Labor News & Report

UAW Local 774

2939 Niagara Street
Buffalo, New York 14207

BUY UNION
BUY AMERICAN

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"Teamwork in the Leadership,
Solidarity in the Ranks"

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UAW Local 774 President's Report

JR Baker
President

Brothers and Sisters,

It has now been approximately five months since I was given the honor and responsibility of serving as President of UAW Local 774. I want to begin this report the same way I began this journey, by saying thank you. Thank you to our Active members, our Retirees, our Executive Board, our Shop Committee, and everyone who has supported me, encouraged me, challenged me, and trusted me to help lead this great Local.

When I first addressed the membership, I made commitments centered around transparency, communication, education, engagement, and solidarity. Five months later, I believe it is important not only to talk about those commitments, but to report back to you on the steps we have taken toward fulfilling them.

One of my biggest priorities has been maintaining a presence on the plant floor. I have made it a point to hit the floor, walk the shifts, talk directly with our members, listen to concerns, answer questions when I can, and make sure our members know that their President is accessible to them. Leadership cannot only happen from behind a desk or inside the union hall. I believe leadership requires being where our members are and hearing directly from the people we represent.

I have also worked to improve transparency and communication. Our membership deserves accurate information and deserves to understand what is happening within their Local. I will continue working to communicate openly, while also recognizing that there will always be areas where we can improve.

Another major focus has been education, especially with our younger and newer members. We must teach the next generation that being UAW is about more than wages and benefits. They need to understand our history, our contract, our rights, the sacrifices made by those who came before us, and most importantly, the meaning of solidarity. The strength of this union will eventually be placed in their hands, and it is our responsibility to prepare them to carry it forward.

I have also continued encouraging members to become involved in our committees, attend union meetings, participate in events, volunteer, and get to know their fellow union brothers and sisters. A strong union cannot be built by a President, an Executive Board, or a Shop Committee alone. It takes the membership.

Our retirees also remain an important part of UAW Local 774. Their experience, history, knowledge, and continued involvement are valuable to us. I want our retirees to know that they are still a part of this union family and that their voices continue to matter.

These first five months have been a learning experience for me as well. I know there is more work to do, and I know I will not get everything perfect. But the commitment I made when I took office has not changed: to listen, to be present, to be transparent, to educate, to bring people together, and to serve this membership with integrity.

This five-month report is not just about looking back at what we have accomplished. It is also about asking ourselves where we go from here. We are building something together, and I believe we are moving in the right direction. My goal for the remainder of this term is to continue strengthening Local 774, increasing participation, developing our next generation of union leaders, and reminding every member that our greatest strength will always be our solidarity.

Thank you for your continued trust and support. There is much more work ahead of us, and I look forward to doing that work together.

THE 4 CORE VALUES OF THE UAW

The 4 Core Values of the UAW are; a Living Wage, Affordable Healthcare, Retirement Security, and Work-Life Balance that describe what working people need not simply to survive, but to build stable lives and support their families.

1. Living Wage

A living wage means earning enough from your job to meet the real costs of everyday life: housing, food, transportation, utilities, clothing, childcare, education, and other necessities. Workers should not have to depend on excessive overtime or work multiple jobs just to provide the basics for their families.

A living wage is important because workers help create the productivity, quality, and profits that make companies successful. They deserve to share fairly in that success. Strong wages also strengthen communities because workers have more money to spend at local businesses, purchase homes, support their families, and prepare for emergencies.

2. Affordable Healthcare

Quality healthcare should be accessible without workers having to choose between receiving medical treatment and paying their household bills. Affordable healthcare includes reasonable premiums, deductibles, copays, prescription costs, and access to quality medical, dental, vision, and mental-health services.

This is especially important for workers who spend decades performing physically demanding jobs. Healthcare also protects our families. When workers know they can receive necessary care without facing overwhelming financial hardship, they have greater security both on and off the job.

3. Retirement Security

After spending decades working and contributing to an employer's success, workers deserve the opportunity to retire with dignity and financial stability. Retirement security can include pensions, employer-supported retirement savings, Social Security, retiree healthcare, and other negotiated benefits. Retirement should not mean wondering whether you can afford your mortgage, medication, food, utilities, or other basic necessities. Strong retirement benefits recognize the sacrifices and contributions workers have made throughout their careers. They also allow the next generation of workers to move into good jobs as longtime employees retire.

4. Work-Life Balance

Workers are employees, but they are also parents, spouses, grandparents, caregivers, friends, and members of their communities. Work-life balance means having reasonable schedules, adequate time off, vacation, holidays, family and medical leave, and enough predictability in scheduling to maintain a healthy life outside of work.

Overtime can provide valuable additional income, but workers should not have to sacrifice their entire personal lives to earn a decent living. People need time to raise their children, care for loved ones, attend important family events, participate in their communities, rest, and simply enjoy the lives they are working so hard to build.

Why all four matter together

These values are connected. A good wage means less if healthcare costs consume it. Affordable healthcare means less if a worker cannot afford to retire. Retirement security means less if someone has spent their entire working life without enough time for their family.

That is why organized labor continues fighting for the whole worker—not simply what happens during an eight-hour shift.

For UAW members, the message is powerful: We work to make a living, but we should also be able to build a life. A living wage provides dignity today. Affordable healthcare protects our families. Retirement security protects our future. And work-life balance gives us the opportunity to enjoy the people and things we're working for.

That's what a strong union contract should strive to protect—not just our jobs, but our quality of life.



UAW Local 774 Shop Chairman's Report

Mike Grimmer
Shop Chairman

Sisters and Brothers,
It is hard to believe that we are officially into the fall season here in Western New York. I hope this report finds everyone in good health and good spirits.

September 30th was the last official day of work for 26 Tonawanda Engine Plant members who elected to retire in the first wave of round # 3 in the Special Attrition Program. This group includes 22 Production members and 4 Skilled Trades members. I want to thank these brothers and sisters for their hard work and dedication over the years. Congratulations to everyone in this group of new UAW Local 774 retirees!

I would like to send a special thank you to Ken Ryan who also retired at the end of September. Ken Ryan was UAW Local 774's Joint Training Representative for many years and ran the Health and Safety Training Department until his last day at work. Ken was a great asset to this membership and always went out of his way to help anyone that needed it. Congratulations to Ken! Karen Mc Coy will be assuming the Joint Training Representative role going forward and will be in charge of scheduling all training at Tonawanda. We are redeploying our appointed representatives to add another Safety Representative to 3rd shift to best serve the membership. This position will be utilized on days until the construction and installation of the Gen 6 equipment has been completed and the equipment is approved through the G comply process.

At this time, I am reviewing the resumes from all the members that submitted one as we are going to be adding 1 full-time Safety Representative and 2 alternates. Once the decision has been made and approved by International UAW, I will announce who will be assuming these new roles. Thank you to everyone that took the time to submit their resumes and showed interest in helping the membership.

The Shop Committee and UAW Local 774 President JR Baker attended the UAW/GM Sub-Council in Mashantucket, CT from September 20 through September 23. At this conference, the local leadership from each UAW/GM facility gets together to discuss the current events, get updates from Vice President Mike Booth and the UAW/GM department Heads of Staff , and work on issues we are all facing. UAW Local 774 belongs to Sub-Council # 3 and # 5. Sub-Council # 3 is comprised of the local leaderships from Casting, Powertrain, Battery, and GMCH Sites. Sub-Council # 5 consists of local leaderships from all UAW/GM locations to discuss everything related to the Skilled Trades. At these separate meetings, each UAW local gives a report to the council members which consists of each plant's population broken down by Production, Skilled Trades, Apprentices, JITs and Temporary Employees. We review the number of grievances we have at each step in the process separated by sourcing, discipline, and discharge, etc. We also utilize this time to discuss issues that we have at each plant. In a nutshell, every plant is short on Skilled Trades members, we are all dealing with job losses due to automation and new technologies including AI, members are frustrated with mandatory overtime schedules, as well as manpower issues due to absenteeism and leaves of absence. The issues are the same at each plant, and we discuss how each local is dealing with and resolving them. We also use this opportunity to request that these issues be addressed in the next round of National Negotiations. It is clear that these issues will only be resolved by securing stronger contractual language in 2028 bargaining. UAW Local 774 JR Baker was elected to serve as Chair of the Sub-Council #5 meetings for the next 3 years. After being sworn in by UAW Vice President Mike Booth, JR ran the remainer of the meeting and will do so going forward. Congratulations JR on a job well done! The overwhelming message from the International UAW GM Department and the Local Leaderships was that everyone deserves retirement healthcare and a dignified retirement plan. Those issues will be the top priority in 2028 bargaining, and we must be prepared to fight for these improvements. I believe that we will be successful in achieving these gains for our members in the 2028 National Agreement.

UAW/GM Current Employees – 47,705
· 31,500 Production Members working
· 3,165 Temporary Production Members working
· 6,777 Skilled Trades Members working
· 6,263 Members on leave of absence

JR Baker and I attended the Region 9 Leadership Conference in Cape May, NJ September 27 through October 2. At this conference, the local leaderships from every UAW Location across Region 9 gathered for meetings and educational sessions. This included leadership from GM, Ford, Stellantis, Boeing, General Dynamics and many other manufacturers and professionals across Pennsylvania, New York, and New Jersey. We were given updates from Laura Dickerson UAW Vice President from Ford, Rich Boyer UAW Vice President from Stellantis, UAW Administrative Assistant to Vice President from GM department Nicole Current, as well as International UAW President Shawn Fain. JR and I used this time to talk to Shawn Fain and these leaders about the needs of our members. We stressed the need for real job security, improvements to the pension/retirement plans, and retirement healthcare for all. Shawn Fain was very down to earth and more than ready to take this fight on.

