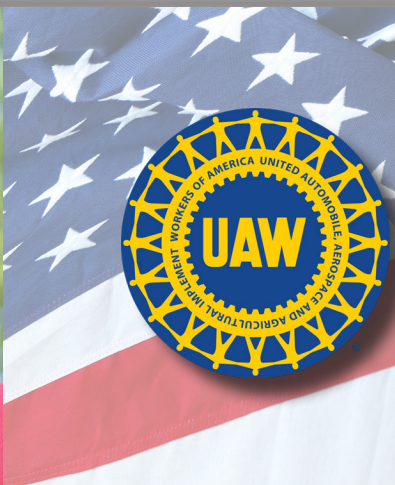
We recently showed our Irish pride in and out of the plant. Local 774, Local 897 and Region 9 members, friends & family walked the St. Patrick's Parade this year with our endorsed candidate for Mayor, Sean Ryan. It was great to have a Region 9 representative attend our March Retiree meeting. We also had the pleasure of going to Albany to help fight for workers' rights! You all have helped 774 collect our 2025 donation of \$27,740 to Variety Kids and we cannot thank you enough for your generous donations and everyone who made it possible.



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UAW Local 774 President's Report

Teddy Maldonado
President



Variety Kids Telethon

The 63rd Variety Kids Telethon was held on March 8th & 9th, 2025. A grand total of \$1,070,255 was raised to benefit the children of WNY. UAW Local 774 Membership and Retiree Workers raised \$27,740.00 of that total.

I would like to express my gratitude to everyone who contributed to our fundraising efforts:

West Herr, The 774 Retired Workers Chapter, Russell's Steaks Chops & More, Salvatore's Italian Gardens, 57NINETY, Italian Village, Lipsitz Green Scime Cambria LLP, Sidelines, La Hacienda Brighton, Tanya & Chris McClanahan, Tony Vacario and the Variety Kids Telethon, Jeanne LoHouse, John Orsini, Stacie Mc Kernan, Local 774 Members and their families.

We would like to thank all of our Active and Retired Union brothers and sisters, GM colleagues, family, and friends. We could not have done this without you.

I would also like to share a thank you note we received from Variety the Children's charity of Buffalo & WNY. The note reads:

"Dear Ted and those at Local 774 UAW, I know for a fact that if it were not for your dedication and true commitment in your heart, we at Variety would not be able to serve as many children as we do.

I believe it all started with Local 774 and I am sure Frank Cantafio is smiling down at you. Thank you for continuing his legacy and making a difference each and every year.

Sincerely,
Rose Ann Heilemann"

BJ's Wholesale Membership Changes

Signing up for a new or renewing your BJ's Wholesale Club Membership just got easier! It's simple and fast.

Here is everything you need to enroll or renew:

Call BJs at Phone #: 800-313-8887 (new and renewals)

Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday from 9:00am-6:00pm EST

When you call, please have the following information handy:

- UAW 774 members "Group Promo Code" is 300162
- Debit or credit card information
- If you are a current BJ's member, please have your membership ID, which can be found on your membership card or from within the BJ's app.

New Members

New Club Card (Basic) - **ONLY \$20**,
good for 12 months, receive 2 cards (\$40 savings)

New Club+ Card (earn Rewards) - **ONLY \$40**,
good for 12 months, receive 2 cards (\$80 savings)

Renewing/Existing Members

Renewal Club Card (Basic) - **ONLY \$50**,
good for 12 months, receive 2 cards (\$10 savings)

Renewal Club+ Card (earn Rewards) - **ONLY \$100**,
good for 12 months, receive 2 cards (\$20 savings)

Spring Driving

As the temperatures rise, it's essential to adjust your driving habits to ensure a safe journey. Warmer weather can lead to increased road traffic, construction, and pedestrian activity. Please stay alert and focused on the road.

Additionally, hot weather can cause tire blowouts and vehicle overheating. Make sure to check your vehicle's maintenance before embarking on a trip. Don't forget to stay hydrated, take breaks in shaded areas, and avoid driving during the hottest part of the day. Hope these warmer-weather tips can help you have a safe drive.



STAND UP FOR OUR LOVED ONES: NIH CUTS ARE A DIRECT ATTACK ON JOBS, INNOVATION, AND LIFE-SAVING RESEARCH

Reckless cuts lead to unnecessary lives lost.

UAW VALUES:

The Trump administration's decision to slash the National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding is a gut punch to scientific progress, economic growth, and the fight against deadly diseases. Cutting research on cancer, heart disease, diabetes, and Alzheimer's isn't "efficient"—it's economically reckless and inhumane. These cuts will shut down promising medical breakthroughs, slam the brakes on clinical trials, destroy jobs, and gut university research programs where thousands of UAW members across the country work every day to advance life-saving discoveries.

Trump claims this will "save money," but the truth is every NIH dollar invested in research generates two and a half times its value in economic activity. Gutting NIH funding is not savings—it's sabotage. To ensure these cuts are reversed, UAW demands immediate action from Congress before they wreak havoc on the working class, scientific innovation, and the future of public health.

THE FACTS:

FACT: President Trump and billionaire Elon Musk are defunding our ability to lead the world in medical innovation.

The NIH is the largest public funder of biomedical research in the world, and it anchors the United States' role as a global leader in health science. Breakthroughs from NIH-supported research have led to lifesaving advancements in medicine that Americans rely on every day. Research supported or funded by the NIH contributed to:

- development of the first artificial heart valves;
- medication to treat type 2 diabetes;
- diagnosis and treatment options for congenital heart disease;
- preventive screenings for breast, ovarian, prostate, pancreatic, and many more forms of cancer;
- immunotherapies for 15 different types of cancers;
- treatments for autoimmune disorders;
- antiretroviral therapy for those with HIV;
- diagnostic tools and treatments for common causes of blindness; and so much more

FACT: Tens of thousands of UAW members are at risk of losing their jobs if these cuts continue.

Trump and his billionaire backers are scheming to cut billions from the National Institutes of Health, over 10,000 UAW members are dependent on these critical grants. UAW families will be hurt by cutting this critical research, and lives will be lost. UAW members across the country work as researchers on projects funded by the NIH to advance life-saving discoveries on cancer, heart disease, diabetes, Alzheimer's and more. These cuts will shut down promising medical breakthroughs and destroy UAW member jobs. UAW families will be hurt, and lives will be lost.

FACT: Funding for NIH creates good paying jobs for hard working Americans and boosts the economy.

Scientific discoveries funded by the NIH spur downstream innovation, creating jobs and promoting economic growth: in 2024 alone, every dollar invested in the NIH resulted in \$2.56, a 156% increase in economic activity and NIH funding supported over 400,000 jobs.

By cutting funds to lifesaving research and medical care, the Trump administration is abandoning families who are suffering and costing taxpayers billions of dollars. These cuts are dangerous to our health, and dangerous to our economy. Together, working people have an opportunity to fight back and have a voice in our healthcare.

TAKE ACTION: STAND UP FOR UAW FAMILIES & LIFE-SAVING RESEARCH

UAW members say: STOP THE CUTS AND STAND UP FOR OUR LOVED ONES.

Contact your representative today to let them know we oppose cuts to the NIH! Say no to cuts to the life-saving research!





Brothers and Sisters,

On Tuesday March 25th, management hosted State of the Business meetings for all 3 shifts that shared a lot of information about Tonawanda as well as GM as a corporation. GM had a great year in 2024 and they are forecasting another great financial year for 2025 with an even higher market share. When the plant numbers were shared, we saw how great Tonawanda is performing in the areas that we can control. The areas that were displayed as being red to the plan are things that the membership has no control over. We are building the world's best engines with great performance in quality, cost per engine, hours per engine, and build to plan. This shows GM that as a membership we are doing everything we can to make our plant successful. Great job Brothers and Sisters!

Schedules

The Gen 5 Assembly Line is scheduled to work 3 shifts of 8 hours per day Monday through Friday. The Saturday overtime for additional volume on the assembly line will begin at the end of March starting with 1 shift every Saturday and with some weeks having 2 shifts as far as the 16-week schedule shows. The Machine Floors and GSC will be running 3 shifts of 8 hours per day Monday through Friday with weekend overtime as needed to support the assembly line. Aluminum Blocks will be running heavy overtime to ship machined blocks to St Catherines and Spring Hill. We haven't been running on Sundays regularly this year due to a shortage of block castings. Once we can get a steady flow castings, Sundays will

be running regularly. Skilled Trades have been running steady overtime with limited Sundays lately but that is expected to increase again in the near future.

Workplace of Choice Survey

Management spent a great deal of time going over the workplace of choice survey and how important this survey is to the plant. Working at GM as a UAW member is a very good job for us and our families which is why we all stay working here as well as referring our friends and family to come here. Like every workplace, there is room for improvement in many areas. I encourage all members to participate in this survey because of the focus put on our participation and scores. I want everyone to answer HONESTLY and put your suggestions and opinions in the comment section. The truth is that the improvements to the plant that were shown to everyone during the meetings, happened because of your responses on the previous surveys and the Shop Committee repeatedly bringing up these concerns to management that were based on our members conversations with us. Put down what you like at Tonawanda and what you think needs improvement based upon each question.

