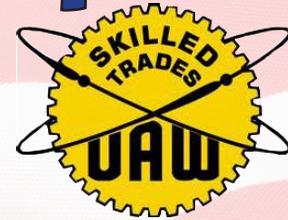


Labor News & Report



UAW LOCAL 774

2939 Niagara Street
Buffalo, New York 14207



April - June 2021



Volume 33 Issue 2

“Teamwork in the Leadership, Solidarity in the Ranks”

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“On Memorial Day, in the United States we honor and remember those courageous soldiers who lost their lives in the line of active military service.
Thank you “
-UAW Local 774 Veterans Committee



May 26, 2021 The Buffalo Labor Council, Western New York Labor Area Federation, AFL-CIO and WNYCOSH remembered and honored Lives Lost at Work.

WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY



LOCAL 774 UAW
2939 Niagara Street
Buffalo, New York 14207

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UAW Local 774 President's Report



President - Wence Valentin III

History books have shown us the great movements in our country's history that have propelled us into the future—movements that have changed the lives of American's and charted the course of our country's success. Many of us at the plant have never been a part of this history making.... that is until now.

In the last issue, I wrote about how we currently have the most pro-Labor President in recent history along with the majority in the House and Senate. WE ARE PART OF A MOVEMENT-and it's called the Pro Act (Protecting the Right to Organize Act). The pendulum is increasingly swinging back in the favor of working women and men who strive to make a better life for their families. Public feeling toward Labor is more positive then it has been in over two decades. A Gallup survey found that union approval now stands at 65%. "Nearly 60 million Americans would join a union if they get a chance, but too many employers and states prevent them from doing so through anti-union attacks," President Biden said in a statement in March. "They know that without unions, they can run the table on workers — union and non-union alike." We need reform to our outdated NLRB policies.

The National Labor Relations Act was passed 86 years ago, and it is outdated. Amendments to it have eroded away at the collective bargaining rights and our courts have taken away what was left. These laws are now stacked in favor of big business and nothing exemplifies this better than what we just witnessed in Alabama with Amazon. The original intent of the Act was to strengthen the ability of the common person to encourage collective bargaining. The Pro Act will reverse the trend of big business and give the power back to the people.

In 2020, the House of Representatives passed the Pro Act, but an anti-worker majority blocked it in the Senate-well it is back and at the Senate. Collectively, each of us, retired and active must contact our Congress members and Senators to pass this Act. This is our time to regain a powerful stronghold in this country. The gap between the rich and the poor is increasing growing wider with each day. Most jobs no longer offer pensions, but tie everything to the rich man through a 401k which benefits the rich.

I am asking each and everyone to contact our NY Senators Kirsten Gillibrand and Charles Schumer and tell them to support the Pro Act. This is our chance; this is our time.

Here are five provisions in the PRO Act: 1. So-called right-to-work laws in more than two dozen states allow workers in union-represented workplaces to opt out of the union, and not pay union dues. At the same time, such workers are still covered under the wage and benefits provisions of the union contract. The PRO Act would allow unions to override such laws and collect dues from those who opt out, in order to cover the cost of collective bargaining and administration of the contract.

2. Employer interference and influence in union elections would be forbidden. Company-sponsored meetings — with mandatory attendance — are often used to lobby against a union organizing drive. Such meetings would be illegal. Additionally, employees would be able to cast a ballot in union organizing elections at a location away from company property.

3. Often, even successful union organizing drives fail to result in an agreement on a first contract between labor and management. The PRO Act would remedy that by allowing newly certified unions to seek arbitration and mediation to settle such impasses in negotiations.

4. The law would prevent an employer from using its employee's immigration status against them when determining the terms of their employment.

5. It would establish monetary penalties for companies and executives that violate workers' rights. Corporate directors and other officers of the company could also be held liable. <https://www.npr.org/2021/03/09/975259434/house-democrats-pass-bill-that-would-protect-worker-organizing-efforts>.

New Administrative Assistant

New Administrative Assistant, OPEIU Local 153 Our newly hired Administrative Assistant has began training on Tuesday June 1, 2021 and commence a ninety (90) day trial period. She has seventeen (17) years of experience with the United Union of Roofers, Water Proofers and Allied Workers Local 74/Local 203. Currently a Fund Administrator represented by OPEIU Local 153, she comes with the skills and knowledge necessary for UAW Local 774.

UAW Legal Services

The new address, will be effective October 19, 2020, 10535 Main Street, Clarence, New York 14031, PH #: (716) 632-1644. Remember, you must first Call 1-800-482-7700 to request legal services.

Tuition Assistance Plan (TAP)

Under the 2019 UAW-GM National Agreement, permanent active employees are eligible for a TAP benefit of up to \$5000 per calendar year to take courses at various colleges across the country. You can read more about it in our contract on pages 235-239 or stop up and see Karen McCoy in the Suggestion office, Plant 1 or call 716-879-5071.

Skilled Trades Apprenticeship Readiness Certificate (STARC)

Currently the TAP plan is also covering the UAW-GM Apprenticeship Program (STARC) courses through Penn Foster. These courses are done via online learning. For more about this program, you can reference the 2019 UAW-GM National Agreement Doc. #62 pages 452-454. If you need more information about this program please contact Keith Raffel in the Apprentice Office, Plant 1 or call 716-879-5003.

UAW-GM Seniority Employees STARC Application Path:

- Employees apply for their TAP voucher through EdAssist. Link to EdAssist: <https://UAW-GM.EdAssist.com>
- Employees print and sign their TAP voucher. Employees complete an online application at www.pennfoster.edu/partners/GMUAW and attach a copy of the signed TAP voucher.
- Once approved, learner will receive an email confirming enrollment and next steps.
- Day the semester starts (first Monday of each month) learner receives student ID needed for logging into student platform.

UAW Region 9 Tom Fricano Scholarship

The 2021 scholarship consists of \$6,000 payable at \$1,500/year for a maximum of 4 consecutive years. Applications are available at the Union Hall or the UAW Region 9 website, region9.uaw.org. This year's topic is "What can organized labor do to increase membership numbers?" Deadline for applications is June 30, 2021.

In Solidarity,
Wence Valentin III
UAW Local 774 President



UAW Local 774 Shop Chairman's Report



Shop Chairman-Mike Grimmer

Sisters and Brothers,

I hope that this article finds you and your families healthy and safe as we head into the summer season in Western New York. We are all looking forward to getting outside and enjoying the weather now that many of the Covid restrictions are finally being lifted and we can begin to return to normalcy outside of work. Hopefully soon GM will be reducing the cumbersome Covid protocols at the plants as well now that the pandemic appears to be subsiding. We will share any protocol changes that come out of the UAW/GM Joint Covid task force as soon as they become available.

The construction project for the HD Block Mod 7 installation is steadily progressing along the south wall in Plant 1. The Tool Room and Tooling Services have been successfully relocated to their new homes. At this time, I would like to recognize all the hard work and dedication by our members that work in Tooling Services and the Tool Room. They managed to keep our plant running without any impact to the business during this difficult transition. Great job Team! The project has now moved to the point where everything has been removed along the south wall and the concrete floor is being removed. The South Dock doors and walls are going to be removed and the dock ramps will be filled to make enough room for all the equipment. The dock doors are going to be moved to the outer south wall and then all new concrete floors will be poured to make a strong foundation for the new equipment. It is great to see GM invest a lot of money into Tonawanda Engine Plant so we can produce the 6.6 Heavy Duty gas engine well into the future. UAW 774 members will be building all the engines that power the hot selling Heavy Duty and Medium Duty trucks. Please remember to be especially careful when travelling along the south wall construction area as there is a lot of traffic during the construction.

Joe Torregrossa our Afternoon Shift Safety Representative has retired effective June 1st. I would like to thank Joe for his years of service to the membership of UAW Local 774 and wish him a happy retirement. His dedication to the safety of our people is unsurpassed. Due to our reduced population, Joe's position will not be backfilled. In accordance with Document 46 of the National Agreement, we are entitled to only 4 representatives with our current active members. We will have to rebalance the job responsibilities and redeploy one of our existing Appointed Reps to the safety position. I will share more details on this when it is completed.

Schedules

Plant 5 LGE- The assembly line is now build-

ing 200 engines per day working 8 hours a day Monday – Friday. The Machine Floors, GSC, and Skilled Trades are working daily and weekend overtime to support the assembly line.

Plant 1 Gen 5 – The assembly line is running 3 shifts Monday – Friday, building over 1,600 engines a day. The afternoon shift is working 1 hour over on Friday and the midnight shift is working 1 hour early on Monday to download engines that are used throughout the week to fill gaps in the line. The Machine Floors, GSC, and Skilled Trades are working 3 shifts Monday – Friday with daily and weekend overtime as needed to support the assembly line.

Heavy Duty Blocks and Cranks – Both HD Blocks and Cranks are running 3 shifts 7 days a week in order to support the assembly line.

Skilled Trades

UAW 774 Leadership has been pushing management and discussing with the International Union to hire more skilled trades and to put on apprentices at our plant because we do not have enough skilled members to keep our plant running. GM is depleting the trades across all the UAW plants from the discussions I am having with the chairpersons at the other locals. This is putting our operations at risk of not being able to successfully meet our build schedules. Management wants to complain about our excessive equipment downtime when in fact this down time is a direct result of depleting our Skilled Trades workforce through attrition. We are still looking for 5 additional Machine Repairpersons to be hired at Tonawanda, we have already added 6 people to the Machine Repair classification this year with 3 new members and 3 production members that are being retrained to the classification. We are glad to be adding 11 more MR's to replenish our vacancies from attrition. In addition to this, we believe that management is finally listening to the leadership about the need to hire more trades across the classifications well before our skilled members retire. Once we have official information surrounding this, we will share it.