Tonawanda Construction Updates

There have been a great deal of construction projects going on at Tonawanda during 2026. Most of this work surrounds the installation of the Gen 6 Engine Equipment and building preparations required to make this a reality in both Plant 1 and Plant 5. In addition, Tonawanda has secured millions in more investment capital to refresh and remodel Plant 1 general areas. Plant 5 is currently in the process of a full roof replacement, and the entire parking lot has been repaved. The plant has been fully renovated by removing the administration building walls to open up the entire building for manufacturing. Gen 6 Update: Block Machining Department – Mod # 1 -equipment is 100% installed and powered on with the equipment 20% PPAP. Mod # 2 -equipment is 75% installed and 45% powered on. Mod # 3 -equipment is 45% installed. Head Machining Department – Mod # 1- 25 % of the equipment has been shipped with 8% of the equipment installed. Assembly Line Loop # 1 – 80% of the equipment has been delivered with 80% of the equipment installed. Assembly Line Loop # 2 - 100% of the equipment has been delivered with 60% of the equipment installed. Assembly Line Loop # 3 - 90% of the equipment has been delivered. Assembly Line Headsub Assembly - 90% of the equipment has been delivered with 90% of the equipment installed.

Plant 1 is still in the process of a roof replacement over the entire Gen 6 Crank Department. The South Parking Lot near the R13 Turnstile has been repaved and the lines repainted. The South Salary Parking Lot grinding has been completed, and the repaving is almost complete as of writing this article. Guard rails are to be replaced, and the parking lines will be repainted soon. The first floor of the administration building and the front offices along the south end west wall are getting emptied and moved to new locations very soon. Those areas will then be completely demolished, and the building areas will be remodeled. The steel exterior walls of Plant 1 are in the process of getting repainted and all of the entrances will be shut down and completely remodeled including the front lobby entrance. Gen 6 Cranks Department – The area is currently walled off for the construction project, A large portion of the gantry system has been installed. 25% of the equipment has been delivered with 10% of the equipment installed. There are so many upgrades being done at the plant that is hard to keep up at this point. Watch for communications regarding these updates on all of the TVs throughout the plant and within the departments for the most recent updates.

This is an exciting time here at the plant with all of the upgrades and investments happening. I have never seen this kind of money being spent at a plant in my 28 years working at General Motors. This will secure our jobs for the next generation to come. Early next year we will be hiring more Production and Skilled Trades members to staff up the departments as we launch the Gen 6 Engine program. Watch for updates in Chairman Reports as the exact timing of the hiring and departmental staffing becomes clear.

In Solidarity,
Mike Grimmer



Financial Secretary & Treasurer Report

Jeanne LoHouse
Financial Secretary/Treasurer

July 2026

Beginning Balance.....642,175.30

Income:
Dues - Regular (Private Sector): 769.....77,718.36
Dues - Agency Fee Payers: 1 Members.....77.39
Dues - Retired Workers @ 35%: 2500.....1,958.60
Interest on Northwest Money Market Account.....0.34
Interest on CD.....441.91
Raffle Proceeds.....2,645.00
Rents - Gyms and Reception Halls.....200.00
Sales - Advertising (Newsletter).....400.00
Sales - Bibles/Memorial Plaques.....100.00
Sales - Refreshments (Food & Drink).....50.00
Sales - Shirts.....25.00
Soc & Rec Registration Fees.....3,000.00
Soc & Rec Tickets (Picnics, Parties etc.).....6,548.00
Transfer Between Funds.....0.00
Income Total.....93,164.60

Expense:
Wages (Clerical).....5,192.48
Wages (Maintenance and Janitorial).....1,168.00
Lost Time (Officers).....6,174.66
Lost Time (Others).....3,965.07
Officer - Non-Tax Travel Per Diem Etc.....407.33
Paid Personal Time.....225.76
Holiday (Clerical).....225.76
Reimb. Raffle Prizes, Gift Cards, & Baskets.....841.78
Raffle and Fundraiser Costs.....50.01
Refreshments Reimbursement.....426.66
Mobile/Telephone Reimbursement.....88.69
Federal Taxes.....-943.63
FICA.....-1,051.01
MECA.....-245.85
NY. Tax.....-611.88
NYS Paid Family Leave.....-31.03
OPEIU 153.....-60.62
Federal Income Taxes (941) Forward.....943.63
FICA-Employee OASDI and HI Forward.....1,296.86
State Income Taxes Forward.....611.88
FICA Employer OASDI and HI (941).....1,296.86
Dental/Hearing/Medical/Vision Insurance.....2,921.17
Group Life Insurance.....14.00
Medical Fee Reimbursements.....202.90
Pension Allocations.....234.00
Building Supplies.....343.83
Utilities (Building Ownership).....1,727.00
Donations - Charities.....100.00
Furniture & Equip - Leases & Rentals.....426.65
Internet Service (Access Fees).....137.70
Per Capita Taxes - International.....46,837.43
Per Capita Taxes - CAP Councils.....1,882.28
Per Capita Taxes - Affiliates.....1,159.75
Per Capita Taxes - Retiree Councils.....7.78
Postage.....39.00
Refreshments - Caterers.....235.62
Refreshments - Coffee, Donuts, Food & Drinks.....441.48
Rental of Mats, Mops, Rugs, Etc.....425.73
Soc & Rec Events - Picnic, Tournament Etc.....20,489.99
Subscriptions - Cable TV.....142.10
Supplies - Office.....244.75
Telephone.....398.11
Travel - Direct Pd Airline, Hotel, Tr Agency.....5,054.22
Expense Total.....103,436.90

Beginning Balance.....642,175.30
Income.....93,164.60
Expenses.....-103,436.90
Difference.....-10,272.30
New Balance.....631,903.00

FUND BALANCES
General Fund.....$512,442.18
Education Fund.....$-130.18
Recreation Fund.....$334.27
Education Committee Fund.....$3,500.12
Recreation Committee Fund.....$5,118.29
Retired Workers Chapter Fund.....$104,014.09
Community Services Committee Fund.....$11,648.60
New Member Orientation Fund.....$1,882.93
Conservation Committee Fund.....$3,138.73
Union Label Committee Fund.....$458.39
Consumer Affairs Committee.....$116.57
Civil and Human Rights Committee Fund.....$532.04
Building Fund.....$-60,844.97
Children With Special Needs Fund.....$1,863.13
Hall Rental Improvement Fund.....$12,994.61
Telethon Committee Fund.....$2,952.48
Chaplaincy Committee Fund.....$2,861.58
Veterans Committee Fund.....$17,006.44
Women's Committee Fund.....$8,307.68
Solidarity Committee Fund.....$3,706.02
Total of All Funds.....$631,903.00

ALLOCATION OF ASSETS
Actual Bank Balance.....$ 71,782.33
Cash On Hand.....$0.00
Lake Shore Savings Account.....$0.00
Northwest Savings Bank Money Market.....$2,644.65
Financial Trust Federal Credit Union Savings.....$25.00
Radius Federal Credit Union Savings.....$36,778.99
Northwest Bank CD.....$60,015.31
Financial Trust Federal Credit Union CD.....$249,571.29
Northwest Bank CD.....$111,525.09
Radius Federal Credit Union CD.....$0.00
Radius Federal Credit Union CD.....$99,550.34
Water Meter Deposit.....$10.00
Petty Cash Fund.....$0.00
Total Cash Assets.....$631,903.00

August 2026

Beginning Balance.....631,903.00

Income:
Dues - Regular (Private Sector): 774.....77,713.13
Dues - Profit Sharing/Bonus: 4 Members.....157.75
Dues - Agency Fee Payers: 1 Members.....77.39
Dues - Retired Workers @ 35%: 2464.....1,937.25
Initiations - Intl (Regular): 1 Member.....2.00
Initiations - Local (Regular).....98.00
Commissions - Vending Machines.....180.00
Donations - Charities, Raffles Etc.....166.00
Interest on Northwest Money Market Account.....0.34
Interest on CD.....443.89
Rents - Gyms and Reception Halls.....450.00
Sales - Advertising (Newsletter).....1,360.00
Sales - Refreshments (Food & Drink).....100.00
Sales - Shirts.....25.00
Transfer Between Funds.....0.00
Reimbursed Travel - Direct Pd.....1,980.83
Income Total.....84,691.58