Appendix A Openings Posted

Local Management agreed with the Shop Committee to post and fill 15 permanent Production openings. In accordance with Appendix A of the UAW/GM National Agreement, these 15 openings had to be posted on the NEPC for members at other locations to apply to transfer to Tonawanda if they are interested. This posting

came down on March 24th and we have to let the process run its course. After the Appendix A process is completed, and if there are any of the 15 openings that are not filled, the number of unfilled jobs will result in our Temporary Employees being converted to permanent status to fill the balance of the openings. There is plenty of work here for the current Temporary Employees to remain working in the plant regardless of how these 15 permanent openings are filled and these new members will remain working. Once we know the results of this process we will share the information.

Skilled Trades Openings

There are currently 6 people being made offers to fill our Skilled Trades openings and become UAW 774 members. This number includes 2 Millwrights, 2 Machine Repair, 1 Electrician, and 1 Tool Maker being offered. On top of this there are still openings in for EVERY Skilled Trade classification at the plant. Please refer anyone interested to apply at gm.com to be considered for this opportunity.

Local Negotiations

Local Negotiations are progressing even slower now that GM has assigned both our plant manager and the new personnel director to cover both the Tonawanda and St Catherines plants. We will communicate any changes to the status of Local Negotiations that may occur.

In Solidarity,
Mike Grimmer



Shop Committee Report

Mike Grimmer, Kim Wittcop, Dustin Rose, James Johnson & Joe Shea
Shop Committee



Weingarten rights, stemming from the NLRB v. J. Weingarten, Inc. (1975) Supreme Court case, are the rights of union-represented employees to have a union representative present during investigatory interviews that could lead to disciplinary action.

Here's a more detailed explanation:

What they are:

Weingarten rights, also known as the right to union representation, are a legal entitlement for unionized employees to have a union representative present during investigatory interviews that could result in disciplinary action.

When they apply:

These rights are triggered when an employee reasonably believes that disciplinary action might result from an investigatory interview.

Why they matter:

Weingarten rights protect employees by ensuring that disciplinary meetings are fair and that employees have the support of their union during potentially difficult situations.

How to invoke them:

Employees should inform management that they are exercising their right to union representation and request a union representative be present.

The question you should ask management is, "Could this conversation lead to me getting disciplined?". If the answer is yes or I'm not sure then tell management that you want your committeeperson and that you're done answering questions.

As your Shop Committee we would love to get feedback from all of you on any topics you would like to hear about from us in the upcoming issues of Labor News & Reports. You can relay these ideas to any shop comiteeperson on the floor or our Communications Director, Rebecca Kaufman at rkaufman@uaw774.com or leave her a message at 716.873.4715 ext. 29



Financial Secretary & Treasurer Report

John Orsini
Financial Secretary/Treasurer

January 2025
Beginning Balance.....719,322.52

Income:
Dues - Regular (Private Sector): 738 Members.....71,278.80
Dues - Profit Sharing/Bonus: 14 Members.....60.48
Dues - Agency Fee Payers: 1 Member.....77.39
Dues - Retired Workers @ 35% : 2689 Members.....2,086.00
Commissions - Vending Machines.....2,105.37
Interest on Northwest Money Market.....0.45
Interest on CD.....1,707.48
Raffle Proceeds.....726.00
Rents - Gyms and Reception Halls.....426.00
Sales - Advertising (Newsletter).....1,299.56
Sales - Refreshments (Food & Drink).....150.00
Transfer Between Funds.....0.00
Refund Disability Insurance Premiums.....333.07
Refreshments Reimbursement.....480.24
Refund Soc & Rec Events-Christmas/Easter.....736.00
Reimbursed Travel.....30.00
Income Total.....81,496.84

Expense:
Wages (Clerical).....3,509.76
Wages (Maintenance and Janitorial).....1,132.00
Lost Time (Officers).....5,403.54
Lost Time (Others).....1,837.44
Holiday (Clerical).....1,930.00
Building Supplies.....25.90
Reimb. Raffle Prizes, Gift Cards, & Baskets.....3,288.86
Refreshments Reimbursement.....204.63
Supply Reimbursement.....112.51
Federal Taxes.....844.77
FICA.....856.38
MECA.....200.27
NY. Tax.....499.38
NYS Paid Family Leave.....29.45
OPEIU 153.....48.50
Federal Income Taxes (941) Forward.....844.77
FICA-Employee OASDI and HI Forward.....1,056.65
State Income Taxes Forward.....499.38
Union Dues Forward.....48.50
FICA Employer OASDI and HI (941).....1,056.65
Unemployment Taxes Federal (940).....1,097.90
Dental/Hearing/Medical/Vision Insurance.....5,817.42
Disability/Sick & Accident Insurance.....333.07
Group Life Insurance.....14.00
Workers Compensation Insurance.....1,260.00
Medical Fee Reimbursements.....185.00
Pension Allocations.....234.00
Bank Charges - Service Fees, NSF, Etc.....3.00
Building Supplies.....491.77
Maintenance and Repairs.....1,903.00
Taxes (Real Estate-Property).....9,345.32
Utilities (Building Ownership).....1,061.00
Donations - Charities.....100.00
Door Prizes.....63.00
Furniture & Equip - Leases & Rentals.....676.05
Internet Service (Access Fees).....127.39
Maintenance & Repairs - Equipment.....268.61
Per Capita Taxes - International.....44,406.42
Per Capita Taxes - CAP Councils.....1,784.58
Per Capita Taxes - Affiliates.....556.32
Per Capita Taxes - Retiree Councils.....7.62
Postage.....50.00
Printing Costs - Tickets, Posters & Calendars.....1,741.09
Printing Costs - Pamphlets & Literature.....75.04
Refreshments - Caterers.....915.00
Refreshments - Coffee, Donuts, Food & Soft Drinks.....81.65
Rental of Mats, Mops, Rugs, Etc.....305.28
Soc & Rec Events - Christmas Party.....1,000.00
Subscriptions - Cable TV.....135.74
Supplies - Office.....449.84
Telephone.....431.84
Travel - Direct Pd Airline, Hotel, Tr Agency.....4,276.18
Expense Total.....97,668.97

Total.....703,150.39

Beginning Balance.....719,322.52
Income.....81,496.84
Expenses.....97,668.97
Difference.....-16,172.13
Balance.....703,150.39

FUND BALANCES
General Fund.....\$527,778.57
Education Fund.....\$9,058.17
Recreation Fund.....\$196.68
Education Committee Fund.....\$3,219.39
Recreation Committee Fund.....\$3,969.65
Retired Workers Chapter Fund.....\$112,953.06
Community Services Committee Fund.....\$10,916.22
New Member Orientation Fund.....\$1,872.93
Conservation Committee Fund.....\$2,946.54
Union Label Committee Fund.....\$458.39
Consumer Affairs Committee.....\$116.57
Civil and Human Rights Committee Fund.....\$1,175.25
Building Fund.....\$-14,863.23
Children With Special Needs Fund.....\$1,638.95
Hall Rental Improvement Fund.....\$8,793.15
Telethon Committee Fund.....\$4,356.27
Chaplaincy Committee Fund.....\$2,489.46
Veterans Committee Fund.....\$15,438.90
Women’s Committee Fund.....\$7,221.11
Solidarity Committee Fund.....\$3,414.36
Total of All Funds.....\$703,150.39

ALLOCATION OF ASSETS
Actual Bank Balance.....\$36,033.44
Cash On Hand.....\$0.00
Lake Shore Savings Account.....\$0.00
Financial Trust Federal Credit Union Savings Account.....\$25.00
Northwest Savings Bank Money Market Account.....\$2,637.41
Radius Federal Credit Union Savings Account.....\$28.16
Northwest Bank CD.....\$105,544.08
Financial Trust Federal Credit Union CD.....\$231,699.77
Northwest Bank CD.....\$106,362.78
Radius Federal Credit Union CD.....\$128,762.65
Radius Federal Credit Union CD.....\$92,047.10
Water Meter Deposit.....\$10.00
Petty Cash Fund.....\$0.00
Total Cash Assets.....\$703,150.39

February 2025
Beginning Balance.....703,150.39

Income:
Dues - Regular (Private Sector): 739 Members.....72,153.64
Dues - Profit Sharing/Bonus: 764 Members.....149,541.29
Dues - Retired Workers @ 35% : 2675 Members.....2,081.80
Collections (Gate & Shop): Non-Exchange.....3,697.50
Interest on Northwest Money Market.....0.40
Interest on CD.....1,507.29
Rents - Gyms and Reception Halls.....726.00
Sales - Refreshments (Food & Drink).....200.00
Sales - Shirts.....15.00
Transfer Between Funds.....0.00
Refund Workers Compensation Insurance.....8.00
Income Total.....229,930.92

Expense:
Wages (Clerical).....4,387.20
Wages (Maintenance and Janitorial).....1,626.00
Lost Time (Officers).....7,753.10
Lost Time (Others).....612.48
Reimb. Raffle Prizes, Gift Cards, & Baskets.....648.98
Refreshments Reimbursement.....185.95
Supply Reimbursement.....209.02
Mobile/Telephone Reimbursement.....124.81
Federal Taxes.....-893.64
FICA.....-891.48
MECA.....-208.49
NY. Tax.....-487.58
NYS Paid Family Leave.....-26.24
OPEIU 153.....-48.50
Federal Income Taxes (941) Forward.....893.64