Finished Engine Storage

Tonawanda management has decided to start storing finished engines at Regional warehouse instead of plant 4. This is a blatant violation of the National Agreement regarding the outsourcing of our jobs. Plant 4 has been used as our warehouse for engine storage for years and this should still be the case. We have filed the appropriate Appendix L grievance and are in the process of sending it up to the International UAW for resolution. This started after management misled the Shop Committee for the last couple months about working together to come up with a plan to do this in house

with UAW 774 members.

Local Negotiations

The District Committeepersons returned to their shifts on May 24th to perform their regular representation duties. The Alternate Committeepersons returned to their normal jobs on the floor as well at this time. Your local leadership has decided to break away from local negotiations because we have reached a point where management and UAW 774 cannot come to a mutual agreement. GM is trying to divide the Shop Committee by getting the Production members to turn our backs on Skilled Trades members. This will never happen because this Shop is committed to do the right thing for all 774 members. We are united on this objective and I am very proud of the Shop Committee for taking this stance.

The Shop Committee and Local Management have been in negotiations on and off since the National Agreement was ratified and we returned to work. There are several issues that need mutual resolution to complete negotiations and bring an agreement that we can recommend to the membership. The Shop Committee remains ready, willing, and able to restart talks and negotiate an agreement that satisfies the needs of the membership whenever management is ready to negotiate an agreement that does not include job losses.

In closing, I know that with the reductions in LGE, no replacement work identified for Plant 5, stalled negotiations, and GM's all electric strategy, our members are very nervous about the future GM and what part Tonawanda Engine Plant will play in it. As of today, our Heavy Duty Engine program will be in production for over 10 years to come with ever increasing volumes. GM's vision of an all-electric future is for light duty passenger vehicles and not our HD program. I would like the membership to focus on the fact that we are the best performing GM Powertrain plant when it comes to engine assembly Jobs Per Hour. We are also one of the highest quality producers of engines as well. Rest assured that is the type of performance that commands attention and respect from the corporation, which puts Tonawanda Engine Plant in a good position for new work opportunities. UAW 774 has been through many ups and downs throughout our over 80 years here by always been able to accomplish what was needed to remain one of GM's key plants. I am confident that we will be successful again in this endeavor, as we move into the future.

In Solidarity,
Mike Grimmer
UAW 774 Shop Chairman



Financial Secretary & Treasurer's Report

Financial Secretary/Treasurer- Cleveland Jones Jr.

MARCH 2021

Beginning Balance	1,049,728.43
Income:	
Dues - Regular (Private Sector)	73,919.59
Dues - Bonus and Profit Sharing	10,044.90
Dues - Retired Workers @ 35%	4,633.30
Commissions - Vending Machines	315.90
Interest on CD Riverside Credit Union	186.95
Interest on CD Riverside Credit Union	439.11
Interest on Northwest Money Market Account	20.81
Interest on Financial Trust FCU CD	1,687.60
Interest on Savings Account Lake Shore Savings	3.18
Transfer Between Funds	0.00
Income Total	91,251.34
Expense:	
Wages (Maintenance and Security)	1,428.00
Lost Time (Officers)	12,065.43
Lost Time (Others)	2,107.81
Reimb. Cards, Flowers, Bibles Etc.	40.22
Postage Reimbursement	55.00
Refreshments Reimbursement	233.44
Supply Reimbursement	125.92
Mobile/Telephone Reimbursement	214.31
Federal Taxes	-2,039.76
FICA	-967.26
MECA	-226.20
% Dues	-37.37
NY. Tax	-643.56
OPEIU	0.00
RIVERSIDE CU	0.00
Refund Dues - Regular	294.73
Federal Income Taxes (941) Forward	2,039.76
FICA-Employee OASDI and HI Forward	1,193.46
State Income Taxes Forward	643.56
Union Dues Forward	37.37
FICA Employer OASDI and HI (941)	1,193.46
Unemployment Taxes Federal (940)	208.00
Unemployment Taxes State	915.33
Group Life Insurance	7.00
Medical Fee Reimbursements	148.50
Bank Charges - Service Fees, NSF, Etc.	6.00
Building Supplies	152.36
Maintenance and Repairs	2,150.00
Utilities (Building Ownership)	1,016.98
Donations-Charities	1,100.00
Flowers Bibles Cards Donations in Lieu	246.19
Furniture & Equip-Leases & Rentals	467.78
Furniture & Equipment-Purchases	1,903.13
Internet Service (Access Fees)	137.61
Maintenance & Repairs - Equipment	1,823.75
Per Capita Taxes - International	115,887.37
Per Capita Taxes - CAP Councils	4,639.99
Per Capita Taxes - Affiliates	184.20
Per Capita Taxes - Retiree Councils	9.21
Postage	550.00
Refreshments- Coffee Donuts Food Soft Dk	98.00
Supplies - Office	253.32
Telephone	387.40
Expense Total	150,050.44
Total	990,929.33
Beginning Balance	1,049,728.43
Income	91,251.34
Expenses	-150,050.44
Difference	-58,799.10
Balance	990,929.33

FUND BALANCES

General Fund	\$ 854,367.25
Education Fund	\$ 10,152.09
Recreation Fund	\$ 1,039.47
Education Committee Fund	\$ 2,462.58
Recreation Committee Fund	\$ 5,361.55
Retired Workers Chapter Fund	\$ 85,071.82
Community Services Committee Fund	\$ 9,867.90
New Member Orientation Fund	\$ 1,970.95
Conservation Committee Fund	\$ 2,694.28
Union Label Committee Fund	\$ 554.99
Consumer Affairs Committee	\$ 116.57
Civil and Human Rights Committee Fund	\$ 1,308.18
Building Fund	\$ -13,414.67
Children With Special Needs Fund	\$ 1,107.02
Kitchen Improvement Fund	\$ 8,892.02
Telethon Committee Fund	\$ 28.71
Chaplaincy Committee Fund	\$ 2,003.30
Veterans Committee Fund	\$ 11,476.14
Women's Committee Fund	\$ 2,938.79
Solidarity Committee Fund	\$ 2,930.39
Total of All Funds	\$ 990,929.33

ALLOCATION OF ASSETS

Actual Bank Balance	268,621.58
Cash On Hand	0.00
Northwest Savings Bank Money Market	\$ 245,073.50
Financial Trust Federal CU COD	\$ 212,277.82
Riverside Federal CU COD	\$ 159,519.98
Riverside Federal CU COD	\$ 80,231.70
Lake Shore Savings	\$ 25,006.57
Petty Cash	\$ 100.00
Riverside Federal CU Savings	\$ 63.18
Financial Trust Federal CU Savings	\$ 25.00
Water Meter Deposit	\$ 10.00
Total Cash Assets	\$ 990,929.33

APRIL 2021

Beginning Balance	990,929.33
Income:	
Dues - Regular (Private Sector)	73,953.53
Dues - Bonus and Profit Sharing	43.81
Dues - Retired Workers @ 35%	2,310.70
Collections (Gate & Shop) Non-Exchange	73.00
Commissions - Vending Machines	659.46
Interest on CD Riverside Credit Union	181.35
Interest on CD Riverside Credit Union	426.12
Interest on Northwest Money Market	20.14
Interest on Savings Account Lake Shore Savings	4.84
Rebate from International Strike Fund	10,230.64
Sales - Advertising(Newsletter)	400.00
Sales - Bibles/Memorial Plaques	10.00
Sales - Shirts	30.00
Transfer Between Funds	0.00
Refund Workers Compensation Insurance	3,727.00
Income Total	92,070.59
Expense:	
Wages (Maintenance and Security)	1,022.00
Lost Time (Officers)	8,089.38
Lost Time (Others)	752.39
Supply Reimbursement	126.58
Federal Taxes	-939.46
FICA	-611.56
MECA	-143.03
NY. Tax	-350.43
OPEIU	0.00
RIVERSIDE CU	0.00
Federal Income Taxes (941) Forward	939.46

FICA-Employee OASDI and HI Forward	755.13
State Income Taxes Forward	350.43
FICA Employer OASDI and HI (941)	755.13
Group Life Insurance	7.00
Medical Fee Reimbursements	148.50
Bank Charges - Service Fees, NSF, Etc.	6.00
Maintenance and Repairs	4,061.88
Utilities (Building Ownership)	350.26
Furniture & Equip-Leases & Rentals	242.36
Internet Service (Access Fees)	137.61
Per Capita Taxes - International	50,381.58
Per Capita Taxes - CAP Councils	2,008.07
Per Capita Taxes - Affiliates	183.40
Per Capita Taxes - Retiree Councils	9.17
Postage	50.00
Printing Costs-Local Newsletter/Paper	2,380.27
Printing Costs-Pamphlets & Literature	174.00
Professional Fees - Legal	729.00
Subscriptions - Cable TV	102.42
Supplies - Office	383.19
Technical and Support Fees	163.13
Telephone	393.00
Trans from Comm Acct to Other Cash Asset	0.00
Expense Total	72,656.86
Total	1,010,343.06
Beginning Balance	990,929.33
Income	92,070.59
Expenses	72,656.86
Difference	19,413.73
Balance	1,010,343.06

FUND BALANCES

General Fund	\$877,744.07
Education Fund	\$ 8,288.52
Recreation Fund	\$ 1,048.74
Education Committee Fund	\$ 2,522.53
Recreation Committee Fund	\$ 5,421.50
Retired Workers Chapter Fund	\$ 87,382.52
Community Services Committee Fund	\$ 9,927.85
New Member Orientation Fund	\$ 1,970.95
Conservation Committee Fund	\$ 2,754.22
Union Label Committee Fund	\$ 554.99
Consumer Affairs Committee	\$ 116.5
Civil and Human Rights Committee Fund	\$ 1,368.13
Building Fund	\$ -18,606.62
Children With Special Needs Fund	\$ 1,166.98
Kitchen Improvement Fund	\$ 8,892.02
Telethon Committee Fund	\$ 88.66
Chaplaincy Committee Fund	\$ 2,146.25
Veterans Committee Fund	\$ 11,536.09
Women's Committee Fund	\$ 3,013.75
Solidarity Committee Fund	\$ 3,005.34
Total of All Funds	\$ 1,010,343.06

ALLOCATION OF ASSETS

Actual Bank Balance	268,781.28
Cash On Hand	0.00
Northwest Savings Bank Money Market	\$ 245,093.64
Financial Trust Federal CU COD	\$ 212,277.82
Riverside Federal CU COD	\$ 159,946.10
Riverside Federal CU COD	\$ 80,413.05
Lake Shore Savings	\$ 43,632.99
Petty Cash	\$ 100.00
Riverside Federal Credit Union Savings	\$ 63.18
Financial Trust Federal CU Savings Account	\$ 25.00
Water Meter Deposit	\$ 10.00
Total Cash Assets	\$ 1,010,343.06



The Fiscal Factor

Financial Secretary/Treasurer
Cleveland Jones Jr.