Expense:
Wages (Clerical).....3,386.40
Wages (Maintenance and Janitorial).....1,426.00
Lost Time (Officers).....16,635.41
Lost Time (Others).....6,060.46
Officer - Non-Tax Travel Per Diem Etc.....674.20
Others - Non-Tax Travel Per Diem Etc.....384.00
Vacation (Clerical).....1,128.80
Donations-Charities.....49.58
Refreshments Reimbursement.....32.61
Supply Reimbursement.....75.58
Refund Travel - Direct Pd Airline, Hotel.....1,004.83
Federal Taxes.....-2,837.96
FICA.....-1,775.50
MECA.....-415.28
NY. Tax.....-1,221.17
NYS Paid Family Leave.....-26.84
OPEIU 153.....-36.38
Federal Income Taxes (941) Forward.....2,837.96
FICA-Employee OASDI and HI Forward.....2,190.78
State Income Taxes Forward.....1,221.17
Union Dues Forward.....48.50
FICA Employer OASDI and HI (941).....2,190.78
Dental/Hearing/Medical/Vision Insurance.....2,910.96
Group Life Insurance.....462.83
Medical Fee Reimbursements.....202.90
Pension Allocations.....292.50
Advertising and Publicity.....110.00
Building Supplies.....684.70
Maintenance and Repairs.....384.93
Utilities (Building Ownership).....1,668.18
Donations - Charities.....50.00
Flowers, Bibles & Card Donations In Lieu.....499.22
Furniture & Equip - Leases & Rentals.....287.11
Internet Service (Access Fees).....137.75
Per Capita Taxes - International.....46,459.63
Per Capita Taxes - CAP Councils.....1,867.10
Per Capita Taxes - Affiliates.....1,157.95
Per Capita Taxes - Retiree Councils.....7.69
Postage.....150.00
Printing Costs - Local Union Newsletter/Paper..5,864.73
Refreshments - Caterers.....398.60
Refreshments - Coffee, Donuts, Food & Drinks....211.74
Registration/Conference/Tuition Fees.....750.00
Rental of Mats, Mops, Rugs, Etc.....412.56
Subscriptions - Cable TV.....142.21
Supplies - Office.....233.48
Telephone.....398.28
Travel - Direct Pd Airline, Hotel, Tr Agency.....3,935.84
Expense Total.....102,714.82

Beginning Balance.....631,903.00
Income.....84,691.58
Expenses.....-102,714.82
Difference.....-18,023.24
New Balance.....613,879.76

FUND BALANCES
General Fund.....$494,790.99
Education Fund.....$1,790.95
Recreation Fund.....$342.02
Education Committee Fund.....$3,516.48
Recreation Committee Fund.....$5,134.66
Retired Workers Chapter Fund.....$105,673.24
Community Services Committee Fund.....$11,664.97
New Member Orientation Fund.....$1,882.93
Conservation Committee Fund.....$3,155.10
Union Label Committee Fund.....$458.39
Consumer Affairs Committee.....$116.57
Civil and Human Rights Committee Fund.....$548.40
Building Fund.....$-65,166.47
Children With Special Needs Fund.....$1,879.49
Hall Rental Improvement Fund.....$13,144.61
Telethon Committee Fund.....$3,134.85
Chaplaincy Committee Fund.....$2,767.94
Veterans Committee Fund.....$17,047.80
Women's Committee Fund.....$8,274.46
Solidarity Committee Fund.....$3,722.38
Total of All Funds.....$613,879.76

ALLOCATION OF ASSETS
Actual Bank Balance.....53,314.86
Cash On Hand.....$0.00
Lake Shore Savings Account.....$0.00
Northwest Savings Bank Money Market.....$2,644.99
Financial Trust Federal Credit Union Savings.....$25.00
Radius Federal Credit Union Savings.....$36,778.99
Northwest Bank CD.....$60,015.31
Financial Trust Federal Credit Union CD.....$249,571.29
Northwest Bank CD.....$111,525.09
Radius Federal Credit Union CD.....$0.00
Radius Federal Credit Union CD.....$99,994.23
Water Meter Deposit.....$10.00
Petty Cash Fund.....$0.00
Total Cash Assets.....$613,879.76



1st Vice President Report

John Orsini
1st Vice President

Brothers and Sisters,

As we prepare for another year of fundraising for the Variety Kids Telethon, I want to take a moment to recognize just how much this tradition means to UAW Local 774.

For more than 60 years, members of our Local have supported the Variety Kids Telethon. This is more than another fundraiser on the calendar. It is part of who we are, and represents generations of members stepping up to support children and families throughout Western New York.

Our involvement began more than six decades ago through the efforts of Frank Cantafio, with Dick Foreman later carrying that torch with pride and dedication. We are honored to continue what they started and build on the foundation they established.

Since then, generations of Local 774 members have done their part to keep that tradition going. Through that commitment, UAW Local 774 has become a benchmark for organized labor throughout Western New York when it comes to supporting the Variety Kids Telethon. That is something we should be proud of, but it is also something we should never take for granted.

Having served as Community Service Chairperson for many years, I had the opportunity to see firsthand what our membership can accomplish when we get behind a cause. What always stood out to me was that it was never about one person or one committee. The success came from our members working together and supporting the effort year after year.

During one recent three-year period, UAW Local 774 raised more than $81,000 for Variety Kids, and our Local was recognized for those fundraising efforts. That recognition meant a lot because it reflected the work and generosity of our entire membership.

We can be proud of what we have accomplished, but a tradition lasting more than 60 years does not continue on its own. Every generation has to be willing to pick it up and do its part. Now it is our turn.

Looking Ahead to 2027

Our fundraising for the 2027 Variety Kids Telethon will include two major events.

Our Meat Raffle will be held on Saturday, February 6, 2027, at the Ellicott Creek Volunteer Fire Company, 45 S. Ellicott Creek Road in Amherst.

Doors will open at 5:00 p.m., with the first spin at 6:00 p.m. Tickets will be $15 each and will go on sale in January. Beer, pop, and water are included with admission, and everyone is welcome to bring their own snacks for their table.

We are looking forward to a strong turnout. It is a great opportunity to get our members, retirees, families and friends together for a good night while supporting a cause that has been important to our Local for generations.

We will also once again hold our Annual Prize Raffle. A total of 2,000 tickets will be available at $10 each. The drawing will take place on Wednesday, February 17 at 3:15 p.m. at the UAW Local 774 Union Hall and will be broadcast live on Facebook.

More information about the prizes, ticket availability, and how to get involved will be coming as we get closer to January.

Continuing the Tradition

There are many things that define us as a union. We fight for good wages, benefits, job security, and safe working conditions. We represent our members and stand together when someone needs support. But being part of a union has never stopped at the doors of the workplace.

We are part of this community. We work here, live here, and raise our families here. When we have an opportunity to use the strength of our membership to help people in our own community, I believe that is something worth getting behind.

Our relationship with the Variety Kids Telethon is a great example of that. For more than 60 years, Local 774 members have kept this tradition going. We have inherited something that was built by the members who came before us, and we have a responsibility to leave it just as strong, if not stronger, for the members who come after us.

As we start another year of fundraising, I am asking everyone to do what they can. Come out to the Meat Raffle. Buy a Prize Raffle ticket. Bring some family and friends. Help us spread the word.

It does not take much when a lot of people are willing to do a little.

That has always been one of the strengths of organized labor, and it is one of the reasons this tradition has lasted as long as it has.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our upcoming events and working together to make the 2027 Variety Kids Telethon another year that UAW Local 774 can be proud of.

In Solidarity,
John Orsini
1st Vice President
UAW Local 774

Are you interested in becoming a Skilled Tradesperson?
We need candidates!
The STARC Program is the path to becoming a Skilled Tradesperson at GM. Our UAW negotiated benefits will pay the tuition for you and/or your dependent children to take the STARC Program.
See Apprentice Chairman Dominic Caselli in the Labor/HR hallway (room 111) or reach out directly for more info:
dominic.caselli@gm.com
(716) 574-0728



Financial Secretary/ Treasurer Report

Jeanne LoHouse
Financial Secretary/Treasurer

Hello Friends.

Hopefully this letter finds you well. As the close of the year is upon us, I wanted to share some information about the financial ins and outs of our Local Union in regards to travel. As a reminder, in order for payroll vouchers to be processed they must be completed filled out for all reimbursements. We are required to not only attach all receipts, (gas, hotel, parking, luggage fees and most importantly boarding passes if flying) but we are now required to provide a copy of your time keeping sheets (also referred to as a Rings Report). The Union Auditors now verify that there is not the ability to "double dip". What this means is that it is not acceptable to be paid by the Union and the Company on the same shift. The Rings Report is a means to verify that this isn't happening. If you ever need assistance in this process please don't hesitate to reach out to either myself or a member of the Executive Board. Enclosed in this newsletter are the financial disclosures for July and August. All monthly summaries are available upon request, we do provide the previous month during our Monthly Union Meetings which are about to resume after our summer break. Looking forward to seeing you there.

In Solidarity,
Jeanne LoHouse
Financial Secretary / Treasurer

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 NEWS

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:

October 13th 2026, November 10th 2026, December 8th 2026, January 12th 2027, February 9th 2027, March 9th 2027, April 13th 2027, May 11th 2027, June 8th 2027, October 12th 2027, November 9th 2027, December 14th 2027. There are no Retiree Chapter Meetings during the Months of July, August and September. Dates and times are subject to change.

SAVE THE DATE

Retiree Christmas Xmas Party will take place on Sunday, December 13th at the Grapevine Banquets, 330 Dick Rd, Depew, NY. Tickets will be available at the October, November, December retiree meetings and the union hall. Ticket donation is $20.

SAVE THE DATE

The UAW Medical Benefits Trust will be at the November 10th retiree meeting to explain and answer questions about retiree benefits for 2027. Reps from United Health Care, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Delta Dental, VSP Vision, TruHearing will also be at the retiree meeting.