FICA-Employee OASDI and HI Forward.....1,099.97
State Income Taxes Forward.....487.58
Union Dues Forward.....48.50
FICA Employer OASDI and HI (941).....1,099.97
Dental/Hearing/Medical/Vision Insurance.....2,655.71
Group Life Insurance.....28.00
Medical Fee Reimbursements.....370.00
Pension Allocations.....234.00
Bank Charges - Service Fees, NSF, Etc.....3.00
Building Supplies.....400.66
Maintenance and Repairs.....233.81
Utilities (Building Ownership).....1,213.94
Donations - Charities.....400.00
Guard & Security Service (Non-Employee).....142.46
Furniture & Equip - Leases & Rentals.....110.19
Insurance-Comprehensive.....3,586.31
Internet Service (Access Fees).....122.47
Per Capita Taxes - International.....42,650.03
Per Capita Taxes - CAP Councils.....1,714.00
Per Capita Taxes - Affiliates.....538.76
Per Capita Taxes - Retiree Councils.....7.39
Postage.....1,750.87
Printing Costs - Local Union Newsletter/Paper.....2,915.03
Refreshments - Coffee, Donuts, Food & Soft Drinks.....815.00
Rental of Mats, Mops, Rugs, Etc.....295.67
Subscriptions - Cable TV.....133.23
Supplies - Office.....102.36
Technical and Support Fees.....150.00
Telephone.....434.33
Expense Total.....77,628.49

Total.....855,452.82

Beginning Balance.....703,150.39

Income.....229,930.92
Expenses.....-77,628.49
Difference.....152,302.43

Balance.....855,452.82

FUND BALANCES
General Fund.....\$680,323.12
Education Fund.....\$7,709.78
Recreation Fund.....\$204.07
Education Committee Fund.....\$3,219.39
Recreation Committee Fund.....\$3,969.65
Retired Workers Chapter Fund.....\$114,040.49
Community Services Committee Fund.....\$10,916.22
New Member Orientation Fund.....\$1,872.93
Conservation Committee Fund.....\$2,897.05
Union Label Committee Fund.....\$458.39
Consumer Affairs Committee.....\$116.57
Civil and Human Rights Committee Fund.....\$1,175.25
Building Fund.....\$-18,325.79
Children With Special Needs Fund.....\$1,638.95
Hall Rental Improvement Fund.....\$9,169.15
Telethon Committee Fund.....\$7,553.77
Chaplaincy Committee Fund.....\$2,489.46
Veterans Committee Fund.....\$15,388.90
Women’s Committee Fund.....\$7,221.11
Solidarity Committee Fund.....\$3,414.36
Total of All Funds.....\$855,452.82

ALLOCATION OF ASSETS
Actual Bank Balance.....\$186,828.18
Cash On Hand.....\$0.00
Lake Shore Savings Account.....\$0.00
Financial Trust Federal Credit Union Savings Account.....\$25.00
Northwest Savings Bank Money Market Account.....\$2,637.81
Radius Federal Credit Union Savings Account.....\$28.16
Northwest Bank CD.....\$105,901.14
Financial Trust Federal Credit Union CD.....\$231,699.77
Northwest Bank CD.....\$106,697.80
Radius Federal Credit Union CD.....\$129,207.15
Radius Federal Credit Union CD.....\$92,417.81
Water Meter Deposit.....\$10.00
Petty Cash Fund.....\$0.00
Total Cash Assets.....\$855,452.82



Recording Secretary Report

Stacie J. McKernan
Region 9 NWAC Representative

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I want to thank the Membership for sending us to the Financial Officer's Conference. We learn something new every year. Sitting in the classes and listening to everyone, I can say that our Executive Board is doing everything right. It's eye opening to hear what some of the other Locals do.

There were 2 brand new classes and 1 that they revised. I was able to get a seat in the 2 new classes; Recording Secretary and Vendors & Trademarks. Recording Secretary was great and a very full class. It gave me some tips but, overall everything is done like they expect. I shared a lot of my own tips. There were brand new Recording Secretaries there, one that was elected 19 days earlier. A few of us sat with her after class to help her.

We had a fantastic speaker at the conference, Nina Turner. I have seen her at our other conferences and she is very inspiring. She is currently in the Senate and a former Ohio State Senator. She spoke on many things. She stated that we're taking some backwards steps but, we'll be ok. Don't stay in the moment, push back. She also said we're in a struggle and will always be in a struggle. Some of her other points were: 1) the function of freedom is to free someone else. We're not free, until everyone is free. 2) We won't get everything but, we try for everything. 3) Titles are nice but, purpose is better. I could go on and on. She's the kind of speaker everyone should hear.

In Solidarity,
Stacie J. McKernan

UAW Local774 Recording Secretary
Region9 Chair UAW National Women's Advisory Council
WNY CLUW Chapter Recording Secretary

2025 Membership Meetings

January 12th

February 16th

March 23rd

April 13th

May 18th

June 8th

October 19th

November 16th

December 14th



Meetings are held at 10 AM at the UAW Local 774 Union Hall
2939 Niagara Street, Buffalo, NY 14207



Financial Secretary/ Treasurer Report

John Orsini
Financial Secretary/Treasurer

From March 9th through March 14th our finance committee was in Atlanta, GA attending the UAW 2025 Financial Officers Conference. The main purpose of this conference is to make sure my job of filing the LM-2 and 990 are done timely and correctly. Under the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act (LMRDA), labor unions must file annual financial disclosure reports and for our local the LM-2.

This is also a time where our Trustees can learn what they are to look for while doing their bi-annual audits and our monthly vouchers at the hall. In my opinion this is an important education for our trustees as they are all in a different classroom and learning the same material. This gives all three of them different perspectives from different members on how we can conduct business better. Having three different classes acts as a multiplier in how information is gathered and shared. With all the fraud that was taking place at the international level and some of our locals they are our watchdogs over your dues money. Having them learn some of the loopholes that existed before, educates them on how to prevent them in the future. If the trustees do not learn these practices, how are they supposed to do their jobs effectively and hold whoever is the financial secretary/treasurer responsible?

At the completion of the conference our locals LM-2 and 990 forms have been verified as correct. The LM-2 has been filed and uploaded to the Local Union Information System(LUIS) and the Department of Labor. The 990 needs to be filed electronically and is due May 15, 2025. I would like to thank the membership for sending the entire finance committee to the conference. The information that we all came back with will ensure we are compliant to the UAW Constitution and the Department of Labor.

In Solidarity,
John Orsini

INTERNATIONAL UNION STRIKE FUND Report as of March 28, 2024

Net Worth as of September 30, 2024.....\$763,966,518.68

Income for October 2024*
(Dues per Capita Taxes).....6,427,432.41

Disbursements for October 2024.....3,704,892.81

Net Worth as of October 31, 2024.....\$766,689,058.28

*There were four strikes in the month of October 2024

Here at Local 774, we would like to wish you and your families a

Happy Easter



Local 774 Retiree's Report



Chairman
Russell Flynn

Vice-Chairman
Rev. Rick Maisano

Recording Secretary
Dick Maziarz

Financial Secretary
Kenneth Rak

Sergeant-at-Arms
William Kearney

UAW 774 Retiree Chapter Meetings are held on the Second Tuesday of the month at 1PM in the upper and lower meeting halls of the UAW Local 774 Union Hall, 2939 Niagara Street, Buffalo, NY 14207. For future updates on retiree meetings and issues or questions call the Retiree Chapter at 716-873-4715 extension 1. Upcoming retiree chapter meetings: April 08, 2025, May 13, 2025, June 10, 2025, October 14, 2025. There are no Retiree Chapter Meetings during the Months of July, August and September. Dates and times are subject to change.

UAW Retiree Medical Benefits Trust - Highlights for 2025

No cost share changes for Blue Cross or United Health Care MA-PD plans
Reduced in-network family deductible
Increase of OTC benefit to \$350 per person
No increases to drug copays
Lower prescription out-of-pocket maximum for tier 2 drugs
Mental health and substance use disorder benefit \$0 for all plans
Added human organ transplant program travel & lodging reimbursement benefit

Save the Date - Retiree Summer Picnic

The Local 774 Retiree Summer Picnic will be held at Joseph's Country Manor & Grove, 275 Columbia, Depew, NY from 11AM to 4:30PM on Wednesday, July 16, 2025.



UAW Retiree Medical Benefits Trust Logos

If you see these logos on correspondence that you receive in the mail, do not discard the mail as it contains valuable information about your health care benefits.



UAW Legal Services

Remember to use your benefit you must first call 1-800-482-7700 to request Legal Services. Covered legal services and advice are available for wills and trusts, powers of attorney, deeds, uncontested family matters, residential real estate matters, credit reporting problems, and consumer contracts. Also legal advice is available for traffic matters, and Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security questions. Full legal services and advice is available for applying for Social Security Disability Benefits including representation at the hearing.

Reporting the Passing of a Retiree, Spouse or Surviving Spouse

Call GM Benefits & Services Center (Fidelity) at 1-800-489-4646, select the option "Report a death" and the call will be transferred to a representative who will assist you. Be prepared to provide as much of the following information as possible: the deceased's name, social security number, date of birth and date of death. If there is a surviving spouse you will need the spouse's name, date of marriage, and date of birth, mailing address and phone number. If no spouse, then the proper contact person's name,

mailing address and phone number This notification will take care of benefits through GM including Pension, Life Insurance and Personal Savings Plan (if enrolled). Also you will need to call the Retiree Health Care Connect at 1-866-637-7555 to update health care benefits which are provided by the UAW Medical Trust. Be prepared to provide as much information as possible that may be needed during this call: name of the deceased, social security number, date of birth, date of death.