Brothers and Sisters,

At the conclusion of the 1st Quarter (Q1) in Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21), I am proud to report a net income in retained earnings of \$40,084.22, a decrease of \$636.83 or 1.6% over Q1 in FY20. The 2nd quarter (Q2) began on April 1st. As I projected last year based on data and trends, UAW Local 774 has achieved over a million dollars in cash assets. These funds ensure that the local union is able to function effectively at a time where our membership numbers are declining. For Q1, of 2021 General Motors Co. reported a North American Profit of \$3.1 billion.

In June of 2018, the elected Delegates to the 37th Constitutional Convention voted to retain, Article 16 Section 13(b) of the UAW Constitution which issues refunds, once a year, to local unions if the difference of actual strike assistance benefits paid to striking members in any month is less than the 5% of dues received by the International Strike & Defense Fund in a given month. UAW Local 774's 2021 13th check – Strike Fund Rebate was \$10,230.64.

In accordance with Article 16, Section 26 and Section 27 of the UAW Constitution, members who have been on lay off, or haven't paid regular and/or sub union dues for more than six (6) months must certify in writing, in person or by registered or certified letter to the Local Union Financial Secretary during the last ten (10) days of such six (6) month period and thereafter, within the last ten (10) days of the following months to be eligible for good standing membership without the payment of union dues. In accordance with Article 17, Section 2 of the UAW Constitution, laid-off members who are regularly employed on jobs outside the jurisdiction of the International Union shall take an honorable withdrawal transfer card unless they wish to continue paying union dues in accordance with Article 16 and Article 47. To date, out of the sixty (60) permanent members on layoff, only one (1) has certified. For members who wish to certify in person, there is a simple sign in sheet at my desk in the Financial Office.

Under the Labor Management Reporting and Disclosure Act (LMRDA), local unions who represent members in the private sector with \$250,000 or more in total annual receipts are required to submit annual financial statements to the US Department of Labor. On Tuesday March 30th, I completed, signed and filed UAW Local 774's LM-2 form. Although preparation of the LM form is the responsibility of the Financial Secretary, the form MUST be signed by the Local Union President AND Financial Secretary before the March 31st deadline. This form is the government's way of regulating labor unions and ensuring that dues income is spent responsibly. It is the duty of the Financial Secretary to advise the Local Union Executive Board and membership that this mandatory filing has been completed.

Internal Revenue Service form 990 is an informational tax form that most tax-exempt organizations must file annually. In a nutshell, the form gives the IRS an overview of the organization's activities, governance and detailed financial information. Form 990 also includes a section for the organization to outline its accomplishments in the previous year to justify maintaining its tax-exempt status. In collecting this information, the IRS wants to ensure that organizations continue to qualify for tax exemption after the status is granted. As a 501(c) (5), we are exempt from income taxes but not sales taxes. I have completed, signed and filed UAW Local 774's 990 & Building Corporation's 990N tax forms with the U.S. Treasury Department, IRS. Filing these forms before the May 15th deadline, protects the Local tax exempt status and avoids costly, daily personal fines and severe penalties to both the Financial Secretary and the Local Union itself. Late filing fees against the Financial Secretary are \$10 per day, not to exceed \$5,000 and against the Local Union,

\$20 per day not to exceed the smaller of \$10,000 or 5% of the reporting year's gross receipts. If the local union's annual gross receipts are greater than \$1 million, then the penalties are \$100 per day not to exceed \$50,000. It is now required that Form 990 be signed electronically by the Local Union Financial Secretary and then filed electronically with the Department of Treasury, Internal Revenue Service. This needed to be completed by utilizing an e-file provider in which I used "TaxAct". It is the duty of the Financial Secretary to advise the Executive Board and membership that this mandatory filing has been completed.

As always, I am available to provide assistance and/or answer any questions you may have. I wish you all continued peace, love and prosperity throughout 2021. Happy Summer!

Solidarity Forever.

Cleveland Jones Jr.
Financial Secretary/Treasurer
Cjonesjr@uaw774.com
(716) 873-4715 ext. 20

"It takes no compromise to give people their rights. It takes no money to respect the individual. It takes no political deal to give people freedom. It takes no survey to remove repression"

-Harvey Milk

**International Strike and Defense Fund Net Worth APRIL 2021:
\$ 808,269,254.68**



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.



I WANT YOU TO
HEAR WELL
AGAIN!

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

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

Caring for the UAW for over 40 Years

Local 774 Retiree's Report



Chairperson
Russ Flynn

Vice-Chairperson
Rev. Rick Maisano

Recording Secretary
Dick Maziarz

Financial Secretary
Charlie Todaro

Sergeant-at-Arms
William Kearney

Benefits Update

Important Information for Retirees: It is anticipated that a UAW 774 Retiree Meeting will be held on October 12, 2021 unless advised otherwise by York State Department of Health restrictions on gatherings of people or the recommendations of UAW International Union and UAW Region 9. For future updates on retiree meetings and issues call the Retiree Chapter at 716/873/4715 extension 1 or go to the Local 774 website at <http://laborweb.uaw.org/sites/region9/local774/>

Life Insurance: When is the last time you checked or updated your life insurance policy beneficiary designations? There are many instances of people who have prior spouses or deceased relatives still named as a beneficiary on a life insurance policy. That's why it's so important that after marriages, divorces, births, deaths and other major life events, you need to check and, if necessary, update beneficiary statements. Financial advisors say this is one of the most common and potentially costly retirement and estate planning errors that people make. The classic worst case is you get divorced, your ex-wife is named as beneficiary on your life insurance policy and you never change the beneficiary form. You might have changed your will to leave everything to the kids. But after you die, your life insurance, if your beneficiary is never changed, will go to your ex-wife, not the kids. Life insurance beneficiary forms should be examined after marriage or divorce of the life insurance policy holder and any time there is a family birth or death, especially if a beneficiary dies. Beneficiaries should also be examined occasionally even when nothing has changed. If you need information about your GM life insurance or beneficiaries you can call Metropolitan Life Insurance at 1-888-543-3461 (www.metlife.com)

Address Change: It is important to keep your address and phone number(s) on file with the UAW Medical Trust up-to-date. This will ensure that 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.

How to Report the Passing of a UAW-GM Retiree, Spouse, 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). Call the Retiree Health Care Connect at 1-866-637-7555. 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.

AETNA: Retirees who are in the AETNA Medicare Advantage Plan are eligible for the AETNA Healthy Rewards Program which rewards participants for completing health activities throughout the year. For 2021 you have the chance to earn up to \$180.00 in gift cards from CVS Pharmacy, Target or Amazon.com for completing these activities. AETNA has sent a mailer to retirees containing information about the program and what health activities you need to complete during the year. Your activities must be completed and reported to AETNA by December 31, 2021, for you to receive your rewards. Visit AetnaMedicareRewards.com/UAWTrust and have the code from your rewards mailer handy. Or you can call toll-free at 1-800-663-0885, Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 9 PM ET. Your participation in Aetna Healthy Rewards is voluntary and does not affect benefits from your AETNA health care plan.

BJ's Wholesale Club: BJ's will not be sending out people to the union hall for membership discount renewal due to the pandemic. If you want to renew your membership you can go to the manager's office at the BJ's Wholesale Club located at 3056 Sheridan Drive, Amherst NY and identify yourself as a member of UAW Local 774 to get a discount on your membership.

GM RETIREES - IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

UAW Retiree Medical Benefit Trust at 1-866-637-7555 (www.uawtrust.org)

Retiree Health Care Connect at 1-866-637-7555

Pension/PSP GM National Benefits Center Fidelity 1-800-489-4646 (www.gmbenefits.com)

AETNA Medicare Advantage Plan at 1-855-319-4020

Blue Cross/Blue Shield at 1-877-832-2827 (www.bcbsm.com)

Prescription Drugs at Express Scripts at 1-866-662-0274 (www.medco.com)

Delta Dental at 1-800-524-0149 (www.deltadental.com)

Davis Vision at 1-888-234-5164 (www.davisvision.com)

TruHearing at 1-844-394-5420

UAW-FCA-Ford-General Motors Legal Services Plan at 1-800-482-7700

Metropolitan Life Insurance at 1-888-543-3461 (www.metlife.com)

Medicare at 1-800-633-4227 (www.medicare.gov)

Social Security (www.socialsecurity.gov) at 1-800-772-1213

UAW Local 774 at 1-716-873-4715

Retiree Scams, and How to Avoid or Respond to Them

Nearly half of Americans age 65 or older manage their finances on their own leaving them vulnerable to financial abuse from strangers or unscrupulous

Retiree's Report - Continued on page 7



Retiree's Report - Continued

family members or friends. Seniors who are worried about having enough money in retirement and those who are isolated and lonely are among the most vulnerable. These people can easily fall victim to investment scams and other cons.

Common Scams

Pigeon-drop scams: With these scams, victims are told that a considerable sum of money was found and will be shared with them if an upfront payment is received.