UAW Medical Benefits Trust Update and What's New for 2027

• No increase to drug copays
• Trust Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) benefit annual allowance increased to $1,500 for eligible members.
• $500 Medicare Part B out-of-pocket max eliminated for MA PPO plans
• Increased chiropractic visit limit to at least 48 visits per year
• TruHearing added to eligible HMO plans
• Increased dental annual maximum to $2,000 per member
• Increased dental implant coverage to $4,000 lifetime maximum
• New vision carrier for 2027 - VSP will become the vision benefit administrator for eligible Trust members. Watch your mail later this fall for additional information about your vision benefits and a welcome kit from VSP (look for the VSP logo shown on this page). The welcome kit will include information about your vision benefits, participating providers, and helpful resources on using your benefits.
• The 2027 annual allowance for the Trust Over-the-Counter (OTC) benefit will remain at $400 per member. There are no additional changes to the program. You continue to have the option to order by phone or online through CVS. You can also purchase in-store at any participating OTC Network retail location. New flex cards and catalogs will not be mailed. Your current card will be reloaded with funds on January 1. Use your current flex card and catalog for purchases in 2027. The website and in-store are the easiest ways to find a current list of qualifying items. To order products, visit the online portal at uawtrust.org/otcbeneht or call 844-487-2770. You can also purchase items at more than 68,000 retail stores with the OTC Network logo. You are not limited to CVS stores for in-store purchases.
Don't forget—any unused dollars as of December 31, 2026, will not roll over to 2027. Be sure to use all of your annual allowance before the end of the year.
• The HRA benefit is issued to the Trust healthcare contract holder only; there is only one HRA benefit per eligible household (dependents, including spouses, do not have a separate benefit).
Requests for reimbursement for expenses incurred in 2026 must be submitted no later than April 30, 2027. If you use your HRA funds for reimbursement of your Medicare premiums, you will be required to submit a new Recurring Reimbursement Request form through WEX for 2027. You will not be issued a new WEX debit card in 2027. If you use your debit card for qualified medical expenses, you will continue to use your current card and new funds will be available beginning January 1. If you have questions about your HRA benefit, please contact WEX at 844-440-4300 Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., ET. Learn more about the HRA benefit at wtrust.org/hrabenefit.
• Totally and Permanently Disabled Children (TPD) - Effective January 1, 2027, the maximum amount that a dependent child can earn while still qualifying as totally and permanently disabled will increase from $10,000 per year to $20,280, which corresponds with the Social Security Administration (SSA) definition of totally and permanently disabled. This amount will be adjusted annually to track the SSA definition of total and permanent disability and will allow adult children greater flexibility in securing work experience.
• If you have questions about your benefits or need assistance, please contact Retiree Health Care Connect (RHCC) at 866-637-7555, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET. 0r if you would like to make changes to your healthcare plan for the 2027 plan year, please contact Retiree Health Care Connect between Tuesday, September 8, 2026, and Friday, October 30, 2026. Any changes made during this period will become effective January 1, 2027.

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 RETIREE Medical Benefits Trust™ Retiree Health Care Connect

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(s) changes. All address changes are effective the first day of the month following notification of the address change.

Retiree's Report - Continued on Pg. 7

Retiree's Report - Continued

GM RETIREES IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

UAW Retiree Medical Benefit Trust 1-866-637-7555 (www.uawtrust.org)
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 1-800-482-2210 (www.bcbsm.com)
Optum Rx Prescription Drugs 1-855-409-0219
Delta Dental 1-800-524-0149 (www.deltadental.com)
Davis Vision 1-800-999-5431 (www.davisvision.com)
TruHearing 1-844-394-5420
OVER THE COUNTER (OTC) Benefit 1-844-487-2770
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 (website https://uaw774.com)
VSP Vision (COBRA Coverage) 1-800-877-7195
WEX (HRA) Benefit 1-844-440-4300

NY Must Protect Older New Yorkers From Online Scams

Every hour, online scammers drain more than $23,000 from older New Yorkers. Every day, that cost exceeds $550,000, and each year it surpasses $250 million, according to the FBI and that number grossly understates the damage. Once underreporting is accounted for, New York's true toll reaches $8.7 billion. Each statistic represents lives permanently altered by scammers and fraudsters, with consequences ranging from identity theft to significant financial losses. More and more, scammers target retired adults through advertising on digital platforms. Lawmakers in Albany must protect vulnerable people by cracking down on the proliferation of scam ads and stop platforms from knowingly promoting, curating, prioritizing, or displaying them. In a world where everything from shopping to sharing life and family updates has moved online, older adults — many of whom have spent their lives taught to lead with trust — are finding it more difficult than ever to avoid high-tech scams. But given how realistic these predatory ads have become, especially through the abuse of artificial intelligence models, many of us might fall victim to the same ones if they appeared in our feeds. With such a clear epidemic at hand, one might think that the platforms would take action to prevent them from reaching users' feeds. But in reality, Meta — whose platforms host the largest number of scam ads, according to a recent Consumer Federation of America survey — is not doing enough. In fact, the company's internal projections in 2024 found that 10% of its overall revenue, roughly $16 billion, came from allowing advertising for fraudsters and banned goods. That means that on an average day, Meta's platforms serve up 15 billion "higher risk" scam ads on Facebook, Instagram, and WhatsApp. With AI increasingly abused to imitate voices or fabricate videos, the ads people see are only becoming more convincing. Left unchecked, we're likely to soon see a rise in both the number of people impacted and the overall scale of losses. Older adults and other vulnerable groups may be the target now, but cyber-criminals are becoming more sophisticated, and social platforms give them near limitless reach.
The thousands of victims deserve action, and the rest need protection. Scammers and negligent platforms can't continue to get richer while our most vulnerable face financial ruin. It's time for Albany to act.

Social Security Administration Workers Call for More Staffing and Funding to Fix Chaos Caused by DOGE Cuts

The American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) is urging Congress to restore $3 billion in funding and provide 20,000 additional workers for the Social Security Administration (SSA) as the agency continues to reel from last year's Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) cuts.
DOGE's mass layoffs caused 7,400 SSA workers to lose their jobs last year, increasing claims processing backlogs and forcing the agency to reassign 1,000 employees from field offices to answering customer service calls. Employees and advocates report that since last year a number of "ghost offices" – field offices that are technically open but have such narrow hours of operation that they are essentially closed to the public – have emerged because of staffing cuts. Americans who have lost a spouse or parent are facing some of the longest delays, often waiting months for their claims to be processed or going hours without a callback. "We want the American people to understand that it's not the Social Security worker's fault that the delays are happening on their benefits and services. We are human beings. We're doing the best that we can. We're being treated very poorly. We have been for the last year and a half. We need that to improve. In March, a group of twelve U.S. Senators sent a letter to the SSA demanding answers about the agency's process for hiring, reassignments, and training. Americans paid into Social Security with each paycheck and they deserve to be able to have timely and straightforward access to the benefits they've earned. Congress must take immediate action to fully staff and fund the Social Security Administration.

Medicare's Paying Less for Cataract Surgery.
Eye Doctors Are Turning to Lucrative Lasers

Tammy, a retired dietitian in New York, was thrilled with the results of her cataract surgeries, which left her with close to 20/20 vision. She paid nearly $4,000 out-of-pocket for her two surgeries last year because she opted to have her doctor use a laser to assist with the procedure. She opted to choose that method over the traditional scalpel after doing research online and consulting with her doctors, believing it would give her the best outcome. "It seemed like the better option," she said. Cataract surgery — one of the most common operations paid for by Medicare — typically leaves enrollees owing a few hundred dollars. Some patients pay more to have their vision corrected during the procedure.

Federal Court Upholds Medicare Drug Price Negotiation

Last week, a federal appeals court rejected the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America's (PhRMA) attempt to repeal Medicare drug price negotiation. The U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit issued the ruling on August 26, finding that drug price negotiation does not violate the pharmaceutical industry's rights because participation is voluntary for corporations. The decision affirmed a previous court ruling dismissing PhRMA's challenge. The decision is the latest in a series of cases where judges ultimately rejected the pharmaceutical industry's efforts to overturn drug price negotiation, including challenges brought by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. The U.S. Supreme Court also rejected drug corporations' attempts to invalidate the law this May. Retirees fought tirelessly for almost 20 years to give Medicare the power to negotiate lower drug prices for some of the most expensive prescription drugs used by older Americans. Once again, judges have recognized that drug corporations should not get special treatment when they do business with the federal government. Congress must build on the success of Medicare drug price negotiation by expanding the number of prescription drugs that are eligible for the program.

UAW Local 774 Retiree Executive Board would like to thank the following businesses and individuals who donated to our 2026 Retiree Picnic
UAW Region 9 Director, Jim Lakeman
UAW Region 9 Wence Valentin III
UAW Local 774 Executive Board
West Herr Chevrolet
Radius Federal Credit Union
Russell's Steaks Chops & More
Salvatore's Italian Gardens
Maria Maziarz
Peggy Kearney
Rev. Rick Maisano
Roberta Gainer
JR Baker
Heather Grimmer
Jeanne LoHouse
Bernadette Ford
Larry Boltz
Bobby McCrae
Wence Valentin, Jr.

Please remember to support those that support us!



Civil & Human Rights Committee Report

Kimberly Coates
Chairperson

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

So to begin; We finished off the summer with two wonderful parades that we walked in. August 15th was the Puerto Rican day parade and September 7th was the Labor Day parade. They were two great days of Solidarity.

Now something to think about:
DIFFERENT DOESN'T MEAN DIVIDED

When we hear the words Civil and Human Rights, we sometimes think about major events in history, laws that were passed, marches that took place, or battles fought by generations before us.But civil and human rights are not just part of our history. They are part of our everyday lives—including right here in our workplace. Every day, we come through these doors as people from different races, cultures, religions, generations, backgrounds, and walks of life. We have different opinions, different experiences, and different ways of looking at the world. And that's okay. Being different doesn't have to divide us.