Address Change

It is important to keep your address and phone number(s) on file with the Medical Trust up-to-date. This will ensure you receive updates and other mailings regarding your benefits. You can update your contact information by contacting Retiree Health Care Connect (RHCC) (866-637-7555). Also contact the GM Benefits Center at 1-800-489-4646 and UAW Local 774 union hall at 716-873-4715 to report any address or phone number changes. All address changes are effective the first day of the month following notification of the address change.

GM RETIREES IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

UAW Retiree Medical Benefit Trust 1-866-637-7555 (www.uawtrust.org)
Retiree Health Care Connect 1-866-637-7555
Pension/PSP GM National Benefits Center Fidelity 1-800-489-4646 (www.gmbenefits.com)
United Health Care Medicare Advantage Plan 1-844-320-5021, TTY 711 (www.retiree.uhc.com/UAWTrust)
Blue Cross/Blue Shield 1-877-832-2827 (www.bcbsm.com)
Optum Rx Prescription Drugs 1-855-409-0219
Delta Dental 1-800-524-0149 (www.deltadental.com)
Davis Vision 1-888-234-5164 (www.davisvision.com)
TruHearing 1-844-394-5420
Over-The-Counter (OTC) Benefit 1-877-218-9951
UAW-FCA-Ford-General Motors Legal Services Plan 1-800-482-7700
Metropolitan Life Insurance 1-888-543-3461 (www.metlife.com)
Medicare at 1-800-633-4227 (www.medicare.gov)
UAW Local 774 at 716-873-4715 (www.uaw774.com)

Retirees Affected by WEP-GPO May Have to Wait a Year for Benefit Increases

The Social Security Administration (SSA) estimates that it could take more than a year for retirees to receive benefit increases mandated by the newly enacted Social Security Fairness Act, as Congress did not allocate additional funds for implementation of the law. The Social Security Fairness Act repealed the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP), which unfairly reduced Social Security benefits for public sector retirees who receive a public pension. More than 2.5 million retired federal, state, and local employees are eligible to receive up to \$600 more per month in Social Security benefits, calculated retroactively to 2024. The average monthly benefit increase is expected to be \$360. SSA officials recommend that people with public pensions or survivors whose Social Security benefits are affected check to ensure that their correct name and address are on file. Retirees who never filed for Social Security because of the WEP-GPO provisions should complete an application online or in person, according to the agency. A bipartisan group of 27 lawmakers has called for speedy implementation of the law. "Thanks to the Social Security Fairness Act, public sector retirees will get the full benefits they are owed, even if it takes a little time. We appreciate SSA employees and their critical role in implementing this important legislation. Affected retirees can stay up-to-date on how the implementation process is progressing by visiting ssa.gov.

Retiree’s Report - Continued

Medicaid Work Requirement Continues to be a Bad Idea

Amid reports that lawmakers are considering changes to limit Medicaid spending and access as part of a broader legislative package early this year, an updated analysis from KFF offers context to one controversial policy: Medicaid work requirements.

Proponents’ Arguments for Medicaid Work Requirements

Proponents of work requirements often frame them as community engagement—a way to improve Medicaid enrollee health outcomes or make a positive and lasting difference in the health and wellness of our beneficiaries. “They also claim changes to eligibility rules are necessary because individuals are sitting on the sidelines, missing out on the opportunity to learn new skills and participate in the economy.

Most Medicaid-Covered Adults Already Working

But these arguments fall short. Work requirements are not effective or needed. There is no evidence they boost employment, and most people with Medicaid already work. In 2023, the vast majority of adults covered by Medicaid (92%) were either working or unable to do so for reasons that qualified as exemptions under the prior Trump administration’s policies, such as having caregiving responsibilities, illness or disability, and attending school.

Reporting Requirements Threaten Coverage

Medicaid access for qualified or exempted individuals could still be at risk if they struggle to leap the administrative hurdles associated with reporting their working or exempt status. We saw this under the first Trump administration when, for the first time in the history of the Medicaid program, CMS allowed states to impose work and reporting requirements as a condition of eligibility. Arkansas’s policy went even further and mandated consequences for noncompliance, creating unnecessary red tape and causing over 18,000 people to lose coverage, many of whom were indeed Medicaid eligible.

Medicaid Remains a Target for Cuts at the State and Federal Levels

Courts ultimately struck down many of the waiver approvals, including in Arkansas, and the Biden administration rescinded the remaining waivers, or they were withdrawn by the states. Currently, Georgia is the only state with a work requirement waiver in place (following a legal challenge to the Biden administration’s move to rescind it); however, several other states are pursuing work requirement waivers, anticipating a change in policy by the incoming Trump administration. At the federal level, Republican lawmakers have signaled plans to cut Medicaid in budget reconciliation legislation this year. While the contours of any such proposals are not yet known, a draft budget outline from House Republicans offers some insight. It includes implementing work requirements for able-bodied adults without dependents to qualify for Medicaid coverage, as included in the House-passed Limit, Save, Grow Act (H.R. 2811). Certain populations would be exempted, such as pregnant women, primary caregivers of dependents, individuals with disabilities or health-related barriers to employment, and full-time students. H.R. 2811 is estimated to generate \$100 billion in savings over 10 years according to the document and an analysis by the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO). Critically, the CBO analysis also concluded the bill would not increase employment, its purported aim, but it would decrease coverage—millions would lose Medicaid, and millions more would be at risk.

Medicare Rights Opposes Limiting Medicaid Coverage

Medicare Rights strongly opposes curtailing Medicaid coverage, including through work requirements. As with many health policies, the effect would be most pronounced on people over 50 who often face significant challenges in meeting work requirements, often due to discrimination, and who may also have greater difficulty with compliance reporting. The health consequences of losing Medicaid for older adults can be especially severe, and the economic consequences potentially devastating. Selfreported health status—a strong indicator of well-being—tends to decline with age and to be closely related to income status.

How to Enroll in Medicare if you are Turning 65

Most people become eligible for Medicare when they turn 65. Your Medicare enrollment steps will differ depending on whether or not you are collecting retirement benefits when you enter your Initial Enrollment Period (IEP). If you are receiving Social Security retirement benefits or Railroad Retirement benefits, you should be automatically enrolled in both Medicare Part A and Part B.If you are not receiving Social Security retirement benefits or Railroad Retirement benefits, you will need to actively enroll in Medicare. If you are eligible for automatic enrollment, you should not have to contact anyone. You should receive a package in the mail three months before your coverage starts with your new Medicare card. There will also be a letter explaining how Medicare works and that you were automatically enrolled in both Parts A and B. If you get Social Security retirement benefits, your package and card will come from the Social Security Administration (SSA). If you get Railroad Retirement benefits, your package and card will come from the Railroad Retirement Board.

If you are 65 but are not receiving Social Security retirement benefits or Railroad Retirement benefits, you will need to actively enroll in Medicare.

Signing up for Medicare

Follow the steps below if you need to actively enroll in Medicare.

- If you decide to enroll in Medicare during your Initial Enrollment Period, you can sign up for Parts A and/or B by visiting your local Social Security office or by calling Social Security at 800-772-1213.
- Mailing a signed and dated letter to Social Security that includes your name, Social Security number, and the date you would like to be enrolled in Medicare.
- Or, by applying online at www.ssa.gov

If you are eligible for Railroad Retirement benefits, enroll in Medicare by calling the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) or contacting your local RRB field office. Keep proof of when you tried to enroll in Medicare, to protect yourself from incurring a Part B premium penalty if your application is lost.

The Retirement Savings Crisis:
Why More Americans Can’t Afford to Stop Working

Retirement is increasingly becoming a luxury many American workers cannot afford. With rising housing costs and medical expenses and without the pensions that buoyed previous generations, millions of older Americans can’t stop working. Social Security – which pays less than half of average wages and faces possible benefits cuts – doesn’t stretch far enough and many older Americans have too little stowed away in savings or 401(k) accounts to get by. In fact, only about half of American households have retirement accounts, according to the federal Survey of Consumer Finances.

Many Older Americans Can’t Stop Working at Retirement Age

For decades, the combination of pensions – defined benefit plans – and Social Security made a dignified retirement possible for many. Not today. Research shows just 10% of Americans between the ages of 62 and 70 who are retired are financially stable. Most older Americans either are retired and live below the standard of living they had when they were working or they can’t afford to stop working.

Three (3) simple tips to save for retirement:

- Save early and consistently: Put away 5% of your take-home pay in your 20s and 30s and 10% for the rest of your working life. If you do that and don’t touch it, you can supplement Social Security and keep your standard of living.
- Invest wisely: Don’t get stock tips from friends and family or hire a pricey fund manager. Maintain a balanced portfolio in a retirement savings account with a company like Vanguard.
- Pay attention: We forget how important the federal government is in terms of our financial future. For most people, the bottom 90% of people, the federal government is the most important financial actor, so you really have to pay attention to politicians’ stance on Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid.