Romance scams: It's bad enough that victims can be swindled out of their savings by someone pretending to love and care about them, but some of these scams also can lead seniors even further into trouble by causing them to engage unwittingly in criminal behavior. Some money-laundering scams start with a budding "romance" in exchange for money. Once a level of trust develops, the scammer persuades the person to deposit money, often in the form of checks or wire transfers, on the scammer's behalf with the instructions to send that money to someone else.

Prepaid credit and debit card scams: This is where victims are asked to make payments—often multiple ones—to a utility or other company to address a debt.

There are so many scams out there beyond these that it's hard to avoid encountering a would-be fraudster, but there are some ways to decrease the likelihood that you'll be a victim. Do not respond to calls or texts from unknown numbers, or any others that appear suspicious. Never share your personal or financial information via email, text messages, or over the phone. Be cautious if you're being pressured to share any information or make a payment immediately. Scammers often spoof phone numbers to trick you into answering or responding. Spoofing is when a caller deliberately falsifies the information transmitted to your caller ID display to disguise their identity. Scammers often use neighbor spoofing so it appears that an incoming call is coming from a local number, or spoof a number from a company or a government agency that you may already know and trust. If you answer, they use scam scripts to try to steal your money or valuable personal information, which can be used in fraudulent activity. You may not be able to tell right away if an incoming call is spoofed. Be extremely careful about responding to any request for personal identifying information.

Don't answer calls from unknown numbers. If you answer such a call, hang up immediately. If you answer the phone and the caller - or a recording - asks you to hit a button to stop getting the calls, you should just hang up. Scammers often use this trick to identify potential targets. Do not respond to any questions, especially those that can be answered with "Yes" or "No." Never give out personal information such as account numbers, Social Security numbers, mother's maiden names, passwords or other identifying information in response to unexpected calls or if you are at all suspicious.

If you get an inquiry from someone who says they represent a company or a government agency, hang up and call the phone number on your account statement, in the phone book, or on the company's or government agency's website to verify the authenticity of the request. You will usually get a written statement in the mail before you get a phone call from a legitimate source, particularly if the caller is asking for a payment. Use caution if you are being pressured for information immediately.

If you have a voice mail account with your phone service, be sure to set a password for it. Some voicemail services are preset to allow access if you call in from your own phone number. A hacker could spoof your home phone number and gain access to your voice mail if you do not set a password. Talk to your phone company about call blocking tools and check into apps that you can download to your mobile device. The FCC allows phone companies to block robocalls by default based on reasonable analytics. Remember to check your voicemail periodically to make sure you aren't missing important calls and to clear out any spam calls that might fill your voicemail box to capacity. Remember that government agencies will never call you to ask for personal information or money. Do not click any links in a text message. If

a friend sends you a text with a suspicious link that seems out of character, call them to make sure they weren't hacked. Always check on a charity (for example, by calling or looking at its actual website) before donating. If you think you've been a victim of a coronavirus scam, contact law enforcement immediately.

COVID-19 Vaccination Card Fraud

If you've already posted your vaccination card online, remove it! There are dangers involved in the posting and the illegal sale of fraudulent COVID-19 vaccination cards and other COVID-19 scams. Vaccination cards are intended to provide recipients of the coronavirus vaccine with important information regarding the type of vaccine they received and their dates of inoculation. The creation, purchase, or sale of vaccine cards by individuals is illegal and endangers public safety. The unauthorized use of an official government agency's seal on such cards is a crime that may be punishable under Title 18, United States Code, Section 1017, and other federal laws. Penalties may include hefty fines and prison time. Do not post pictures of your vaccination cards online. These cards may contain your name, date of birth, insurance information, or more and may be used to steal your identity or commit fraud. Rely on trusted sources like your doctor, the Center for Disease Control, or your local health department for information related to the coronavirus and vaccinations. Be skeptical of unsolicited offers of miracle cures or vaccination documents. Anyone with information regarding the fraudulent creation or sale of COVID-19 vaccination cards can file a report by calling 1-800-CALL-FBI.

UAW Local 774 Hall Rentals resumed May 1, 2021.



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 . . . \$225.00 *includes soda & cleanup

Deposit . . . \$200.00

*Proceeds from hall rentals go into the Kitchen Improvement Fund

Wence Valentin III
President
UAW Local 774
wvalentiniii@uaw774.com
ext.12

Cleveland Jones Jr.
Financial Secretary/Treasurer
UAW Local 774
cjonesjr@uaw774.com
ext. 20



UNION
YES



Vice President's Report

Teddy Maldonado
1st Vice President UAW Local 774

Upcoming Golf Tournament

The First Annual UAW Local 774 Golf Tournament is being held on June 27th, 2021 at Chestnut Hill Golf course. If you have not signed up yet and/or have not paid for your foursome please do so today so we can plan accordingly for all golfers. The COVID-19 pandemic has hindered some of our donations and most businesses big and small are not providing them at this time, understandably. Still we have some great prizes and will have a 50/50 drawing at the event. Previously, proceeds from this event were going towards reestablishing a scholarship program. They are now going to The Variety Club.

Thank you for your continued support, we look forward to a successful event this year and in the years to come.

Committee's

Our Committees are in need of volunteers. To become a member; sign up at the union hall, talk with the Chairs of the committees listed below or see an Executive Board member for more information. Act now and become a contributing voice to one of the following:

- Chaplaincy – Renita Chatman
- Citizenship & Legislative – Wence Valentin III
- Civil and Human Rights – Roberto Fuentes Sr.
- Community Services – John Orsini
- Conservation – Doug Seefeldt
- Constitution and Bylaws – Cleveland Jones Jr.
- Consumer Affairs –
- Education – Sean Collier
- Election – Damone Anthony
- Recreation – John Chase
- Solidarity – Jordan McCarter
- Telethon – Wence Valentin III
- Union Label –
- Veterans – Ted Maldonado
- Women's – Heather Grimmer

Staying safe this summer

Summer is almost here and life is starting to get back to “normal” being able to gather and go out with family and friends is something we all look forward to enjoying again.

The Erie County Department of Health website <https://www2.erie.gov/health/coronavirus> has a frequently asked questions and answers section about Covid-19 Coronavirus. Listed below are a few tips taken from the site on ways to prevent infection and ways to avoid being exposed to this virus.

- Get the COVID-19 Vaccine
- Wash your hands often and correctly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash, and wash your hands with soap and running water after touching the tissue. If you do not have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your elbow not your hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects (for example: tables, doorknobs, light switches, handles, desks, toilets, faucets, sinks).
- Wear a face covering
- Practice Social Distancing
- Get Your Home Ready - Have a plan and know what to do if someone in your household becomes ill with COVID-19 symptoms

Stay safe and have a wonderful summer!

In Solidarity,
1st Vice President
Teddy Maldonado

Saf-Gard Safety Shoe Company: 2021 Shoemobile Schedule

Members can also go in-store at
1625 Walden Ave.
Cheektowaga, NY 14225.

Allowance is \$75.00 and GM identification must be shown.

Date	Plant/Gate	Arrival Time	Departure Time
6/7/2021	1-R13	6:00 AM	6:00 PM
6/8/2021	5	11:00 AM	3:00 PM
7/13/2021	1-R13	11:00 AM	6:00 PM
7/14/2021	5	6:00 AM	10:00 AM
8/2/2021	5	1:00PM	5:00 PM
8/3/2021	1-R13	6:00 AM	11:00 AM



Veterans Report



Teddy Maldonado
1st Vice President UAW Local 774

Veterans Report

Smoking and the Coronavirus Pandemic Health Risks and How to Quit

Stopping smoking is one of the best things you can do for your health. Smoking harms the lungs, heart, and nearly every organ in the body. Smoking may increase your risk for being infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 and increase your chance of experiencing severe illness. What is well-known in any case is the fact that quitting will not only improve your health — your breathing improves within a few days of stopping — it will also save you money!

Veterans have many options to receive tobacco cessation treatment without leaving home:

- Call or send a secure message to your VA health care provider through the MyHealthVet web portal to find out if they are among the many who offer one-on-one or group sessions by phone or video.
- Talk to your doctor about using the nicotine patch, gum, lozenges, or other medications to help you quit. They can prescribe medication and have it mailed to your home.
- Call Quit VET (1-855-QUIT-VET, 1-855-784-8838) to speak to a tobacco cessation counselor between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday in English or Spanish. Quit VET connects Veterans to a trained counselor who can help develop a quit plan and provide ongoing counseling and support to prevent relapse.
- Sign up for SmokefreeVET to receive texts with encouragement and support by texting VET to 47848. (For Spanish text VETESP to 47848). The benefits of signing up include regular text messages and tips when you text the keywords URGE, STRESS, or SMOKED.
- Follow the SmokefreeVET Facebook page for tips and encouragement from other Veterans.
- Find VA resources and more tips for quitting at mentalhealth.va.gov/quit-tobacco and veterans.smokefree.gov.
- The Veterans Health Administration's Stop Smoking YouTube Channel features stories of others who have stopped smoking as well as tips to help you stop using tobacco.

Operation We Are Here is a one-stop HUB of resources for military community and military supporters. Check it out easily by scanning the QR code on your phone or go to www.operationwearehere.com to find out more.



OPERATION
WE ARE HERE
IS A COMPREHENSIVE
DATABASE OF RESOURCES THAT
EMPOWER THE MILITARY COMMUNITY
AND EQUIP CIVILIANS TO CARE.

SCAN THIS
QR CODE TO
VISIT US ONLINE!



www.operationwearehere.com

Significant dates and observances for the United States Armed Forces
June 6, 2021 - Anniversary of the World War II Allied invasion in Normandy, France, known as D-Day (1944)
June 14, 2021 - Flag Day
June 14, 2021 - Army Birthday (1775)
July 27, 2021 - Korean War Veterans Armistice Day (1953)
July 29, 2021 - Anniversary of the Army Chaplain Corps
August 4, 2021 - Coast Guard Birthday
August 7, 2021 - Purple Heart Day, National Purple Heart Day honors the men and

women who have been wounded or killed in military service.