One of the greatest strengths of a union is that we don't have to be the same to stand together. We don't have to agree on everything to respect one another. And we certainly don't have to understand someone else's entire life experience to recognize that they deserve to be treated with dignity. Sometimes protecting civil and human rights starts with something as simple as paying attention.

What do you do when you hear a joke that crosses the line?
What do you do when you notice someone constantly being singled out, disrespected, or treated differently?
What do you do when a coworker tells you they're experiencing discrimination or harassment?
Do we look the other way because it isn't happening to us?
Or do we remember what SOLIDARITY really means?

Solidarity isn't only standing together when we're fighting for better wages, benefits, or working conditions. It's also standing beside one another when someone's dignity, equality, or right to be treated fairly is being challenged.

Sometimes that means speaking up.
Sometimes it means listening.
Sometimes it means supporting a coworker who is afraid to come forward.
And sometimes it simply means refusing to participate in behavior that tears another person down.

We never know everything another person is carrying when they walk through those doors. A little more compassion, understanding, and respect can go a long way toward creating the kind of workplace we all deserve.

Our differences should never be used to separate us. They should remind us how powerful it is when people from every background choose to stand together.

As your Civil & Human Rights Committee, we want every member to know that you have somewhere to turn. If you believe you are experiencing discrimination, harassment, unequal treatment, or another civil or human rights concern, reach out to your Union Representative and ask for the Civil & Human Rights Committee. We are here to listen, support you, and help make sure your concerns are heard and addressed through the proper process.

And remember: Civil and human rights are not someone else's issue. They belong to every one of us.

We may not all look alike.
We may not all think alike.
We may not all come from the same place.
But we are UNION.

And when one of us needs a voice, none of us should be afraid to stand beside them.

In Solidarity,
Kim Coates, Your Human & Civil Rights Committee Chairperson



Community Service & Chaplaincy Report

Jeanne LoHouse
Chairperson

Hello Friends,

I feel like I'm beating a dead horse here but again I find myself saying "Where has the time gone?". We are quickly approaching the last quarter of 2026. This is the busiest time of year for a lot of us. It's the beginning of the holiday season. Starting off strong with Halloween. The Womens committee will be hosting its very first "TRUNK OR TREAT" in October. Followed by Election Season. Please vote, it's the only voice we have sometimes. Veteran's Day; Don't forget to honor them! Thanksgiving; the often overlooked holiday as some people skip right to Christmas. Let me say I love me some pumpkin pie so don't skip over the Gobble till you Hobble day. The Community Services Committee will again be passing out names for our Annual Christmas Gift Drive. I can't wait to see how our membership shows up for our communities.

As a reminder be kind to those around you. For some this could be the first holiday season without a loved one. It could be the second or third…grief is funny that way. Love each other and love yourself. Be Blessed through this season.

In Love AND Solidarity,
Chaplain Jeanne LoHouse



Recording Secretary Report

Heather Grimmer
Recording Secretary

Sisters and Brothers,

I'd like to thank the membership and our President JR Baker for the opportunity to attend the yearly RCS Software conference. RCS is always making changes to their program to benefit their customers. They take the time to listen to our needs and how to make improvements. I was able to gain a better understanding of how the software works.

I would like to CONGRATULATE Stacie McKernan on her recent RETIREMENT! Stacie has been a great mentor to me as I transition into her role as Recording Secretary. Stacie also has been a big part of our Women's Committee as well; she will be greatly missed.

In Solidarity,
Heather Grimmer

TRUNK OR TREAT

DATE: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25TH
TIME: 12PM-2PM
WHERE: UAW LOCAL 774 UNION HALL PARKING LOT OR IN THE HALL IF IT RAINS

We are looking for volunteers to decorate their vehicles. If you would like to volunteer please let anyone from the Women's Committee know or give Jill a call at the Union Hall at (716) 873-4715 ext. 23

There Will Be:
Pumpkin Painting
Costume Contest
Cider & Donuts
Trick or Treat Bags Included

Please note that the parking lot behind the Union Hall will be designated for decorated vehicles.

HOSTED BY:
UAW LOCAL 774
Women's Committee



Approved for posting:
/s/ JR Baker
President



Medical Staff Report

Gina Moell
Registered Nurse

Happy Fall Brothers and Sisters,

Cold and Flu season is upon us. Here is some important information to help you, your family and coworkers stay healthy.

As temperatures drop, respiratory illnesses—including colds, influenza, COVID-19, and RSV—can spread more easily. Because their symptoms can overlap, prevention and staying home when you are sick are important ways to protect yourself and others. CDC respiratory virus guidance

Five Ways to Reduce Your Risk

· Stay up to date on recommended vaccines. Flu vaccination is the most important step for preventing seasonal flu, and eligible people should also follow current COVID-19 and RSV vaccination guidance.

· Wash your hands often. Use soap and water, or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available.

· Cover coughs and sneezes. Use a tissue or your elbow, and clean your hands afterward.

· Improve indoor air. Open windows when practical, use air purification, and choose outdoor settings when possible.

· Limit close contact when someone is sick. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth, and clean frequently touched surfaces.

If you start feeling sick stay home and away from others while your symptoms are getting worse or have not improved. You can generally return to normal activities after, for at least 24 hours, your symptoms are improving overall and you have been free of fever without using fever-reducing medicine. For the next five days, consider added precautions such as wearing a well-fitting mask, improving ventilation, practicing careful hand hygiene, keeping some distance from others, or testing when you will be around people indoors.

If you develop symptoms at work, notify your supervisor according to our local policy and make arrangements to leave safely. Follow our workplace's attendance, reporting, and infection-prevention requirements; guidance for healthcare settings may differ from recommendations for general community settings.

Know when to contact a healthcare professional. If you are at higher risk for severe illness, contact a healthcare professional promptly when symptoms begin. Testing and treatment may be appropriate, and some treatments work best when started within the first few days. Seek medical care for symptoms that are severe, worsening, or concerning to you.

A healthier season starts with everyday choices: get recommended vaccinations, keep your hands clean, improve the air around you, and give yourself time to recover when you are ill. Staying home when sick is not only considerate—it helps keep our workplaces and communities healthier.

Happy Fall! Stay Healthy!
Gina



Please visit
https://uaw.org/health-safety
for a list of Health and Safety
information and resources
that are available to you

Benefits Update

Tim McInnis & José Colón Jr
Benefit Representatives

These are the 2027 changes to the retiree's benefits. In the near future, Social Security will be sending out the COLA wage verification information letter in the mail including the 2027 COLA changes, which will show the percentage of COLA that will increase or decrease for the year plus the new premium that will be charged for Medicare Part B insurance. This ply fold letter is the one that you can bring into the benefit reps office and is used to prove payments made from your social security check for the WEX Medicare part B reimbursement program. The Trust will be coming to the union hall on November 10 for the union meeting to roll out the new updated benefits for 2027.

For active employees, we have a 5-week layoff with alternating shifts weekly, and there are a lot of questions about temporary employees' eligibility. As long as the employee has 90 days, they will be eligible for unemployment and SUB pay. Anyone opening a new Unemployment claim will have a 1 week waiting period which will be covered by SUB for 40 hours of rate at 74%. The 2nd week of layoff the employee will get unemployment for up to $869 per week plus SUB for total of 74% of your 40-hour week at rate. The Benefits Rep office has been temporarily moved to the south entrance of plant 1 at the old GSC expediters office due to reconstruction being done to the old office. If you're 65 and have a PBGC pension and haven't started collecting your pension contact a Benefit Rep.

2027 HEALTH CARE BENEFIT HIGHLIGHTS

At the UAW Retiree Medical Benefits Trust, our mission is to serve our members by providing quality healthcare benefits that support your health and well-being throughout retirement. We remain committed to offering plan options that meet the diverse needs of our members while delivering value, access, and peace Of mind.

As we prepare for the 2027 plan year, we're pleased to continue providing stable, comprehensive benefits while introducing several enhancements designed to improve your coverage. These updates reflect our ongoing commitment to listening to our members and making thoughtful improvements that help you get the care you need when you need it.

What's New for 2027

- NO increase to copays
- Trust HRA benefit annual allowance increased to $1,500
- Medicare part B out-of-pocket max eliminated for MA PPO plans
- Increaéed chiropractic visit limit to at least 48 visits per year*
- TruHearing added to eligible HMO plans*
- Increased dental annual maximum to $2,000 per member
- Increased dental implant coverage to $4,000 lifetime maximum
- New vision carrier for 2027

* Does not apply to Kaiser plans

You can also watch informative videos and access additional enrollment resources by visiting uawrtrust.org/annualenrollment.
If you have questions about your benefits or need assistance, please contact Retiree Health Care Connect (RHCC) at 866-637-7555, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET.

If you would like to make changes to your healthcare plan for the 2027 plan year, please contact Retiree Health Care Connect between Tuesday, September 8, 2026, and Friday, October 30, 2026. Any changes made during this period will become effective January 1, 2027.

We wish you the very best in your retirement and a healthy year ahead.
UAW Retiree Medical Benefits Trust


SAMSUNG














U.S. NAVY
VETERAN














VISA














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REGION 9


LOCAL 774

REAVES RANCH

LOCAL 774

LOCAL 774
Jimmy
LAKEMAN
for
UAW
Region 9
Director
Jimmy
LAKEMAN
for
UAW
Region 9
Director



Veterans Report

Teddy Maldonado
Chairman

Honoring Our Veterans!
As Veterans Day approaches, I want to take a moment to recognize and thank the active and retired veterans in our community and our UAW family.