1st Vice President Report

Doug Seefeldt
1st Vice President

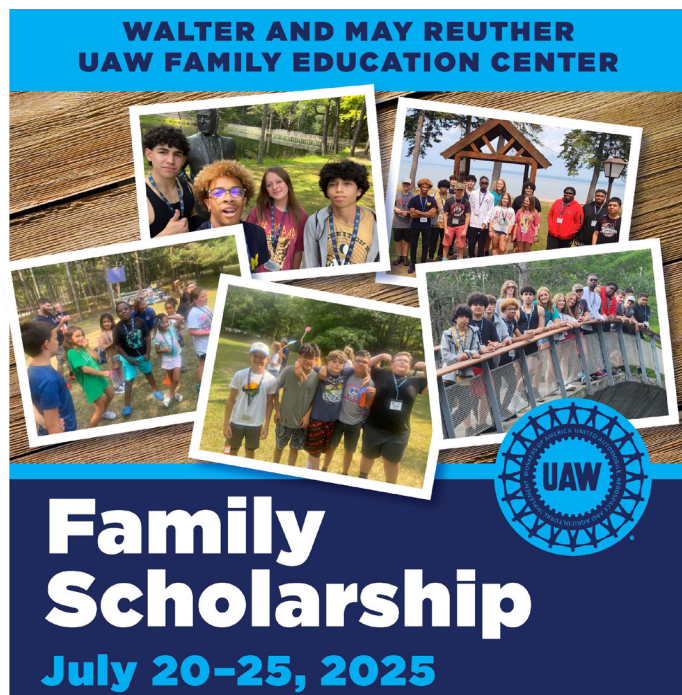
Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I think we can all agree that we're all ready for some warmer weather! The longer daylight hours and not so cold weather has us thinking about all of our summer fun and activities to come. I encourage everyone to plan and enjoy their vacations wisely and to please return to work healthy. Please view our President's reports, Chairman reports, and our UAW Local 774 website to learn of events and current information inside and out of the plant.

With the second phase of the SAP program in place, the next group of employees is set to retire September 1st. Our local shop committee and plant management has plans to ensure there is enough summer time help to cover these upcoming vacancies and summer vacations. This will be bringing a lot of new faces into our facility with hopes that they will have a long and prosperous future working at Tonawanda Propulsion Systems. Please welcome them and remember when you had your first day.

As always we all need to be sure that we are working safely everyday. Unfortunately, sometimes actions have secondary actions that result in injuries. We should not only work safely ourselves, but for the person next to us. Try to be aware of your surroundings because whether they may be a new employee or have many years experience, distractions can lead us to let our guard down and accidents find opportunities. Please speak up if you see something; injuries happen fast.

In Solidarity,
Douglas Seefeldt
1st Vice President



The Family Scholarship Program is open only to active UAW members in good standing who have never attended the program before, their spouses/domestic partners, and dependent children and grandchildren. The program is not open to other relatives or children under 4 years of age or over 18 years of age.

Deadline for applications is June 6th, 2025

Website: <https://conference.uaw.org/family.php>

Username: **2025FAMILYSP**

Password: **UAWFSP25**

Please visit uaw774.com and look under Notices for more information

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RETIREMENT



LOCAL 774



MARCH

JEFFREY S. BLAKE
MICHAEL S. BOROWCZYK
GARY W. DERNER
NORMAN E. GREEN
CARNELL P. HALTON
WALTER C. HUMPHREYS
JANICE E. JAMISON
ANNA M. JOHNSON
GARRY LAMBERT
WILLIAM H. MARTIN
NATHAN G. SILVERNAIL
WAYNE M. STROJNOWSKI
EUGENE SUBER
RUSSELL L. THOMAS JR
EDDIE TROUTMAN JR
KELLY J. TUBO
DALE E. URSCHER
JULIO VAZQUEZ JR

APRIL

THOMAS A. KOBAN
RONNIE E. PARRETT

UAW Region 9
Thomas M. Fricano Scholarship Fund
Applications are available at your Local Union Office
or
UAW Region 9 Website - region9.uaw.org

To be eligible, the applicant must meet the following criteria:

- A high school graduate
- Current College/University student - undergraduate degree only
- Be a member of or have a spouse, parent, guardian, or grandparent, who is a member of a UAW Local Union in Region 9 (Central and Western New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania)
- Be accepted at or currently enrolled in an accredited institution of higher education
- Maintain the equivalent of a "C" average for continuation of the scholarship.

Deadline for applications is June 27, 2025



Work Family/ADAPT Rep Report

Mark Myles
Work/Family Eap Rep

Hello, my name is Mark Myles and I wanted to introduce myself to you as your new Work Family/ADAPT Rep. I have been a UAW member for 26 years. I spent my first 13 years at Lockport GM and my latest 13 years at Tonawanda GM. I've worked various jobs over my career such as an assembler, production welder, service man and team leader.

I am a dedicated & results driven person with a strong background in safety and employee advocacy. My passion for empowering people comes from my upbringing in the city of Lackawanna, NY during the tumultuous times of school closings and Bethlehem Steel closing. I watched my father who was a small business owner and community activist. So, in the early 1990's I became involved in the Lackawanna Youth Counsel & Empowerment Program where I coached youth sports. I also tended to both youth and adults in the community when adverse issues arose. Many people found the assistance they needed through programs that I helped develop for the safety and well-being of my community.

So, with my passion of leadership, mentorship and positivity, I hope you will give me the opportunity to advocate and problem solve for all of you. I look forward to helping to enhance your workplace experience and personal well-being.

Thank you.



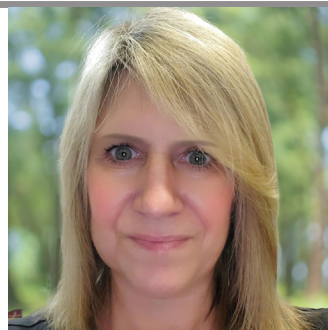
Alternate Work Family/ADAPT Rep Report

Lisa Kapinos
Alternate Work/Family Eap Rep

Hello Everyone! My name is Lisa Musior-Kapinos and I have been selected to be the Alternate Work Family/ADAPT Rep. I have been working for General Motors at our Tonawanda Plant since 2013. I have worked in both Plant 5 and Plant 1 in LOC and also Assembly. When I am not covering the Work & Family Office, you can find me on 2nd Shift filling the role of Team Leader on Team 9. Before GM I worked at Denny's from 1994-2013. I started as a Server and worked my way up to General Manager. I enjoyed the relationships made, the challenges of running a multimillion-dollar store and the new faces I met on a daily basis. The first part of my life consisted of many trials and tribulations. A young Mom at the age of 19, a victim of Domestic violence, a widow at age 34 due to drug abuse, losing my youngest Son to Fentanyl poisoning in 2017, and battling my own depression, I have championed to be my best self. I met my current Husband and Soul Mate 14 years ago and he has been my rock through many of my challenges. I am ever so Proud of my Oldest Son Anthony, my Daughter in law Laura and the two lights of my life, the little boys that helped to heal my heart, my Grandsons Anthony and Desmond.

In case you are not familiar with the Work & Family Office, our role is to provide confidential and supportive services to employees facing personal or work-related challenges, helping them access resources and navigate solutions to improve their well-being and workplace performance. We also have significant roles in the ADAPT and GMS programs. Through my experiences and on-going training, I am so excited to be working with Mark Myles in this position to help our Sisters and Brothers of UAW Local 774. I look forward to serving you all in my supporting role and hope to gain your trust and respect in this new and exciting chapter in my career.

In Solidarity,
Lisa Kapinos



Medical Staff Report

Gina Moell
Registered Nurse

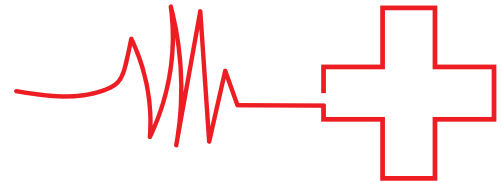
Hello Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to introduce you to some members of our medical staff. A few are new to General Motors and some have been here working awhile. They are called "SOC's" and they are supplemental on-call nurses. They will fill in whenever full time staff is off.

Jennifer Cudzillo, RN
Rhiannon Park, RN
Larry Sparks, RN
Steven Cohn, RN
Lauren Smith, RN
Long Hoang, RN

You may recognize some of the nurses already they fill in here at Tonawanda and at Lockport as well. They are also part of the UAW. They are all experienced RN's from many different back grounds. Please welcome them to General Motors!

Stay Healthy!
Gina



Life steps
BUILDING A HEALTHY LIFE
ONE STEP AT A TIME



© WellMD Health Services Group, Inc.



Benefits Update

Tim McInnis & José Colón Jr
Benefit Representatives

Vision

As of January 1st, 2025 VSP is the vision carrier for active employees and retirees who still have cobra coverage. Davis Vision has been dropped for active employees. Check with your vision provider if they participate with VSP. Davis Vision will continue coverage for all retirees under the UAW Trust.

PBGC

Any active employee 65 or older who has PBGC time can talk to their Benefit Representative about starting to collect pension payment on that time.

GM Pension

Any active member 72 yrs or older is eligible to collect on their GM pension while actively working. See your Benefit Representative for more details.

Well Now/ Emergency room visits

Well Now and hospitals with emergency room visits have been charging extra fees for after hour visits and weekend visits. This is not a covered benefit. If it is not a life-threatening emergency, ask about the additional fee.



Meat Raffle

774 would like to thank everyone who came out and had a great time at our meat raffle! We would like to extend a HUGE thank you to Melloni's Meats & Catering for helping us put this event together and supplying delicious cuts of meat! Thank you to Bases Loaded Sports Collectibles for donating some awesome prizes. Thank you to our Women's committee for putting together the basket raffle. Lastly, thank you to our runners and other volunteers for making things run smoothly. We couldn't have done it without all of you!







Women’s Committee Report

Heather Grimmer
Chairperson

Hello sisters and brothers,

Our committee would like to thank everyone that donated a basket at our meat raffle in March. We can’t thank our membership enough for always stepping up along with their family and friends who make donations. We raised \$2,170. A portion of those proceeds will go to Making Strides.

Don't forget, April 12th is our 3rd annual Easter party for our active members and their family!