August 8, 2021 - VJ (Victory over Japan) Day (1945)

August 29, 2021 - Marine Forces Reserve Birthday

TED BIT

“True heroism is remarkably sober, very undramatic. It is not the urge to surpass all others at whatever the cost, but the urge to serve others at whatever cost.” - Arthur Ash



Benefits Update

Tim McInnis & Jose Colon
Benefit Representatives

Benefit Update

- Know your Coverage

Make sure you are using In Network Providers (Active employees)

Medical - Blue Cross Blue Shield
Dental - Delta Dental
Vision - Davis Vision
Mental Health - Beacon Health
Physical Therapy- Theramatrix
Hearing - Audio Net
Prescription- CVS/Caremark

- Are you thinking about retiring? Contact your Benefit Rep 3-4 months before your retirement date.

- If you are 65 years old or older and have time with American Axle or Delphi/PBGC reach out to your Benefit Rep about starting your pension benefits.

Tim McInnis 873-4715 x13
Jose Colon 873-4715 x17



Daniel B Cronk 06/01/2021
 Donald M Herrick 05/01/2021
 Charles B Lamos 05/01/2021
 Robert L Lelonek 03/01/2021
 Patrick L Shorette 05/01/2021

Congratulations

Nancy S Stanton 06/01/2021
 David J Stauring 05/01/2021
 Michael J Switalski 05/01/2021
 Joseph M Torregrossa 06/01/2021



Richard C Wieand Jr.
06/01/2021

Retired after 36 years as a Tool & Die maker.
 "All GM time!"



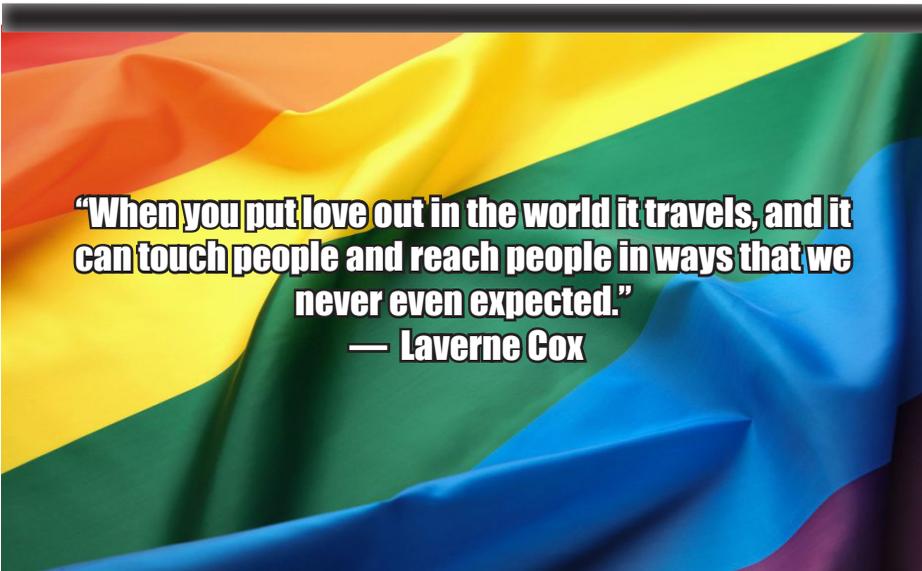
Stan Fears
12/31/2020

GEN 5 MAINT. 2nd Shift Block Job,
 43 YEARS Seniority.
 "Time to sit on the porch and watch for the
 mailman."



Ray M Larivey
05/01/2021

Retired after 22 years as a Tinsmith at TEP.
 Also worked at American Axle plant for 20 yrs.
 Married to lovely Melody in 1980
 with daughter Alethea and son Nathan. Born
 again and living for Christ.
 "I'm gonna live forever.
 Love for y'all."



**"When you put love out in the world it travels, and it
 can touch people and reach people in ways that we
 never even expected."
 — Laverne Cox**

JUNE CELEBRATES PRIDE MONTH

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) Pride Month is currently celebrated each year in the month of June to honor the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Manhattan. The Stonewall Uprising was a tipping point for the Gay Liberation Movement in the United States.

Gay pride or LGBT pride is the promotion of the self-affirmation, dignity, equality, and increased visibility of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people as a social group. Pride, as opposed to shame and social stigma, is the predominant outlook that bolsters most LGBT rights movements. Pride has lent its name to LGBT-themed organizations, institutes, foundations, book titles, periodicals, a cable TV station, and the Pride Library.



BUY UNION-MADE PRODUCTS

FOR A GREAT AMERICAN

COOKOUT

Let's grill our way to a **STRONGER AMERICA** by supporting union-made products from workers who enjoy fair wages, safe working conditions and access to health care through **COLLECTIVE BARGAINING**.

RECEIVE UNION-MADE SHOPPING LISTS ON YOUR PHONE

- Text **AIRLINE** to **22555** for union-friendly airlines
- Text **APPLIANCE** to **22555** for union-made appliances
- Text **BEER** to **22555** for union-made beer
- Text **CARS** to **22555** for union-made vehicles
- Text **CANDY** to **22555** for union-made candy
- Text **HOTEL** to **22555** for union-friendly hotels
- Text **PETS** to **22555** for union-made pet products
- Text **TOYS** to **22555** for union-made toys

**Message & Data Rates May Apply. Reply STOP to opt-out.*



Union Label Department

HOT DOGS

- Al Pete
- Imperial
- Armour
- John Morrell All Beef Hot Dogs
- Ball Park
- Luther's Hot Dogs
- Boar's Head
- Oscar Meyer
- Brummel & Brown

DESSERTS

- Ding Dongs
- Keebler Vanilla Wafers
- Twinkies
- Kit Kat
- SnoBalls
- Laffy Taffy
- Rice Krispies Treats
- Breyer's Ice Cream
- Chips Ahoy
- Good Humor Ice Cream
- Nabisco Nilla Wafers
- Prairie Farms Ice Cream

SNACKS

- Alexander & Hornung
- Cheez-It
- Chex Mix
- Ball Park
- Doritos
- Banquet
- Fritos
- Butterball
- Humpty Dumpty Potato Chips
- Dearborn Sausage Co
- Lay's
- Farmer John
- Pirate Booty
- Farmland
- Smartfood Popcorn
- Hebrew National

SUPPLIES

- Durex Maverick Barbeque Tools
- Solo cups, plates, and bowls
- Igloo Cooler
- Thermador Grills
- Rubbermaid coolers
- Weber Grills (Genesis, Summit and Q Series)

BEER

- Bass Ale
- Coors
- Budweiser and Bud Light
- Burger Light
- Eye of the Hawk Select Ale
- Genesee 12 Horse Ale
- Killian's Irish Red
- Landshark Lager
- Leinies Summer Shand
- Miller Products
- White Hawk Select IPA
- Stella Artois

POP

- A&W Root Beer
- Canada Dry
- Coca Cola
- Orange Crush
- Pepsi
- RC Cola

Approved for posting:-
/s/ Wence Valentin III
President
UAW Local 774



Conservation Committee Report

Douglas Seefeldt
Co-Chairman Conservation Committee

Brothers and Sisters

First I would like to say thank you to all of those who participated in this years "Highway Cleanup". I would also like to extend a special thank you to Phil Serwinowski for his dedication to the Conservation and Environment Committee.

Every time we conduct the clean up on this little stretch of River Road, it amazes and saddens me to think of how much trash we find.

Please be vigilant of items that may blow out of your vehicle while driving!

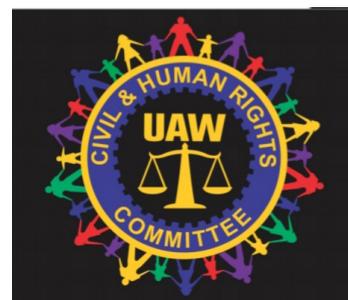


Thanks,

Douglas Seefeldt,
Co- Chairman Conservation Committee



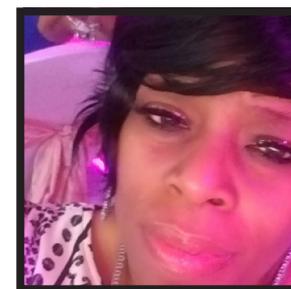
UAW Local 774 Civil and Human Rights Committee Members



Roberto Fuentes Sr
- Chairman



Bobby McRae
- Co-Chairman



Laurie Baker
- Treasurer



Shaconjula Matlock
- Secretary



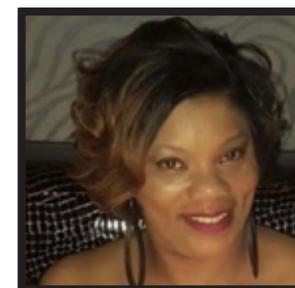
Antonio Hernandez



Lonnie Burrough



Wence Valentin III



Shawntrice Coleman



UAW LOCAL 774
2939 Niagara Street, Buffalo, NY 14207
IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS



UAW Local 774 716-873-4715	Health Care/Dependent Change & Eligibility..... 1-800-489-4646
Front Office..... ext 10	Retiree Servicing Center 1-800-489-4646
Wence Valentin III..... ext 12	PSP Savings Plan (Hourly & Salary) 1-800-489-4646
Tim McInnis..... ext 13	Disability / Sick & Accident Benefits 1-800-489-4646
Mike Grimmer..... ext 15	Davis Vision 1-888-672-8393
Jose Colon ext 17	Metropolitan Life Insurance..... 1-888-543-3461
Cleveland Jones Jr..... ext 20	Worker's Compensation 1-800-489-4646
Russ Flynn ext 21	Sub..... 1-800-489-4646
Stacie McKernan ext 22	Life Insurance Admin 1-800-489-4646
Gary Shonitsky ext 23	Vehicle Purchase..... 1-800-235-4646
Amy Kloc ext 29	Riverside Credit Union 875-1747
Chaplaincy Prayer Requests..... ext 30	Fidelity Investments 1-800-489-4646
UAW Local 774 (FAX) 716-873-8341	Retiree Pension Center 1-800-489-4646
GM Tonawanda Engine Plants Information 879-5000	Missing Pension Checks..... 1-800-489-4646
Absentee Call-In Toll Free..... 1-800-222-8889	Employment & Wage Verification 1-800-489-4646
Medical Department - Plant 1..... 879-5313	Express Scripts 1-800-464-4679
Medical Department - Plant 5..... 447-3054	Blue Cross/Blue Shield..... 1-800-462-7237
Work/Family & EAP..... 879-5516 716-704-8397	Delta Dental 1-800-942-0667
Union Work Center - Plant 1 879-5507	Legal Service Plan..... 1-800-482-7700
Union Work Center - Plant 5 879-5724	Aetna Medicare Advantage 1-855-319-4020
Benefits Office - Plant 1 879-5465	UAW Retiree Medical Trust 1-866-637-7555
Benefits Office - Plant 5 879-5582	CVS Caremark RX 1-844-379-1671
Payroll & Wages 1-866-245-5957	Plant Cisco Code..... 18160