Veterans Day is more than a day off or another date on the calendar. It is a day to remember the men and women who raised their hands and took an oath to serve our country. They left their families to answer a call bigger than themselves.

Many of our brothers and sisters who served came home and went right back to work. They brought with them the same values that make a strong union: standing together, looking out for the person next to you and never backing down when something isn't right.

We owe our veterans more than a simple "thank you." We owe them our respect and our appreciation for the sacrifices they and their families made. To all of our UAW veterans, I want you to know that your service has not been forgotten. Whether you served during wartime or peacetime. Whether you spent years in uniform or completed one enlistment your willingness to serve deserves our gratitude.
This Veterans Day take a minute to shake the hand of a veteran. Ask them about their service. Let them know that what they did matters.
From all of us in the UAW family, thank you to every veteran who served our great country.
Happy Veterans Day and thank you for your service.

Teddy Maldonado
Chair of the Veterans Committee

6th Annual
Turkey Dinner
GIVEAWAY

For Veterans, Active Military & First Responders

Wednesday, November 26th
Pick-up starting at 10am

First Come, First Serve
500 Dinners Available

Boulevard Mall
Niagara Falls Blvd side by the big B

Dominguez marketing
Kevin's Catering
Mistachio's Pizza
Modern Flooring & Renovations
AVA AVAROOFING.COM
Mississippi Mudds Tonawanda, NY
Old Man River Doghouse & Seafood Shack Tonawanda, NY
UTECH Waterproofing & More
District 37 Kitchen & Taphouse

Must show proof (ID, License, Badge) • Limit 2 meals per person • Served cold, requires reheat

In Loving Memory

Retired 08/01/1987 **James Andrew** *Deceased 06/02/2026*
Retired 11/01/2003 **Elmer H. Artman Jr.** *Deceased 04/29/2026*
Retired 07/01/2008 **Gordon R. Beyer** *Deceased 06/05/2026*
Retired 07/01/2008 **Charles S. Brice** *Deceased 06/01/2026*
Retired 10/01/2005 **David Brown** *Deceased 10/01/2025*
Retired 04/01/2009 **Charles J. Calandra** *Deceased 03/02/2025*
Retired 06/01/2006 **Robert L. Carr** *Deceased 07/03/2026*
Retired 08/01/2002 **Richard G. Cinelle** *Deceased 07/23/2026*
Retired 05/01/1972 **Leslie B. Connor** *Deceased 08/11/2025*
Retired 07/01/2002 **Arthur L. Crenshaw** *Deceased 07/27/2026*
Retired 03/01/1991 **Ronald A. Crooks** *Deceased 12/20/2025*
Retired 12/01/2002 **Stephen J. Czaja** *Deceased 05/14/2026*
Retired 10/01/2003 **Ciano A. Damiani** *Deceased 06/04/2026*
Retired - Unknown **James M. Desantis** *Deceased 07/01/2026*
Retired 08/01/2004 **Robert E. Doktor** *Deceased 02/12/2025*
Retired 07/01/2002 **Robert Ford Jr.** *Deceased 05/04/2026*
Retired 01/01/2005 **Robert G. Gardnerz** *Deceased 07/17/2026*
Retired 01/01/2000 **David J. Gerner** *Deceased 07/10/2026*
Retired 10/01/2003 **Robert G. Haldane** *Deceased 05/10/2026*
Retired 06/01/2010 **Timothy E. Hunt** *Deceased 06/09/2026*
Retired 05/01/1991 **Carl J. Kooken** *Deceased 05/29/2026*
Retired 01/01/1998 **Richard J. La Barba** *Deceased 07/05/2026*
Retired 07/01/2021 **William J. Lennert** *Deceased 05/25/2026*
Retired 04/01/1998 **Kearney Mc Quillen** *Deceased 05/26/2026*
Retired 01/01/2020 **Susan M. Miller** *Deceased 04/18/2026*
Retired 01/01/2021 **Susan M. Moe** *Deceased 04/22/2026*
Retired 01/01/2000 **Ronald N. Nosal** *Deceased 06/01/2026*
Retired 08/01/2002 **Terrence J. O Connor** *Deceased 04/03/2026*
Retired 04/01/2016 **Marvin Oaks** *Deceased 05/02/2026*
Retired 10/01/2000 **Dewitt D. Overton** *Deceased 06/09/2026*
Retired 01/01/2007 **James E. Pierpaoli** *Deceased 05/23/2026*
Retired 01/01/2004 **Richard J. Wozniak** *Deceased 06/25/2026*



RED SHIRT WEDNESDAYS

UAW Red Shirt Wednesday has a real history behind it, and it represents much more than simply wearing a certain color. Why UAW members wear red on Wednesdays?

According to the UAW's own educational material, union members wear red on Wednesdays as a visible sign of solidarity. When members throughout a workplace wear red together, it sends a simple message to management, fellow workers, and the community: the membership stands together. The UAW specifically describes it as a positive expression of unity, rather than an anti- management action. The history goes back to 1989.

The modern tradition traces its roots to the Communications Workers of America (CWA) and a union member named E. Gerald "Gerry" Horgan.

In August 1989, CWA members were on strike against NYNEX in Valhalla, New York. Horgan, a CWA Local 1103 steward, was walking the picket line in support of striking workers when he was struck by a vehicle driven by a strikebreaker. He later died from his injuries, leaving behind his wife and two young children. CWA members began wearing red to remember Horgan and the sacrifice he made while supporting workers on the picket line. The CWA tradition was associated with wearing red on Thursdays. As the practice spread through organized labor, UAW members adopted Wednesday as their day to wear red.

When a UAW member puts on a red shirt Wednesday, the message is essentially, I am part of this union. I stand with my union brothers and sisters. Their fight is my fight, their concerns matter to me, and when one of us needs support, we stand together.

That becomes especially important during contract negotiations, organizing campaigns, grievances, workplace disputes, strikes, and other moments when membership solidarity matters. So Red Shirt Wednesday isn't really about the shirt. It's about participation and solidarity. Wearing red is one small, visible action members can take together. The bigger message is that a union is strongest when its membership is informed, involved, and willing to stand together. For UAW Local 774, that makes Red Wednesday a good opportunity not only to ask members to wear red, but also to explain the history behind it, particularly to younger or newer members who may have been told "wear red on Wednesday" without ever being told why.

WINTER MONTHS PREPARATION

As the winter months approach, here are some important winter safety precautions for everyone:

Dress for the weather: Wear warm layers, hats, gloves, insulated footwear, and appropriate outerwear.

Watch for ice: Walk carefully on sidewalks, parking lots, steps, and entrances. Use handrails whenever available and report icy areas that need salt or treatment.

Allow extra travel time: Snow and ice can make roads dangerous. Slow down, increase following distance, and avoid sudden braking or turns.

Prepare your vehicle: Check tires, brakes, battery, windshield wipers, antifreeze, and washer fluid. Keep an emergency kit with blankets, a flashlight, phone charger, water, and other essentials.

Use caution when shoveling snow: Take breaks, avoid overexertion, and push snow rather than lifting heavy amounts whenever possible.

Prevent slips and falls: Knock snow from your footwear before entering buildings and be alert for wet floors caused by tracked-in snow.

Be careful with heaters: Keep portable heaters away from flammable materials and never use grills, generators, or other fuel-burning equipment indoors.

Check on one another: During severe cold or storms, look out for family members, coworkers, retirees, seniors, and neighbors who may need assistance.

Stay informed: Pay attention to weather forecasts, travel advisories, emergency alerts, and workplace safety notices.

Safety is everyone's responsibility. A few extra minutes of preparation and caution can prevent an injury or save a life. During the winter months, let's continue looking out for ourselves and one another so everyone makes it home safely.





Citizenship & Legislation Committee Report

Larry Boltz
Chairman

Greetings 774 Brothers and Sisters,

Another summer season has come and gone and another fall election season, and upcoming holidays are soon to be upon us. I'd like to give a special Thank You for their service and Congratulations to all the newest retirees that have recently left Tonawanda Engine Plant for the last time and are beginning the next chapter in their lives. It has been a pleasure and a privilege working with you over the last 14 years and I hope you all have a long, prosperous, and happy retirement. Enjoy not having to endure anymore "Plan A" forced Saturdays, and I hope you still remain active in the union with membership and retiree activities and events. This will be the last article I write before the November 3, 2026 elections this Fall. By the time you receive this, you may only have a short window to register to vote if you haven't, or early voting may have already begun.

Election Day on November 3, 2026 will be a contractual holiday this year. Voter Registration deadline in New York State is October 24, 2026. Mail in Ballot request deadline is also October 24, 2026, and early voting starts on October 24, 2026 and runs until Sunday, November 1, 2026.

Now I'm going to reiterate some things I have mentioned in past articles before election season. By the time you receive this paper, UAW CAP Committee endorsed candidate lists should be arriving in your mailbox soon or you may have already received them. These are the candidates that have requested a UAW endorsement for their campaigns, were interviewed by and voted to receive the UAW's endorsement by the Western NY UAW CAP Committee which is made up of the top 4 executive board officers of each of the Region 9 UAW locals in western New York because the committee members feel they best represented the UAW's legislative priorities, and either have in the past, or committed to (if running for office for the first time) working to advance labor's legislative priorities the best. There are members of both Democratic and Republican parties that received endorsements. I was able to sit in on these interviews in August. I don't get a vote since I'm not one of the top 4 E-board officers, but I get to ask questions and offer opinions to the voting members. I have participated in these sessions for the last 6 years. Many requests were candidates running against each other for the same office and the committee did not vote straight, single party-line endorsements. There were also some races that the committee couldn't agree on a candidate from either party, so those few races did not receive a UAW Endorsement for either candidate. Regardless of whether you agree with the committee's endorsements or not, please be sure to do your due diligence research on the candidates you choose to vote for. Elections matter. Not all politicians are the same, and all politicians don't automatically do what is best for organized labor or working people, in general. It has proven evident with federal election results from 2024, that the political party that wins majority power can be extraordinarily helpful for a certain economic group/class of people and potentially harmful to another.