UAW Local 774 3rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt

April 12, 2025 from 11 AM - 1 PM at the Union Hall

We would like to invite our active members and their children aged 0-12 to join us for our 3rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt!

There will be lots of fun activities, prizes & snacks. Also, a chance to win a Buffalo Bills basket!

And don't forget, the Easter Bunny himself will be there to take photos with!

Please make sure to RSVP (Children Only) by April 4th by scanning the QR code below



Scan me!



Community Service & Chaplaincy Report

Jeanne LoHouse
Chairperson

Hey friends. Hopefully things find you well. I’m going to be honest I am struggling a little bit with this article. I’ve started it multiple times in my head and once in email form where I forgot to save my draft. Insert a face-palm emoji. Third time is a charm right? In my effort to continue sharing the connection between Chaplaincy and Community Services I am going to touch on a sensitive subject. Grief.

Some of you may know that I lost my mother recently. I share this with you so you can understand why I feel so strongly about this subject. I believe some time in early 2022 we incorporated a Good and Welfare section to our Local Union meetings. It gives us the opportunity to come alongside our brothers and sisters during their happiness and during their grief. I rely heavily on our members to keep me informed about our brothers and sisters in need. Whether that’s sharing good news like the birth of a child, concerning news like a surgery or the heartbreaking news of the passing of a loved one.

As per Article 41 section 2, it shall be the duty of each member to render aid and assistance to sibling members in cases of illness, death or distress and in every way acquit themselves as a loyal and devoted member of the International Union. This article is considered the motto of the Chaplaincy Committee. I say this also applies to our Community Services Committee as well. Our members are the front lines of our community. That being said I cannot stress enough how important it is that we continue to come together to lift our families and communities during our times of troubles. I am incredibly grateful for all the support I received from my Union siblings during my loss. I am thankful for every card, every text message and even the beautiful flowers. Thank you all. I wasn’t alone in my grief. And not a single one of our members should be either. I know this membership is top tier and I know with your help I can do better at being there to help support our community, our families and our Union.

In Solidarity,
Chaplain Jeanne LoHouse



Education Committee Report

Shelby Misiak
Chairperson

I have been working with the Region 9 servicing rep Kevin Fronheiser regarding bringing education classes to Local 774. He will be visiting in the coming monthes to help get the programs set up, as well as introduce new ones such as “money matters”. My co-chair Dominic Caselli and I have been working together with shop chairman Mike Grimmer to nail down a date so we can all be available to help answer questions at a local level. Thank you for your patience as we get all of the details ironed out.

In Solidarity,
Shelby Misiak



Citizenship & Legislation Committee Report

Larry Boltz
Chairman

Greetings brothers and sisters,

I've recently returned from the annual UAW New York State CAP Council lobbying trip in Albany with our local President Ted Maldonado, Recording Secretary Stacie Mckernan, Retiree Liaison to the Executive Board Wence Valentine Jr., and other members of Region 9 and 9A to lobby our NY State Assembly members and Senators for our collective interests as well as items that will help people from all walks of labor, organized in a union or not. There's a variety of issues that we address at these lobbying meetings every year. Many times we have some of the same issues year after year, and it may seem redundant and maybe a little ridiculous but, in the 5 years that I've been doing this I have noticed progress on a number of things and it has shown that persistence does pay off. Some notable examples of "wins" our lobbying trips have achieved: Being able to claim unemployment benefits while on strike after only 2 weeks. For those of you that remember the 2019 strike, we were not able to claim unemployment till after 7 weeks, by which time we had settled and returned to work. Minimum wage increases. The minimum wage in NY State is now \$15.50/hour and due to raise to \$16.00/hour on January 1, 2026 and will be indexed to inflation every year after that. Car Dealership service techs and mechanics now get paid adequately for the time it takes them to conduct warranty repair work based on industry established time tables as opposed to the Automobile manufacturers dictating the amount of time they will pay for labor for a warranty repair which was significantly less hours which means that service techs were usually doing much of the repair work on their own time and not being compensated for it. Thanks to Local 259's persistence over the past couple years, that bill finally got over the finish line and signed by the Governor last year. It is benefiting service techs and mechanics across the state, organized or not. So our efforts may not be immediate, but I've seen that when we persist, we change minds in the legislative halls, and eventually our priorities get passed.

This year we had many of the same issues from last year, primarily because even though we had strong support on them, they hit the "cutting room floor" at the last minute before the end of the legislative session last year. So here's a list of the items we lobbied for this year:

Shorten Unemployment for Striking Workers from Two to One Week - We've been working on this final change every year since our strike in 2019. We've gotten a lot of positive feedback on this from Assembly Members and Senators alike from both parties. Fingers crossed it goes through this year.

Temporary Disability Insurance (TDI) Reform - State TDI has been stuck at a maximum cap of \$170/week since 1989. The proposal we submitted would increase the cap over the next 5 years to bring it in line with what the Paid FMLA cap is. We've also gotten a lot of positive feedback from members of both parties, so hopefully this item crosses the finish line this year as well.

Property Tax and Rent Freeze for Seniors 65 and Over - We've been lobbying on this for a few years now. With property values being re-assessed sometimes annually and assessments continuously increasing, Seniors on Social Security and fixed retirement income are getting priced out of their homes. Many legislators and Senators were sympathetic to this issue but, concerned where the shortfall in tax revenue would come from. The current iteration of this bill is primarily geared towards NY City. We were pushing to have it modified to cover the whole State.

Unemployment for Workers in Academic Settings - Many of the Adjunct Professors and support staff at colleges and university campuses (bus drivers, cafeteria workers, janitors) are unable to claim unemployment during break periods-Christmas, Summer, etc. because they are given a verbal "reassurance" their job will be there for them after the break, but then get cut due to budget constraints and enrollment declines. New Jersey passed a similar law in 2020 and it has been quite successful.

Student Loan Relief For Legal Services Workers - This proposal would expand a program that already exists in NY State to help Legal Aid and Public Defender Attorneys pay down their student loans. Many of them graduate law school with over \$150,000 in student loan debt and have severe difficulty paying back their loans while also taking care of their living expenses on a public defenders salary. Everybody has a guaranteed right to

be represented by a qualified, capable attorney regardless of your income but, if the lawyer representing you can't pay their own bills that's not going to be very helpful to your representation in court.

Union Made in NY Flowchart - This is a proposal that anything the state or local municipalities need to purchase, which is being done with taxpayer dollars, (Police cars, Garbage trucks, office furniture, snow plows, park equipment, computers, etc...) be union made in NY State, made in NY State, union made in America, or at least made in America.

Medicaid Coverage for Striking Workers - This would provide a health insurance backstop for people on strike if their employer decided to cancel their health insurance while they're out on the picket line. As a reminder to those that walked in the 2019 strike, GM management threatened to do that to us after the first 2 weeks of our strike. We were able to sign up for coverage with the union but, many smaller unionized shops may not have that luxury. Keep in mind the Starbucks United workers, whose union movement started in Buffalo. While their movement has grown to over 500 stores out of 5,000 in 40 states, this may help them and other small shops like them in NY State.

NY Health Act - This would be a single-payer, state-based universal health insurance system in NY State to cover everybody. Support is building for this since health insurance costs keep increasing. The goal is to take the profiteering out of the health insurance industry to get costs under control and ensure nobody goes without vital access to needed healthcare. The Health Insurance industry's business model is simply to take in more money than it pays out in claims and this act would eliminate them as the middle men dictating what gets covered or not for their own profit margins. It could also be a boon to businesses as they would not have to factor in that exorbitant cost for their employees, quite possibly bringing back a lot of manufacturing businesses that have left NY State over the last 4 or 5 decades.

It's a fun and busy conference and I encourage everybody to get involved with the CAP committee and see some of the things we're working on. I'd also like to encourage more of the membership to contribute to V-CAP. Those are voluntary donations you can make monthly which help fund the Union's political organizing efforts. Money for candidate endorsements and costs for functions such as these come out of V-CAP donations, not your Union Dues. As I've quoted Walter Ruether before - "There's a direct line between the breadbox and the ballot box. What we win at the bargaining table can be taken away in the legislative halls." All that we do through CAP is for the support of our membership and labor as a whole.

I would also like to clarify a couple of mistakes I made in my previous article. When I was describing when MSNBC and FOX news began, I listed the year as 1986. That was incorrect, it was a keystroke error on my part. They actually both began in 1996 shortly after the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was passed. Also I stated that the Federal minimum wage of \$7.25/hr has not been changed since 2007. That also was a keystroke error. It actually hasn't been changed since 2009. I apologize to the membership. On that note, I hope everybody is paying attention to accurate news sources and is aware of what has been happening over the last few months. When I wrote my last article, it was the day before Inauguration Day and I did not realize that the billionaires I mentioned in my article would be front row at the President's inauguration. Now with all the damage Elon Musk and his DOGE crew have done to multiple federal agencies, and his next target appears to be Social Security. Some members reading this may currently be collecting Social Security benefits. Keep in mind, Social Security hasn't missed a payment in 85 years. The federal courts have been stopping a lot of what's been happening but, they're slow to respond in many cases and there's no guarantee that the Supreme Court will side with the lower court's decisions. Congress does have the power to check some, if not all of what the Trump administration is doing. Congress could vote to end the emergency that Trump declared to start the tariff war he's initiated. And Congress could impeach and remove the President. But, the House and Senate are majority Republican Party controlled. As of the writing of this article, they have shirked their power and capitulated to the President. It could be a long 4 years to come...