HISTORY OF JUNETEENTH © JUNETEENTH.COM

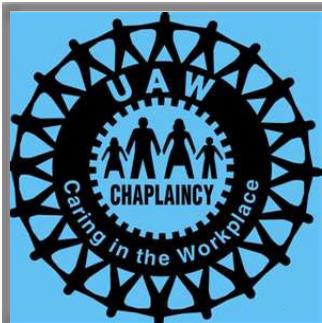
Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration commemorating the ending of slavery in the United States. Dating back to 1865, it was on June 19th that the Union soldiers, led by Major General Gordon Granger, landed at Galveston, Texas with news that the war had ended and that the enslaved were now free. Note that this was two and a half years after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation - which had become official January 1, 1863. The Emancipation Proclamation had little impact on the Texans due to the minimal number of Union troops to enforce the new Executive Order. However, with the surrender of General Lee in April of 1865, and the arrival of General Granger's regiment, the forces were finally strong enough to influence and overcome the resistance.

SATURDAY JUNE 19TH & SUNDAY JUNE 20TH 2021 11AM-5PM ONLINE

46TH ANNUAL JUNETEENTH FESTIVAL

THE CONTINUED EVOLUTION OF JUNETEENTH 2021
1ST NEW YORK STATE & CITY OF BUFFALO OFFICIAL HOLIDAY

JUNETEENTH FREEDOM DAY



UAW Local 774 Chaplaincy Committee

Chaplain Renita F. Chatman - Chairperson
UAW Local 774/Region 9 International
Chaplaincy Coordinator

"Creating a Culture of Comfort & Caring"
II Corinthians 1:3-4

The Foundation of the UAW Chaplaincy Program
Article 41 Section 2 of the UAW Constitution states the following:

"It shall be the duty of each member to render aid and assistance to a Brother or Sister member in cases of illness, death or distress, and in every way acquit her/himself as a loyal and devoted member of the International union.

Region 9 Chaplains were given a CHARGE by Region 9 International Rep. Jim Lakeman to host a gate collection for the month of April to partner with "Rooted in Love, Inc." A 501(c) 3 non-profit organization. This organization provides fresh produce, non-perishable items and hygiene products to the homeless, impoverished and to those who are simply in need throughout WNY neighborhoods and communities. Needless to say, YOU the membership of UAW throughout Region 9 responded to the call. YOU went above and beyond in your giving.

The Region 9 Chaplaincy Committee THANKS you for an awesome outpour of the requested items (hygiene products which included monetary gifts, inspirational pens & prayers). Many thanks to the volunteers who sorted, loaded and unloaded the donations at Region 9 for distribution.

Special thanks to: President Wence Valentin III UAW Local 774 (GM Powertrain Tonawanda Engine Plant)
Sister Jolene McFarland (Retiree) Caravan
Sister Christine Jenkins - Team leader 1st shift Gen V Assembly

President Michael Delucas UAW Local 686 (Delphi Thermal Systems, Lockport NY)
Bro. Lonnie Everette - Shop Chairman
Bro. Edwin Gary - Benefit Rep
Sis. Kelly Sears - Joint Activities Rep
Chaplain Craig Davis - Chaplaincy Chairperson
Chaplain Lennie Swain - Chaplaincy Chairperson UAW Local 897 (Ford Stamping Plant Hamburg NY)



The UAW Region 9 and Local 774 Chaplaincy Committee's would like to thank everyone who donated personal hygiene products for "Rooted in Love, Inc." to be distributed to those that are less fortunate or have fallen on hard times. Additionally, \$73.00 in cash was collected at the gates for the organization.



Pictured from left to right, Edwin Gary Benefit Rep UAW Local 686, President Mike Delucas UAW Local 686, Chaplaincy Chairperson Craig E. Davis UAW Local 686, Chaplaincy Chairperson Renita F. Chatman UAW Local 774 (General Motors Powertrain, Tonawanda Engine Plant), Chaplaincy Chairperson Lennie Swain UAW Local 897 (Ford Stamping Plant, Hamburg NY), President Wence Valentin III UAW Local 774, Shop Chairman Lonnie Everett UAW Local 686 (Delphi Thermal Systems, Lockport NY)

IN NEED OF PRAYER?

Call the confidential prayer line
(716) 873-4715 ext 7

or

place your prayer requests in the prayer boxes located in plants 1,5 and union hall.

In Solidarity we pray and give thanks to Almighty God for His faithfulness towards us!

Chaplain Renita F. Chatman - Chairperson UAW Local 774/Region 9 International Chaplaincy Coordinator



Dates for Upcoming 2021 Membership Meetings:



June 13th
October 17th
November 14th
December 12th



Subject to change



Citizenship and Legislative Report

Larry Boltz
Citizenship and Legislative
Co-Chairman

Greetings Brothers and Sisters!

Summer is almost upon us and hopefully with Covid numbers dropping and vaccination rates approaching 70% of the population across Erie County, Western NY, and all of New York state in general, will hopefully be able to get closer to what was considered normal soon, including being able to remove our masks at work. I, as the co-chair of the Citizenship and Legislative committee, am writing today to discuss voting with you. NY State Primary day is coming up soon, Tuesday, June 22. Early voting for primary day begins on Saturday June 12 through June 20. You have to have your voter registration postmarked by May 28 to be able to vote in this month's primary elections. You are still able to register to vote for the November general elections as long as your registration is postmarked by Friday, October 8.

You may also vote by mail for the primary and general elections if you are registered in time, which is a new privilege for New York State residents as of last year. Applications to vote by mail for this month's primary election must be postmarked by June 15, and for the General election in November by October 26. You can find all of this helpful information and more by going to elections.ny.gov. Voting by mail may be new to New York, but 5 states allow this as the primary method of voting, Colorado, Hawaii, Oregon, Utah, and Washington. Despite misinformation being spread about voter fraud attributed to mail-in voting, there has been no such problems reported where this is the norm.

All of this is important information because while our ability, right, and access to be able to vote has been expanded in New York over the last couple of years, due in part to the majority party changing in the state senate. Since the November 2020 election, the pandemic ushered in change to how we can vote. At least 389 bills in 48 states as of May 14 have been introduced to make it more difficult for people to vote. Most of these bills reduce access to mail-in voting and early voting. Many impose severe restrictions on voter registration efforts, and limit the power of local officials to oversee elections. For example, in Georgia new rules prevent proactively sending mail ballot applications to voters, require voters to submit ID with their application to be approved, and shortened the time frame for the application process. They also added new restrictions on the use of mail ballot drop boxes, and stripped certain powers from the secretary of state removing that official as chair of the State Election board and allowing the general Assembly to select his or her replacement.

In Iowa, new laws shorten the application period for mail in ballots, and shortens the early voting period and even the voting hours on election day. Florida's new laws limit access to ballot drop boxes, require voters to renew their voting application every 2 years, and to submit a form of identification. It also "prevents behavior undertaken with the intent of influencing a voter", basically meaning volunteers won't be able to give out water to people waiting in long lines to vote. Texas is also trying to enact more stringent voting laws that would make it harder to vote by mail, empower partisan poll watchers, and impose stiff penalties on election administrators. It is currently being blocked by Democratic members of the State House in Texas.

There is currently legislation in Congress, the For the People Act, passed by the House, but stalled by the Republican minority use of the filibuster that would nullify many of these new restrictive laws being enacted around the country and increase access to voting for all Americans nation-wide.

So in conclusion, don't take your right to vote or access or ability to do so for granted. As people are finding out across the country, what we have today can be taken tomorrow. Similar to Walter Reuther's famous quote, "What we win at the bargaining table can be taken away in the legislative halls." Democracy is a participation sport. We all have to take part in it. Remember NY State Primary day is Tuesday June 22. Don't forget to vote.

Enjoy your Summer,
Larry Boltz



Apprenticeship STARC Program

Keith W. Raffel
Apprentice Chairman

Apprenticeship STARC Program

Greetings Brothers and Sisters: I would like to explain the rules for application for the Apprenticeship Program.

The Apprenticeship Preparation Program is called the STARC program. It stands for Skilled Trades Apprenticeship Readiness Certificate.

All Candidates that want to be eligible for the Apprenticeship Program must take and complete 4 classes, with the educational online provider, Penn Foster. Completion of classes does not guarantee a position as an apprentice. Hourly employees working for GM (called Internal candidates) can apply for TAP (Tuition Assistance Program). They will have tuition fees paid by TAP (EdAssist), if eligible. If any of the 4 classes needs to be retaken, the candidate will pay the cost of the class, out of pocket. Cost of each class is below.