For example, at the State level, we had some extraordinary wins this year and last with our legislative lobbying efforts in the spring. This year, one of our lobbying issues was to create a pathway for universal childcare throughout New York State. That was achieved and is being modeled after the New York City program. It also provided expansion of pre-K, age 2-K and age 3-K funding support to help all families in New York. Last year we succeeded in getting unemployment in New York State increased to $869 per week. Also the NY State minimum wage is now $16/hour and will be increased based on inflation annually. As a reminder, the Federal minimum wage is still $7.25/hour and has been that since 2009, and is the minimum wage in at least 13 mostly southern, Republican controlled states. We also have a paid Family Medical Leave program in place in New York State since 2018, 2 extra sick days each year per state law since 2021, and early voting opportunities since 2019. Most of these programs have been passed and implemented since the Democratic Party became the majority in the state senate in 2018, breaking a Republican majority in place since the early 1970s.

There have been a variety of national political news stories and events that have occurred over the past summer. I do not have the space in this article to report and review every one of them. I will put out a more updated, detailed synopsis at the October and November membership meetings for anyone to read. Just to re-cap a few, since President Trumps re-inauguration, a variety of things have changed in this country. ICE (Immigration Customs Enforcement) has been conducting aggressive "raids" at businesses, stores, schools, and traffic stops grabbing and detaining people that are not all criminals. Many of them have had legal VISAs, granted legal resident status by judges, or were undergoing asylum application processes and were picked up by ICE when showing up for their scheduled court appearance. They have also arrested and detained US citizens during some of these raids. There are currently 73,000 people detained in "camps" and centers around the country. There are 212 active detention centers in the U.S. Reports by human rights organizations have come out that conditions in these centers are horrific and inhumane. Overcrowding is a major issue with 30-50 detainees in a single cell with only 1 toilet. Medical neglect of detainees, spoiled and rotten food or food with worms in it being served to detainees regularly, and over 50 people have died in ICE custody over the past 2 years.

There have also been reports of them assaulting journalists, citizens, local and congressional representatives attempting to conduct detention center inspections and there are several lawsuits pending against ICE for this and other overly aggressive behavior that violates law-enforcement procedures.

Due to the passage of the "Big Beautiful Bill" in 2025 by a majority Republican House and Senate, more cuts to Medicaid and Medicare are due to take effect in January 2027. Also the overtime and Tips tax credit passed in that bill are scheduled to expire in 2028, but tax cuts enacted for corporations and wealthy individuals were written to be permanent.

The tariffs enacted by President Trump in 2025 were struck down by the Supreme Court in February 2026, after being in place for a year. This resulted in a $166 billion in tariff revenue owed back to U.S. importers of which $122 billion has been refunded so far, including $600 million to Amazon, $2.2 billion to Apple, $2.9 billion to Walmart, and GM is expecting a $500 million tariff refund. After the Supreme Court ruling, President Trump issued a new round of global tariffs, including against Canada, under different trade act authorizations which are also being challenged through the courts.

The unprovoked "war" with Iran over the past 8 months has had a major impact on oil and fertilizer shipments from the Persian Gulf through the Strait of Hormuz. Gas and Diesel prices have spiked to record levels around the world and farmers in the Midwest are having problems securing needed fertilizer for next year's planting season.

I mention these things to remind everybody that Congress has a Constitutional ability to hold the Executive branch in check, but with Republican majorities in both the House and Senate, they have abdicated that responsibility over the past 2 years and allowed the sitting President, his Cabinet Secretaries and agency heads, to "run" the country as they please.

These are just a handful of facts and a little bit of information for you all to consider when voting in the upcoming elections, and again I will end with former UAW President Walter Ruether's quote:

"There is a direct relationship between the ballot box and the bread box. What the Union fights for at the bargaining table, can be taken away in the legislative halls."

Voting is still important and elections matter.

In Solidarity,
Larry Boltz
UAW 774 CAP Chairman



Women's Committee Report

Heather Grimmer
Chairperson

Sisters and Brothers,

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and was able to enjoy some well-deserved time off!

Bernadette Ford and I had the opportunity to attend this year's Women's Conference and TOP alongside Stacie McKernan, our Region 9 Advisor. I'd like to extend another heartfelt thank you to the membership and President JR Baker for sending us. It is always a pleasure to connect with brothers and sisters from our region and across the country.

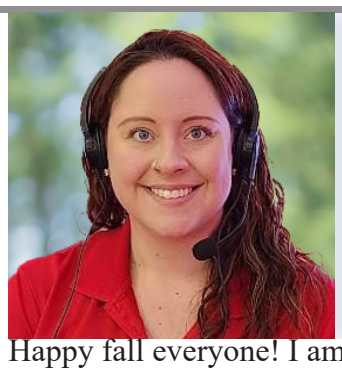
A major focus of the conference was strategies for growing our committees and driving member engagement. We also took a deep dive into the collective bargaining process, gaining valuable insight into how the bargaining table operates and the step-by-step negotiation process.

Upcoming Events
Breast Cancer Awareness: Thank you to everyone who supported our annual breast cancer T-shirt sale this September! The Making Strides Walk will take place on Saturday, October 17, 2026, down at the Outer Harbor.

Trunk or Treat: We are hosting our 1st Annual Trunk or Treat at the union hall on Sunday, October 25, from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM.

We look forward to seeing you and your families there!

In Solidarity,
Heather Grimmer



Education Committee Report

Shelby Misiak
Chairperson

Happy fall everyone! I am honored to say that I have been chosen to represent UAW 774, as well as Region 9, in the fellowship of 2026 for the LUDLS. LUDL stands for Local Union Discussion Leaders. This fellowship is a program designed to develop dedicated UAW members into strong leaders and effective union educators. My goal with this fellowship, (as well as the union education program) is to get more people involved and give a better understanding of the union. As well as what tools are at our disposal.

I am not ignorant to the fact that people have had various issues with the union in the past. But I personally would rather have the union protection than not. I also believe that if more members are educated on things such as shop rules, grievance vs. gripe, local language, various benefits and scholarships, we can function a lot better as a whole.

This fellowship should wrap up in May of 2027. From there I will be certified to teach the new hires we welcome to our plant, as well as educate some higher seniority members about various union topics.

I look forward to the future of the education committee and the future of GM Tonawanda. I hope I can help all members have a long, and prosperous career at local 774.

Thank you and GO BILLS!

UAW LOCAL 774 Women's Committee

American Cancer Society | MAKING STRIDES AGAINST BREAST CANCER | GENERAL MOTORS WOMEN

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk

Saturday, October 17th, 2026
Terminal B, Buffalo Outer Harbor
901 Fuhrmann Boulevard



Registration & Vendor Tables: 9:30 a.m.

Ceremony & Walk: 11:00 a.m.

Don't Forget to Wear Your Breast Cancer Shirts!

Look For Our Table Under The Pink Tent

We Can't Wait to See You!

Vendor Booths Open Until 1:00 p.m.

Approved for posting:
/s/ JR Baker
President
UAW Local 774

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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 YOUR INSURANCE

2. Be sure you say, "I am UAW and I want a referral to Ken-Ton Hearing for new Hearing Aids".

3. YOUR INSURANCE will call Ken-Ton Hearing while you are on the phone with them to get you scheduled with us.

4. Come to Ken-Ton Hearing on the scheduled date and we will take good care of you and your hearing.

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(Near Paddock Chevrolet)
(716) 874-1609

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Ham
- Alexander & Hornung
- Boar's Head
- Cook's
- Dearborn Brand
- Farmland
- Hillshire Farm
- Hormel
- John Morrell
- Thumann's

Sides
Betty Crocker (specialty potatoes)
- Homestyle Bakes
- Kraft (mac & Cheese)
- Ore-Ida (potatoes)
- Stove Top (stuffing)
- Velveeta (shells & cheese)

Vegetables
- Amaral Ranches (broccoli, cauliflower, lettuce)
- Andy Boy (broccoli, cauliflower, lettuce, broccoli rabe, fennel)
-Muranaka Farms (beets, cilantro, Italian parsley, kale, leeks, radishes)
- Birds Eye (green beans)
-Mann's (green beans, potatoes, sweet potatoes)
- Del Fresh (mushrooms)
- Dole (salads, potatoes, sweet potatoes)
- Fresh Express (salad)
- Gargiulo (tomatoes)
-Monterey (mushrooms)
-Ore-Ida (potatoes, sweet potatoes)

Canned Goods
- Campbell's (soups)
- Casa Solana (baked beans)
- Del Monte (vegetables)
- Dinty Moore
- Hormel (bacon bits, beef stew, chili)
- Ocean Spray (cranberry sauce)
- Hanover Beans

Pie
- Kroger brand (pumpkin puree)
- Banquet (fruit pies)
- Entenmann's
- Marie Callender's
- Pillsbury (pie crust)
- Sara Lee (pumpkin pie)

Hall Rentals



Did you know that active and retired members can rentthe 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