In Solidarity,
Larry Boltz

UAW 774 CAP Chairman





Veterans Report



Teddy Maldonado
Chairman



May is Military Appreciation Month; since its induction by Congress in 1999, National Military Appreciation Month is the nation's opportunity to honor the service and sacrifice of service members and their families. Memorial Day is the only federally recognized holiday in May, there are other specific military holidays spread throughout the month, including Loyalty Day, Public Service Recognition Week, V-E Day, Armed Forces Day, and Military Spouse Appreciation Day.

National Military Appreciation Month Observances & Events

Loyalty Day - Monday, May 1, 2025

Loyalty Day starts our Nation's month-long military appreciation celebration. It is a day set aside for the reaffirmation of loyalty to the United States, and to reflect on the proud heritage of our American freedom.

Silver Star Service Banner Day - Monday, May 1, 2025

This day recognizes those who have been awarded The Silver Star Medal, which is issued to members of the United States Armed Forces who distinguish themselves through conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty.

Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW) - Sunday, May 4 – Saturday, May 10, 2025

Celebrated the first full week in May, is a time set aside to honor the men and women who serve our nation as federal, state, county, and local government employees.

Victory in Europe Day AKA V-E Day - Monday, May 8th, 2025

May 8th, 1945, is the day when Germans throughout Europe unconditionally surrendered to the Allies. This day marked the end of World War II in Europe.

Military Spouse Appreciation Day - Friday, May 9th, 2025

A day to honor military spouses and recognize the important role our military families play in keeping our Armed Forces strong. This day is observed on the Friday before Mother's Day.

Mother's Day - Sunday, May 11, 2025

Mothers who are members of the military community deserve special recognition for their love, dedication, and sacrifice every day. Mother's Day is the perfect occasion to celebrate and honor the military wife, mother, and service member who's also a mother.

Children of Fallen Patriots Day - Saturday, May 13, 2025

Honors and raises awareness of the sacrifices and struggles the children of fallen patriots must bear in the wake of their parent's death.

Armed Forces Day - Saturday, May 17, 2025

Is celebrated on the third Saturday in May every year. The holiday is for citizens to come together and thank our military members for their loyal service in support of our country. This day honors everyone serving in all the U.S. Military branches: Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines, Navy, and Space Force.

Memorial Day - Monday, May 26, 2025

It is the only Federal holiday that is observed on the last Monday in May. This day is a remembrance where we honor the men and women who died while in military service. All Americans are encouraged to pause, wherever they are, at 3:00 pm local time for a minute of silence.

Disabled Veterans

New York State offers various benefits for disabled veterans.

Financial Benefits include:

Blind Annuity Benefit: a payment of up to \$1,500 per year for blind veterans or their surviving spouses.

Gold Star Parent Annuity Benefit: an annual payment to Gold Star parents of deceased service members

Employment Benefits:

Civil Service Credit Preference: additional credit points for disabled wartime veterans, wartime service veterans, and other veterans in civil service exams.

Military Service Credit for State & Local Retirement System Members, additional credit towards retirement for military service.

Other Benefits:

New York Paid Family Leave: 10 weeks of paid time off for bonding with a newborn, caring for family members with serious health conditions, or addressing military deployment-related issues.

VA Disability Compensation: tax-free compensation for service-related disabilities.

Housing Grants: grants for adapting homes to meet disability requirements.

Automobile Allowance and Adaptive Equipment: a one-time payment to help purchase a specially equipped vehicle.

New York State Programs

State Vehicle Registrations Fee Exemption: Through the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), Veterans can qualify to be exempt from registration fees and vehicle plate fees.

E-ZPass for Disabled Veterans: The New York State Thruway Authority offers free, unlimited travel anywhere on the Thruway to certain, qualifying disabled Veterans.

Online Resources

You can find information on New York State benefits for disabled veterans through the following resources:

1. New York State Division of Veterans' Affairs
2. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
3. New York State Department of Motor Vehicles

<https://veterans.ny.gov>

Hotlines and Helplines

1. New York State Veterans' Affairs Hotline: 1-888-838-7697
2. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Hotline: 1-800-827-1000

Remember to consult with a qualified veterans' service officer or benefits counselor to ensure you receive accurate and personalized information.

TED BIT

“As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.”

- John F. Kennedy

2025 Retiree Meetings

January 14th

February 11th

March 11th

April 8th

May 13th

June 10th

October 14th

November 18th

December 9th



Meetings are held at 1 PM at the UAW Local 774 Union Hall
2939 Niagara Street, Buffalo, NY 14207

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RED SHIRT WEDNESDAY



LOCAL 774

Fifth Annual UAW Local 774

GOLF

TOURNAMENT



Chestnut Hill
COUNTRY CLUB

JUNE 22, 2025

Chestnut Hill Golf Course
1330 Broadway
Darien Center, NY 14040

REGISTRATION: 7:15 A.M.
SHOTGUN START: 8:00 A.M.

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT
VARIETY KID'S TELETHON

\$125 per person includes:
golf, cart, breakfast & steak lunch

For more information visit our website at
uaw774.com or call the Union Hall at 716-873-4715

HEARING AIDS

KEN-TON HEARING

UAW INSURANCE

NYS WORKERS COMPENSATION

EZ Steps:

- If you have a NYS Workers Compensation claim for hearing loss call Ken-Ton Hearing directly 874-1609
 - If you have UAW insurance follow the steps below.
1. Call TRU HEARING 1-800-334-1807
 2. Be sure you say, "I am UAW and I want a referral to Ken-Ton Hearing for new Hearing Aids".
 3. TRU HEARING will call Ken-Ton Hearing while you are on the phone with them to get you sheduled with us.
 4. Come to Ken-Ton Hearing on the scheduled date and we will take good care of you and your hearing.



I WANT YOU TO
HEAR WELL
AGAIN!

KEN-TON HEARING
Audiology & Hearing Aid Service
3306 Delaware Ave, Kenmore
(Near Paddock Chevrolet)
(716) 874-1609

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**2025 UAW UNION-BUILT
Vehicle Guide**

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UAW CARS

Cadillac Celestiq
Cadillac CT4
Cadillac CT4-V
Cadillac CT4-V Blackwing
Cadillac CT5
Cadillac CT5-V
Cadillac CT5-V Black Wing
Chevrolet Bolt (Electric)
Chevrolet Corvette
Chevrolet Malibu
Ford Mustang Coupe
Ford Mustang Convertible
Ford Mustang Shelby

UAW TRUCKS

Chevrolet Colorado
Chevrolet Silverado Medium-Duty
Chevrolet Silverado EV
Chevrolet Silverado Light Duty*
Chevrolet Silverado Heavy Duty
Ford F 150
Ford F-150 (Electric)
Ford F-150 (Hybrid)
Ford F-650/750
Ford Ranger
Ford Super Duty 250/350/450/550
GMC Canyon
GMC Sierra Light Duty*
GMC Sierra Heavy Duty
GMC Hummer Pick-up (Electric)
Jeep Gladiator
Navistar (Regular and Crew Cab)
Ram 1500*
Ram 1500 Classic
Ram 1500 Hybrid

UAW SUVs/CPVS

Acura ZDX (Electric)
Buick Enclave
Cadillac Escalade
Cadillac Escalade ESV
Cadillac Escalade IQ (Electric)
Cadillac Lyriq (Electric)
Cadillac XT4
Cadillac XT5
Cadillac XT6
Cadillac Vistiq (Electric)
Chevrolet Suburban
Chevrolet Tahoe
Chevrolet Tahoe (Police)
Chevrolet Tahoe (Special Service)
Chevrolet Traverse
Dodge Durango
Ford Bronco
Ford Escape
Ford Escape (Hybrid)
Ford Expedition
Ford Explorer
Ford Explorer (Hybrid)
Ford Explorer (Police Interceptor)
GMC Acadia
GMC Hummer SUV (Electric)
GMC Yukon
GMC Yukon XL
Jeep Grand Cherokee
Jeep Grand Cherokee (Hybrid)
Jeep Wagoneer
Jeep Grand Wagoneer (Hybrid)
Grand Wagoneer
Jeep Wrangler
Jeep Wrangler (Hybrid)
Lincoln Aviator

Lincoln Aviator (Hybrid)
Lincoln Corsair
Lincoln Navigator/L
Volkswagen Atlas
Volkswagen ID.4 (Electric)

UAW VANS

Chevrolet Express
Chevrolet Express (Cut-Away)
Ford Transit
Ford Transit (Electric)
GMC Savana
GMC Savana (Cut-Away)

UNIFOR CARS

Dodge Charger
Dodge Charger Daytona EV

UNIFOR VANS

Chrysler Pacifica
Chrysler Pacifica (Hybrid)
Chrysler Voyager
Chevrolet BrightDrop 400 (Electric)
Chevrolet BrightDrop 600 (Electric)

UNIFOR TRUCKS

Chevrolet Silverado Crew Cab Light Duty*
Chevrolet Silverado Crew Cab Heavy Duty*

These vehicles are made in the United States or Canada by members of the UAW and Canada's Unifor union, formerly the Canadian Auto Workers (CAW). Because of the integration of vehicle production in both countries, all of the vehicles listed as made in Canada include significant UAW made content and support the jobs of UAW members.

Vehicles marked with a single asterisk (*) are also produced in Mexico.