The classes are called STARC 1 thru 4 with Penn Foster. The first two classes enrolled into are called Semester 1 (STARC 1 and STARC 2). After completion of Semester 1, the next 2 classes taken are Semester 2 (STARC 3 & 4). The classes can be taken in any order within the semester. All classes are completed after taking a proctored exam and receiving at least a 75% grade for each of the four STARC classes. Penn Foster estimates the number of weeks it takes to complete each class, based on the candidate working roughly 10 hours online per week. Every class MUST be completed within the estimated weeks allocated. STARC 1 and STARC 2 are estimated at 8 weeks each. A final proctored exam MUST be completed BEFORE the 8th week mark from when the first class was started. The 2nd class must be finished before the end of 16th week from when it was enrolled into on semester 1. Classes start on the first Monday of every month. The maximum time for Semester 1 is 16 weeks. (Both classes). Semester 2 STARC 3 is 10 weeks and STARC 4 is 12 weeks long for a total of 22 weeks maximum. As with Semester 1, all classes must be completed in their estimated time frame. Students can work at any rate to finish quicker. Noncompletion, exceeding the allocated time frame estimated for completion or getting less than 75% grade are ALL considered a failure. All candidates will pay out of pocket to retake classes. This is for both internal (GM) and external candidates.

Internal candidates are placed on a list on January 1 of the year after they complete the STARC Certificate. They are put in order of seniority. A Certified STARC applicant from 2021 is placed on the list starting for 2022.

External candidates from outside GM can enroll and will be put on an External list, after successful completion of all classes. They are not entitled to EdAssist thru TAP. The cost of the classes are as follows: Starc 1 and 2 are \$350 each and Starc 3 and 4 are \$375 each for a total of \$1450.

External Candidates are placed on a separate list in the order of when they complete the program. They also are added to the external list on January 1st after the year of completion.

Additional information to start the classes can be requested from Keith Raffel in the Apprentice Office in plant 1

Tap Assistance with EDAssist information can be obtained from Karen McCoy at 879-5071 or her email at karen.mccoy@gm.com.

Keith W. Raffel
Apprentice Chairman



Office: 716-879-5003
Mobile: 716-574-0728

E-mail: Keith.W.Raffel@gm.com



Caravan Facilities Management

Steven Cooper
Caravan Chairman

After 1140 days on an extended contract, the IUAW and Caravan Facilities Management reached a tentative agreement. The UAW members of Caravan voted and 18 days later on May 19, 2021 it was ratified by the IUAW. This three year plus struggle has been full of pitfalls and setbacks, all the while the employees remained committed to showing up to work to get a job done and provide for their families and loved ones.

Here at Tonawanda, we the members of Local 774, remained diligent in our duties despite dealing with all the aforementioned pitfalls and setbacks. The ramifications behind all these changes have put us in an uncomfortable and sometimes unbearable position, yet as mentioned we still remained diligent. We look forward, here and across all the other GM site which employ Caravan workers, to see what positive change this new agreement brings. We completely understand this is just one stepping stone towards a better life, equality and respectability and welcome other positivity it brings.

Lastly, we are currently hiring for positions on all three shifts. If you know anyone please see one of the members of Caravan for information on how to apply.

In Solidarity,
Steven Cooper
Caravan Chairman



ATTENTION!
UAW Legal Services



NEW Address

10535 Main St. Clarence, NY 14031

(716)632-1644

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



Medical Staff Report

Gina Moell
RN

Hi,

We are all highly encouraged to get vaccinated as soon as possible based on CDC guidelines. The company does not require employees to be vaccinated.

Why get vaccinated?

These vaccines teach our immune systems how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID without having to get sick or put ourselves and others at risk of severe illness and death. There is no way to determine how covid will affect you, many people have had life threatening and long term complications from getting the disease. The vaccine will not give you covid and is a safer than getting the disease.

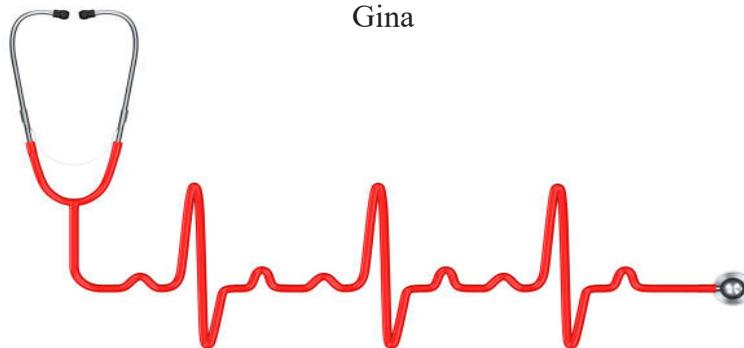
What can I expect getting vaccinated?

The vaccines are free and are administered by a nurse, pharmacist or PA. Pfizer and Moderna require two doses and Johnson and Johnson one dose. They all are safe and effective. It takes a few weeks after being vaccinated for your body to build immunity. Some minor side effects may occur such as mild fever, fatigue or body aches and are normal as your body builds immunity.

Voluntarily report being vaccinated to GM medical.

We encourage all employees at Tonawanda to notify GM Medical when they have completed the COVID vaccination series administered by a healthcare facility outside of GM (both shots of Moderna or Pfizer, or the single-shot Johnson & Johnson). Reporting is completely voluntary. Please report when you have completed the vaccination series. Reporting your vaccination status to GM Medical helps us assess the overall immunity of our plant and provides helpful information if COVID booster vaccinations are needed in the future. In addition, immunity is an important factor in determining when GM and our plant may be able to relax certain COVID safety protocols.

Stay healthy and safe!
Gina



**BUILD BACK
BETTER WITH
UNIONS**
PASS THE PRO ACT
AFL-CIO



Women's Committee Report

Heather Grimmer
Women's Committee Chairperson



UAW Local 774 Women's Committee

Hello Sisters and Brothers,

I would like to thank everyone that donated to our joint Book Drive. We received a generous amount and again these books will be distributed between Mayor Brown's Reading Rules along with Summer Educational Camps.



Things are finally starting to get back to normal (little by little). A couple things the committee has been discussing doing a self defense class at the union hall that would be open to the membership, and having a mobile

mammography coach bus at the hall.

I would like to share with you a little piece of Women's history for the month of June.



Equal Pay Act. June 10, 1963

This was one of the first federal anti-discrimination laws that addressed wage differences based on gender.

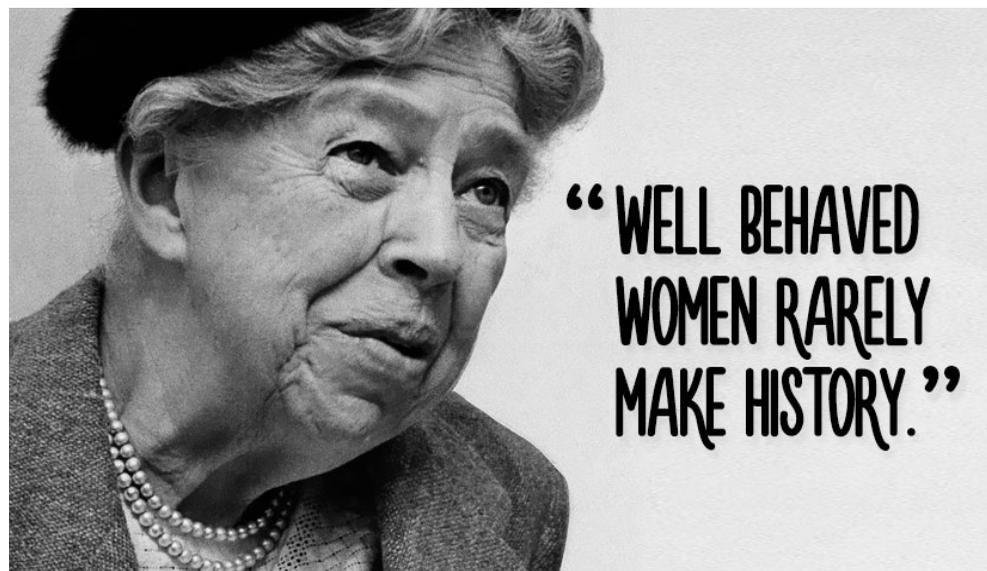
Women made up a quarter of the workforce by the early 20th century. Efforts made to correct the wage gap escalated during WWII when scores of women entered factory jobs in place of men who had to serve our country. For example, The National War Labor Board (1942) endorsed policies to provide equal pay where women directly replaced male workers. Three years later (1945), U.S. Congress introduced the Women's Equal Pay Act but the measure failed to pass. There wasn't much progress during the 1950's.

By the early 1960's women made up two-third of the work force and still earned less than their male counterparts. During this time the federal equal pay law coalesced during the administration of John F. Kennedy.

Along with the Kennedy Administration, Esther Peterson who was head of the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor and former First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt who chaired Kennedy's Presidential Commission on the Status of Women, helped lead the charge for a bill in Congress.

Despite some opposition Congress passed the Equal Pay Act that John F. Kennedy signed on June 10, 1963. This law was an amendment to the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938.