JR Baker
President
UAW Local 774
jrbaker@uaw774.com
Extension 12

Jeanne LoHouse
Financial Secretary/Treasurer
UAW Local 774
jlohouse@uaw774.com
Extension 20





UAW CARS
Cadillac Celestiq
Cadillac CT4
Cadillac CT4-V Series
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Cadillac CT5-V Series
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Chevrolet Silverado*
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Chevrolet Silverado EV
Chevrolet Silverado 3500 HD Chassis Cab
Chevrolet Silverado 4500 HD/5500 HD/6500 HD
Ford F-150
Ford F-150 Raptor
Ford F-250/350/450/550 Super Duty
Ford F-650 & 750
Ford Ranger
Ford Ranger Raptor
GMC Canyon
GMC Sierra 1500*
GMC Sierra HD*
GMC Sierra EV
GMC Hummer EV Pick-up
Jeep Gladiator
Ram 1500*

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Cadillac Escalade
Cadillac Escalade ESV
Cadillac Escalade IQ
Cadillac Escalade IQ L
Cadillac Lyriq
Cadillac XT5
Cadillac Vistiq
Chevrolet Bolt
Chevrolet Suburban
Chevrolet Tahoe
Chevrolet Traverse
Dodge Durango
Ford Bronco
Ford Bronco Raptor
Ford Explorer
Ford Explorer Hybrid
Ford Expedition
Ford Escape
Ford Escape Hybrid
GMC Acadia
GMC Hummer EV SUV
GMC Yukon
GMC Yukon XL
Jeep Grand Cherokee
Jeep Grand Cherokee L
Jeep Grand Wagoneer
Jeep Grand Wagoneer L
Jeep Grand Wagoneer REEV
Jeep Wrangler
Lincoln Aviator
Lincoln Corsair
Lincoln Corsair Hybrid
Lincoln Navigator
Volkswagen Atlas
Volkswagen Atlas Cross Sport
Volkswagen ID.4 (Electric)

UAW VANS
Chevrolet Express
Chevrolet Express (Cut-Away)
Ford Transit
Ford E Transit
Ford E-Series Cutaway
GMC Savana
GMC Savana (Cut-Away)

UNIFOR CARS
Dodge Charger 2 Door and 4 Door
Dodge Charger EV

UNIFOR VANS
Chrysler Pacifica
Chrysler Voyager

UNIFOR TRUCKS
Chevrolet Silverado*
Chevrolet Silverado HD*

UAW LOCAL 774 MEMORIAL

Your Name_____

Address_____City_____

State _____Zip_____ Phone_____

INSCRIPTION

Each plaque can have up to 3 lines. Please use the corresponding boxes. Upper and lower case letters will be used (including spaces). Print clearly. Line 1 - Name, Line 2 – Year of death, Line 3 – Military branch and years of service or last held elected or appointed position.

1.
2.
3.

❒ I acknowledge that this is the correct spelling and information

EXAMPLES:

John Doe 2019 US Army 1969-1972	Jane Doe 2018	John Doe 2017 Benefits Rep	Jane Doe 2016 Trustee

A cash donation of **$10.00**/per plaque is requested to cover the costs and support the Chaplaincy Committee's continued mission of "caring in the workplace".

Change of Address Form

If you change your address with the Plant,
you also need to change your address at the Union Hall.
(The Plant does not notify the Union,
nor does the Union notify the Plant)

First Name:_____

Last Name: _____

New Address: _____

_____

Phone #:_____

Active: _____ Retired:_____

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

ATTENTION!
UAW Legal Services

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

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Lipsitz Green Scime Cambria LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

A Benefit for UAW 774 Members

The Executive Board of UAW 774, by way of the WNY Compensation Coalition, has retained the services of Lipsitz Green Scime Cambria to represent its members in their workers' compensation claims following an on the job injury. As part of this benefit, Lipsitz Green Scime Cambria will provide legal representation to members of UAW 774 at attorney's fees that are lower than the fees ordinarily approved by the New York State Workers' Compensation Board.

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 Tom's insight in multiple areas of disability law helps to ensure his clients obtain all of their entitled benefits. Tom Burnham can be reached at:

Phone: 716 849 1300
E-mail: tburnham@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. Mike 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. Mike works as a point of contact for union officials and labor leaders on legal matters related to workplace safety and workers' compensation. Mike Maiorana can be reached at:

Phone: 716 849 1306
E-mail: mmaiorana@lglaw.com

ALERT FOR MEMBERS OF UAW 774 REGARDING

Workers' Compensation

FAQs on Compensation for Occupational Hearing Loss

Ask yourself one simple question: Is the noise on my job affecting my hearing?

Why it matters: You may not notice occupational hearing loss until years after the damage has already been done.

Reality check: Autoworkers can spend decades around stamping presses, grinders, compressors, pneumatic tools, and other loud equipment. Even with hearing protection, long-term exposure can lead to permanent hearing loss.

The bottom line: If your hearing loss is related to your job, New York Workers' Compensation may provide medical treatment, hearing aids, and financial compensation. Here's what every member of UAW 774 should know.

Can years of working in an auto manufacturing plant cause occupational hearing loss?

Yes. Occupational hearing loss is one of the most common work-related illnesses in manufacturing. Unlike an injury caused by a single accident, hearing loss often develops gradually after years of exposure to loud machinery and equipment.

Can occupational hearing loss qualify for New York Workers' Compensation benefits?

Yes. Hearing loss caused by long-term workplace noise may qualify as an occupational disease under New York Workers' Compensation Law. These claims are based on cumulative exposure over time rather than a single accident. However, a single traumatic event may result in an "accident" hearing loss claim.

What benefits may be available?

If your claim is approved, benefits may include: hearing evaluations and diagnostic testing; treatment by audiologists and ENT specialists; hearing aids when medically necessary; and compensation for permanent hearing loss through a Schedule Loss of Use (SLU) award.

How is occupational hearing loss proven?

Medical evidence is essential. Claims are commonly supported by hearing tests (audiograms), medical evaluations, employment history, evidence of long-term workplace noise exposure, and a detailed description of the noisy environment, including frequency and duration of the noise. The insurance carrier may also require an Independent Medical Examination (IME).

How is compensation determined?

There is no fixed dollar amount. The New York Workers' Compensation Board evaluates the degree of permanent hearing loss using established medical guidelines. Compensation is based on the percentage loss of hearing, average weekly wage, and the applicable maximum benefit rate.

Is there a deadline to file a claim?

Yes. Occupational hearing loss claims are subject to important legal deadlines that often depend on when you last worked in the noisy environment. Waiting too long could affect your right to benefits.

Can I still have a claim if I retired or worked for multiple employers?

Possibly. Many workers don't discover the full extent of their hearing loss until after retirement, and many spend their careers working for more than one employer. Neither circumstance automatically prevents you from pursuing a claim.

When should I speak with a Workers' Compensation attorney?

If you've worked around loud industrial equipment and have experienced hearing loss or persistent ringing in your ears, don't assume it's simply a normal part of aging. Contact Lipsitz Green Scime Cambria's Workers' Compensation department to understand your rights and get all of the compensation you are entitled to.

ATTORNEY ADVERTISING
This alert is for informational purposes only and does not purport to be legal advice.

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Join a Committee

Why join a committee?

Joining a committee allows members to participate in meaningful projects, work with co-workers, and contribute to building a stronger union. Our committees work in conjunction with our local union leadership to implement our union's policies and shared values.

What Committees do we have to offer here at 774?

Chaplaincy
Citizenship & Legislation
Civil & Human Rights
Community Services
Conservation & Environment
Constitution & By-Laws
Consumer Affairs
Education
Recreation
Scholarship
Solidarity
Union Label
Womens
Veterans

LOCAL 774

Local 774
UAWLocal774.com

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: JR Baker	ext. 12
Chairman: Mike Grimmer	ext. 15
Administrative Assistant: Jill Rajla	ext. 23
Benefits: Tim McInnis	ext. 13
Benefits: Jose Colon	ext. 17
Financial Secretary: Jeanne LoHouse	ext. 20
Retiree Chairman: Russ Flynn	ext. 21
Recording Secretary: Heather Grimmer	ext. 22
Communications: Rebecca Kaufman	ext. 29
Chaplaincy Prayer Requests	ext. 30
UAW Local 774 (FAX)	716-873-8341
GM Tonawanda Engine Plant Info	716-879-5000
Absentee Call-In Toll Free	1-800-222-8889
Medical Department	716-879-5313
Work Family/ADAPT (Office)	716-879-5516
Work Family/ADAPT (Cell)	716-262-4098
Plant Security	716-879-5151
Union Work Center	716-879-5507
Benefits Office	716-879-5465
Payroll & Wages	1-866-245-5957
Metropolitan Life Insurance	1-888-543-3461
Legal Service Plan	1-800-482-7700
Lipsitz and Green	716-849-1306
Radius Credit Union	716-875-1747
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
Sub	1-800-489-4646
Life Insurance Admin	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
Vehicle Purchase	1-800-235-4646
Blue Cross/Blue Shield	1-800-482-2210
United Health Care	1-844-320-5021
VSP Vision Care (Active & Cobra)	1-800-877-7195
Davis Vision (UAW Trust Retirees)	1-888-672-8393
Delta Dental	1-800-942-0667
Otpum Rx	1-855-409-0219
CVS Caremark RX	1-844-379-1671
UAW Retiree Medical Trust	1-866-637-7555
Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp	1-800-400-7242
OTC	1-844-487-2770
WEX	1-844-440-4300
AAM	1-888-511-2953



If your name has never appeared on our Retiree list or
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