When purchasing a vehicle marked with a single asterisk, it's important to check the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN). A VIN beginning with "1" or "4" or "5" identifies a U.S. made vehicle; a "2" identifies a Canadian made vehicle; a "3" identifies a vehicle made in Mexico. Not all vehicles made in the United States or Canada are built by union represented workers. Vehicles not listed here, even if produced in the United States or Canada, are not union made.



JOINT TRAINING CENTER CLASSES

Essential Skills Defensive Driving

DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE

Drivers who complete Empire Safety Council's 6-hour Defensive Driving Course save **10%** on their liability, personal injury protection, and collision insurance for **THREE YEARS** and may reduce up to **FOUR** points on their driving record. Course completion is transmitted to the Department of Motor Vehicles and recorded on each students driving record.

Adventure into traffic safety awareness!

Course entails student participation, with an informative workbook, and three safety education films. No formal testing.

Tuition - \$30.00 for GM Employees/Retirees \$35 for non GM Employees/Retirees

Class Dates available: 10am-4pm

January 25, 2025
February 22, 2025
Changed from March 22 to
March 29, 2025

April - Cancelled
May 31, 2025
June 14, 2025

**Call Ken for information
716-861-4896**



LOCAL 774

Hall Rentals

Did you know that active and retired members can rent the union hall for private events or personal use?

Stop in or call for more details,
information and availability.

**Monday-Friday
8:00am – 4:00pm
(716) 873-4715**

Rental Fee \$250.00
Deposit \$200.00

Price includes soda and cleanup. Proceeds from hall rentals go into the Kitchen Improvement Fund

Teddy Maldonado
President
UAW Local 774
tmaldonado@uaw774.com
Extension 12

John Orsini
Financial Secretary/Treasurer
UAW Local 774
jorsini@uaw774.com
Extension 20



State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

**Mail to: UAW Local 774,
2939 Niagara Street, Buffalo, NY 14207
or e-mail change to jorsini@uaw774.com
with your full name, address and phone number.**



ATTENTION!

UAW Legal Services

10535 Main St. Clarence, NY 14031
(716)632-1644

Remember, you must first Call 1-800-482-7700 to request legal services.



Ham

Appleton Farms
Boar's Head
Butterball
Cook's Ham
Farmland original pit ham
Farmer John
Hormel
Kunzler

Lamb

Fischer Meats
Chiappetti

Rolls

Aunt Millie's Bakeries
Bimbo Bakeries USA
Stroehmann
Arnold
Freihofer's
Sara Lee
Mrs. Baird's
Thomas'
Pan-O-Gold
Rich Products
Schmidt Baking Company

Sides

Birds Eye vegetables
Dole fresh potatoes
Hanover Foods frozen vegetables
Kraft Stove Top stuffing
Mann's fresh culinary cuts sweet potatoes
Ore-Ida potatoes

Eggs

Clover Sonoma
Horizon Organic
President's Choice

Candy

American Licorice Company
Annabelle Candy Company
Boyer Candy Company
Brown & Haley
Cadbury
Farley's & Sathers
Ghirardelli
Goldenberg's Peanut Chews
The Hershey Company
Hot Tamales
Jelly Belly
Just Born Jelly Beans
Mighty Malts
Mike and Ike
Nestlé
PAAS malted milk eggs
Peeps
Russell Stover Candies
See's Candies
Tootsie Roll Industries
Frankford Candy holiday candy toys; gift baskets, tins, boxes and packs filled with gums, jellies and hard candy; and molded, filled, hollow and solid chocolate under the Frankford name



**Lipsitz Green
Scime Cambria** LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Thomas C. Burnham



Thomas Burnham fights to ensure disabled individuals receive all the benefits they are entitled to. He focuses on several areas of disability law, including: Social Security Disability; Supplemental Security Income; and Workers' Compensation. Mr. Burnham's insight in multiple areas of disability law helps to ensure his clients obtain all of their entitled benefits. Thomas Burnham can be reached at:
Phone: 716 849 1300
E-mail: tburnham@lglaw.com

Keith T. Williams



Keith Williams has served as an advocate for injured workers for over 40 years. Mr. Williams's vast and unique experience as a leader, advocate, and instructor in the labor community makes him an invaluable asset to clients. He has significant experience representing injured workers before the Workers' Compensation Board, including serving as part of the Lipsitz Green team that represents the Western New York Workers' Compensation Coalition. Keith Williams can be reached at:
Phone: 716 849 1313
E-mail: ktwilliams@lglaw.com

Michael Maiorana



Michael Maiorana has served as an advocate for injured workers for over 25 years. He draws from his significant experience to provide insight to clients on how contracts, pensions, and healthcare & disability policies interact with the workers' compensation process. Mr. Maiorana is passionate about helping all injured workers understand the workers' compensation process and obtain all the benefits they are entitled to. He has worked a wide spectrum of injured workers, union and nonunion, across virtually all industries. Mr. Maiorana works as a point of contact for union officials and labor leaders on legal matters related to workplace safety and workers' compensation. Michael Maiorana can be reached at:
Phone: 716 849 1306
E-mail: mmaiorana@lglaw.com

ALERT FOR MEMBERS OF UAW 774 REGARDING

Workers' Compensation

How Injured Workers Can File For Mileage Reimbursement

Under New York State's workers' compensation laws, injured workers are entitled to reimbursement for the cost of travel to and from medical appointments.

The Workers' Compensation Board publishes the mileage rate for reimbursement to injured workers for travel by automobile on or after January 1st of each year. The reimbursement rate is reassessed annually.

The reimbursement rate for personal vehicle mileage on or after January 1, 2025 is 0.70 cents per mile. The workers' compensation carrier will reimburse injured workers for travel, to and from medical appointments, in accordance with the mileage rate that is in effect for the date(s) of medical treatment. The following are the mileage reimbursement rates from 2020—2025.

Year	Reimbursement Rate
2025	\$0.70 per mile
2024	\$0.67 per mile
2023	\$0.655 per mile
2020	\$0.585 per mile
2021	\$0.56 per mile
2020	\$0.575 per mile

New York State's Workers' Compensation Board provides a form that is specifically for travel reimbursement, which documents your medical provider, date of service, and round-trip mileage. Form C-257 is known as the *Claimant's Record of Medical and Travel Expenses and Request Form*. Injured workers should complete form C-257 and provided the completed form to Lipsitz Green Scime Cambria LLP. Lipsitz Green will submit your C-257 form to the insurance carrier and Workers' Compensation Board.

If you have any questions, contact Lipsitz Green Scime Cambria at 716-849-1300.

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Local 774
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Stay up to date by reading and downloading
the latest Labor News & Reports issues, President's Reports,
Shop Chairman Reports, Regional/International news and more.

Any questions, comments of suggestions
please contact Rebecca Kaufman,
Communications Director
(716)873-4715 ext 29



www.facebook.com/UAWLocal774



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

UAW Local 774.....	716-873-4715
Main Office.....	ext. 10
President: Teddy Maldonado.....	ext. 12
Benefits: Tim McInnis.....	ext. 13
Benefits: José Colón.....	ext. 17
Shop Chairman: Mike Grimmer.....	ext. 15
Financial Secretary: John Orsini.....	ext. 20
Retiree President: Wence Valentin Jr.....	ext. 21
Recording Secretary: Stacie McKernan.....	ext. 22
Administrative Assistant: Jill Rajla.....	ext. 23
Communications Director: Rebecca Kaufman.....	ext. 29
Chaplaincy Prayer Requests.....	ext. 30
UAW Local 774 [FAX].....	716-873-8341
GM Tonawanda Engine Plant.....	716-879-5000
Absentee Call-In.....	1-800-222-8889
Medical Department.....	716-879-5313
Work Family & ADAPT (Office).....	716-879-5516
Work Family & ADAPT (Mobile).....	716-262-4098
Plant Security.....	716-879-5151
Union Work Center.....	716-879-5507
Benefits Office in the Plant.....	716-879-5465
Payroll & Wages.....	1-866-245-5957
United Health Care.....	1-844-320-5021
Health Care/Dependent Change.....	1-800-489-4646
Retiree Servicing Center.....	1-800-489-4646
PSP Savings Plan [Hourly & Salary].....	1-800-489-4646
Disability / Sick & Accident Benefit.....	1-800-489-4646
FMLA/NY Paid Leave.....	1-800-489-4646
Worker's Compensation.....	1-800-489-4646
Fidelity Investments.....	1-800-489-4646
Retiree Pension Center.....	1-800-489-4646
Missing Pension Checks.....	1-800-489-4646
Employment & Wage Verification.....	1-800-489-4646
Sub.....	1-800-489-4646
Vehicle Purchase.....	1-800-235-4646
Life Insurance Admin.....	1-800-489-4646
Metropolitan Life Insurance.....	1-888-543-3461
Blue Cross Blue Shield.....	1-800-462-7237
Delta Dental.....	1-800-942-0667
CVS Caremark RX.....	1-844-379-1671
Davis Vision [Retirees under UAW Trust].....	1-888-672-8393
VSP Vision Care [Active Employees & Cobra Retirees]....	1-800-877-7195
Radius Credit Union.....	716-875-1747
Optum.....	1-855-409-0219
Lipsitz and Green Attorneys.....	716-849-1313
Legal Service Plan.....	1-800-482-7700
UAW Retiree Medical Trust.....	1-866-637-7555
Plant Cisco Code.....	51160



If your name has never appeared on our Retiree list or
you would like your photo in the next paper,
please contact Rebecca Kaufman:
rkaufman@uaw774.com or (716)873-4715 ext 29

Thank You

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