In solidarity,
Heather Grimmer
Women's Committee Chairperson



Deceased Active and Retired Local 774 Members

WITH DEEPEST
Sympathy

Name	Status	Retired	Deceased
Annunziata John	Deceased Member		02/11/2021
Bergman Norman E	Deceased Retiree	07/01/2001	02/14/2021
Borzilleri Daniel L	Deceased Retiree	10/01/2004	02/15/2021
Brooks Mark A	Deceased Member		04/02/2021
Brunner Mark W	Deceased Retiree	05/01/2002	03/19/2021
Collins Donald E	Deceased Retiree	10/01/2003	02/26/2021
Ekes George R	Deceased Retiree	01/01/1993	03/19/2021
Giambra Thomas F	Deceased Retiree	05/01/2001	03/08/2021
John William K	Deceased Retiree	12/01/1994	03/08/2021
Johnston Larry	Deceased Retiree	10/01/2012	02/17/2021
Kazimer Catherine M	Deceased Retiree	02/01/1993	03/15/2021
Kilcoyne Joseph M	Deceased Retiree	11/01/2003	02/22/2021
Koelmeier Donald	Deceased Retiree	01/01/2007	03/25/2021
Kohl Carl F	Deceased Retiree	10/01/2004	02/08/2021
Korenkiewicz John J	Deceased Retiree	01/01/1989	02/15/2021
Marchiano David S	Deceased Retiree	07/01/2008	02/10/2021
Moore Ronald A	Deceased Retiree	02/01/2000	03/15/2021
Paluch Richard J	Deceased Retiree	04/01/2002	02/27/2021
Paul Douglas	Deceased Retiree	12/01/2003	03/04/2021
Pilon Sr Daniel E	Deceased Retiree	07/01/2006	02/15/2021
Pudney James R	Deceased Retiree	10/01/2000	03/13/2021
Ricketts Gerald E	Deceased Retiree	01/01/2006	03/08/2021
Sloan Richard J	Deceased Retiree	01/01/2001	03/03/2021
Warren Bobby L	Deceased Retiree	05/01/2005	02/24/2021
Amerson Hubert C	Deceased Retiree	12/01/2000	04/13/2021
Axberg William D	Deceased Retiree	04/01/2005	04/29/2021
Boone Jay A	Deceased Retiree	05/01/1986	04/13/2021
Du Brule Thomas F	Deceased Retiree	05/01/2006	04/24/2021
Ehrmann Robert K	Deceased Retiree	03/01/1993	04/13/2021
Kuzara Robert P	Deceased Retiree	10/01/2005	04/15/2021
Levy Jr Ernest	Deceased Retiree	04/01/2018	04/08/2021
Surowiec James R	Deceased Retiree	03/01/1999	04/20/2021
Wartko Paul	Deceased Retiree	07/01/1988	04/14/2021
Ziminski Henry J	Deceased Retiree	01/01/2014	04/04/2021

UAW Local 774 officers, committees and membership would like to extend their deepest sympathy and sincere condolences to the bereaved families and friends of our departed brothers and sisters. They will be fondly remembered and sadly missed by friends and acquaintances at Local 774.

Change of Address

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)

Name: _____
New Address: _____

Phone #: _____ Active: _____ Retired: _____

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

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

DON'T FORGET

RED SHIRT WEDNESDAY

Wear red to show solidarity with your
union Brothers & Sisters!

For memorial submissions, please fill out the order form and bring/mail it to:

Attn: Financial Secretary/Treasurer
UAW Local 774
2939 Niagara St.
Buffalo, NY 14207

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

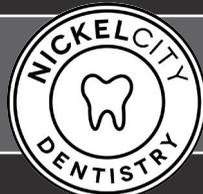
Jane Doe
2018

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".





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If you are interested in placing an ad, please contact Amy at (716)873-4715 ext 29 akloc@uaw774.com



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ATTORNEYS AT LAW

About the Author

Keith 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.

For 17 years, Mr. Williams served as a licensed Workers' Compensation Representative in the State of New York. He represented clients before the Workers' Compensation Board with all the privileges and responsibilities of an attorney.

Keith Williams can be reached at:
Phone: 716 849 1313
E-mail: ktwilliams@lglaw.com

ALERT FOR MEMBERS OF UAW 774 REGARDING

Workers' Compensation

Direct Deposit Option Required for Workers' Compensation Payments

On June 2, 2021, the Chair of New York State's Workers' Compensation Board adopted an amendment, which addresses direct deposits for compensation payment.

Workers' Compensation Board July 1st Deadline

In late 2020, a bill was signed into law in New York State, which requires that direct deposit be offered as a payment option for recipients of Workers' Compensation benefits. The new law authorizes New York State's Workers' Compensation Board to institute reasonable rules and regulations, in order to promote a successful rollout of the direct deposit law. The Worker's Compensation Board has instituted a regulation, which sets a deadline of July 1, 2021, for all carriers/employers to allow injured workers receiving benefits to elect to receive payments via direct deposit.

Notice and Election Form

All carriers/employers must post a Notice and Election Form on their website along with instructions on how benefit recipients can submit the form. The Notice and Election Form must comply with the direct deposit authorization form standards that have been set by the Workers' Compensation Board. Also, if initial payment is due to a benefit recipient by July 1, 2021, a form must be sent along with payment.

Use of Multiple Bank Accounts

The new law stipulates that an injured worker who is receiving benefits may elect to have their payments sent to multiple bank accounts. Carriers are required to allow payments to be divided between at least two different accounts.

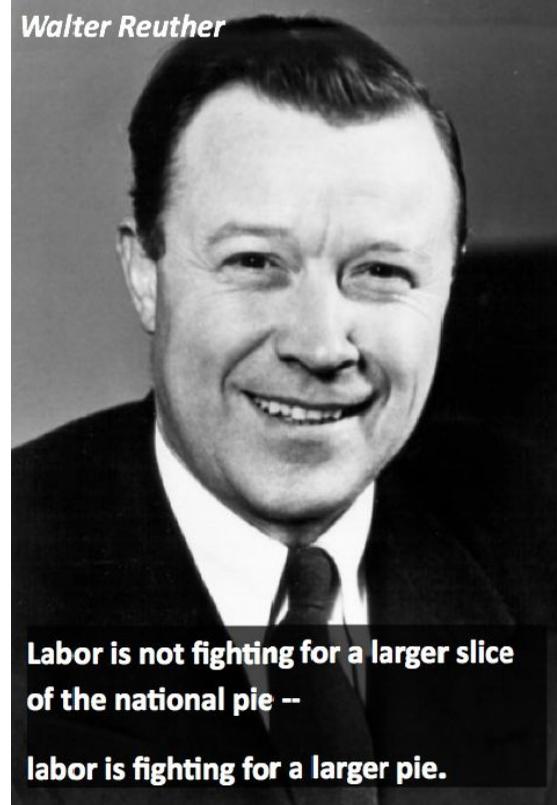
Payments Not Covered by Direct Deposit Requirement

Direct Deposit is only mandatory for ongoing benefits. The direct deposit requirement does not apply to Schedule Loss of Use payments, Section 32 payments, or when an award is made with the direction that payments not continue beyond the date of award.

Existing Claimants

Unfortunately, the new law does not require carriers/employers to notify existing claimants about the direct deposit option that is now available to them. If you are receiving on going Worker's Compensation payments, you can call your carrier after 7/1/21 and request the form be sent to you or download the form from the carrier's website.

If you have any questions or would like assistance, please contact Lipsitz Green Scime Cambria's Workers' Compensation department with any questions.



Walter Reuther

**Labor is not fighting for a larger slice of the national pie --
labor is fighting for a larger pie.**

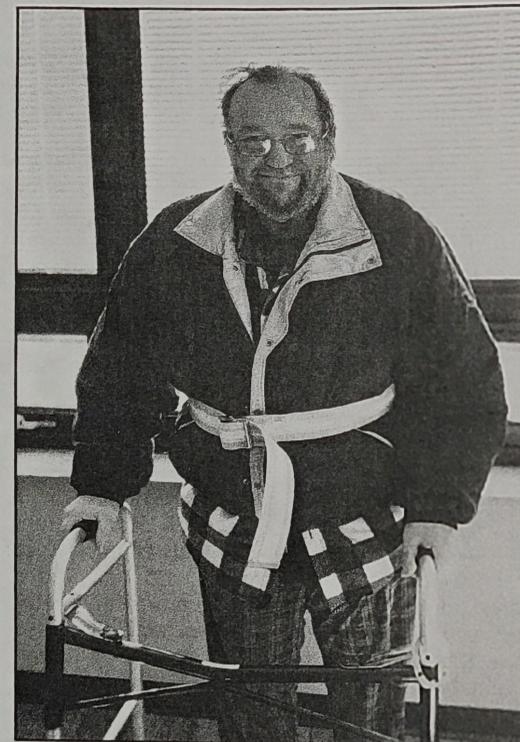
ATTORNEY ADVERTISING
This alert is for informational purposes only and does not purport to be legal advice.

MRH patient recovers from COVID

Therapy Services at Marlette Regional Hospital (MRH) would like to congratulate Mark Bilicki on his successful recovery from COVID-19! On December 3rd, 2020 Mark was admitted to Marlette Regional Hospital with COVID-19. Mark's condition worsened after only two days, and

he was transferred to a facility with an ICU, where he was placed in a medically induced coma for four weeks for mechanical ventilation.

After overcoming enormous hurdles, Mark's condition improved enough to allow him to return to MRH for Swing Bed therapy. When first starting therapy, Mark was unable to walk or complete tasks he once considered simple. Mark was determined to not only complete 2-3 daily therapy sessions, but he also pushed himself to do more than the previous day. Mark's hard work and dedication paid off and on February 11, 2021, Mark was officially discharged and able to go home. Physical Therapist, Dr.



The Advertiser
 Pictured: Mark Bilicki grins before heading home, making his final walk through MRH as a Swing Bed patient.

Jennifer Dral said "We looked forward to seeing Mark's progress each day. Watching him walk out of the hospital to return home with family was a powerful moment that we were privileged to be a part of!" Here is what Mark had to say: "Everybody took good care of me. I am very thankful to go home. COVID DID NOT WIN!"

This is the story of retired UAW Local 774 member Mark Bilicki, father of Adam Bilicki who is also a member of UAW Local 774. We would like to wish Mark well wishes and prayers for his continued healing process.

ATTENTION!!!

Want to send a Shout Out to an Active or Retired worker? You now can wish them a very special Birthday, Retirement or Anniversary etc.

Contact Amy Kloc to set up your next Shout Out so that we can get it in our next issue of Labor News & Reports!

Call (716)873-4715, ext. 29 or Email akloc@uaw774.com



BUICK

GMC



West Herr Buick GMC Cadillac of East Aurora would like to thank the members of **UAW Local 774**

West Herr Buick GMC Cadillac
 535 Main Street, East Aurora
716-652-2600

gmeastaurora.com | westherrcadillac.com



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General Sales Manager
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GM Employee deserves.

Lauren Paddock
VP Marketing & Operations
716.261.1110



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