

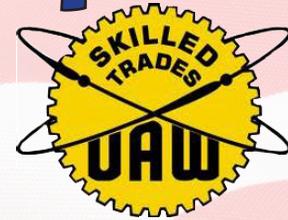
Labor News & Report



UAW LOCAL 774

2939 Niagara Street
Buffalo, New York 14207

BUY UNION
BUY AMERICAN



January - March 2021

Volume 33 Issue 1

“Teamwork in the Leadership, Solidarity in the Ranks”

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59th Annual Variety Club Telethon

UAW Local 774 President Wence Valentin III and Financial Secretary/Treasurer Cleveland Jones Jr. presented the membership's donation of \$10,412.87 at the Telethon. The total amount collected for the 2021 Telethon reached \$787,264. Great work everyone and thank you to all who volunteered and donated!

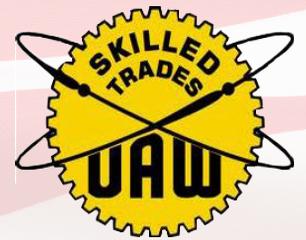


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LOCAL 774 UAW
2939 Niagara Street
Buffalo, New York 14207



UAW Local 774 President's Report



President - Wence Valentin III

Sisters and Brothers,

Amazon is a major player in logistics, transportation, and retail and recently announced that they would be building a warehouse in Hamburg, NY. While that would usually be great news for Western New York, this trillion-dollar company is nothing more than a low-wage employer that sucks towns and villages for every dime while treating its employees terribly. In the prime of the labor movement, warehouse jobs were stable, paid enough to support a family, and offered benefits. Over the past few decades, costs fell as companies outsourced manufacturing, and retail giants saw they could increase profits by paying US warehouse workers less. Temporary workers are the standard for the industry now. Temporary workers provide companies with latitude to require fewer benefits than full-time employees. They are also more susceptible to more injuries, being forced to work with unclear lines of accountability for health and safety.

Amazon has a history of aggressive performance expectations, and hostile tactics have escalated toward its employees. In conservative Alabama, a right-to-work state, the company has waged war on its employees who choose to organize. Employees are followed to the restroom where they are harassed while in the stall, and most times aren't even given the opportunity to use the restroom during their shift. Management takes photos of employees gathering to talk about their collective bargaining options, they are offering bonuses to pro-union employees to quit before the vote, and they have been emailing and texting employees at home with negative union messages.

Across Europe, the Amazon facilities are unionized because some countries like Germany have the right to form a union enshrined in their post-war constitution. You have to ask yourself what is wrong in America that gives trillion-dollar corporations the right to threaten and coerce employees, towns, and villages simply because they don't want to pay a living wage or benefits to the people who make them a profit. Amazon has made a tremendous amount of money off Covid-19 and put small mom-and-pop stores out of business. The pandemic swelled profits and forced people scared for their families to change the way they have always done life.

Sisters and Brothers, hopefully, now that we finally have the most pro-union chief executive in recent history in office, the labor movement will regain its momentum. The fact that polls are showing young people strongly support strengthening unions proves now is our time. Talk

to your children and neighbors about the benefits of unions. If you live in a town like Hamburg, call your local representatives and voice your concerns about tax breaks to places like Amazon. Demand from your legislators a fair wage for their constituents. We all can see what happens when people sit idly by. I joined the Hamburg IDA to learn about the events in my town and help support the people in my town. The board has nine members, and only three of us voiced a dissenting opinion on Amazon's policies toward its workers and voted no to give massive tax breaks to a trillion-dollar company in exchange for 50 permanent and 50 part time jobs that didn't provide a true living wage and benefit package. Indeed, I want great things and more job opportunities for Hamburg, for WNY and for the United States residents but not at the expense of people's livelihoods. Our taxes are much too high to settle for low-paying jobs with little to no benefits. Brothers and Sisters I will continue to voice my opinion and fight for jobs that provide a true living wage and benefits for everyone and for every worker to have the right to belong to a union.

UAW Local 774 Administrative Assistant

UAW Local 774 employs an Administrative Assistant who is represented by Office & Professional Employees International Union (OPEIU), Local 153. With the position recently being vacated, we are revisiting aspects of our agreement and making revisions that reflect an entry level position. When there is a conclusion, we will update the membership with job information and search to hire a qualified individual to fill the vacancy.

In the meantime, our Financial Secretary/Treasurer Cleveland Jones Jr. has fully assumed his UAW Constitutional role and duties while additionally fulfilling the Administrative Assistant's responsibilities.

Hall Improvements/Updates

Over the past seven (7) months, we have made the following improvements to the UAW Local 774 Union Hall:

- Audio/Visual Upgrades – Meeting hall and ground floor replacement of all equipment allowing synchronization between the floors. Members will now be able to interact during meetings via cameras and microphones. This is especially important for our active and retired members who wish to participate but have trouble using the stairs. It also provides additional safety to limit

gathering in a given space if necessary.

- Touchless Dispensing Mechanisms – installed automatic hand sanitizer, paper towel and soap dispensers in all restrooms for increased safety and protection.

- New Faucets and Water Efficient/Environmentally Friendly Toilets – replaced two (2) faucets and seven (7) toilets/urinals that were either outdated, broken or leaking. Will generate cost savings through reduced water usage.

- Rug/Mat Program – provided by Cintas to clean, repair and maintain rugs and mats. Will also provide janitorial supplies, generating cost savings through ordering, inventory, storage and billing.

- New Blinds – Installed blinds on the Ground level floor.

- New Conference Room – renovated the underutilized front office space into a conference room with a large meeting table and chairs relocated from the upper hall for smaller meetings. In honor of Gary Shonitsky who served the membership for forty-seven (47) years, his father Leo Sr. who was a member of Local 774 for thirty-eight (38) years and his mother Marge Shonitsky who served the membership for twenty (20) years; we proclaimed this new meeting space be named the "Shonitsky Conference Room". More improvements/updates are to come . . .

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

President's Report- Continued on pg. 8



UAW Local 774 Shop Chairman's Report



Shop Chairman-Mike Grimmer

Brothers and Sisters,

Recently, UAW 774 President Wence Valentin and I attended a UAW/GM National Council Virtual Meeting. This is a meeting where the UAW leadership from every GM location got to hear from International UAW Vice President Terry Dittes and his staff about issues that they are working on. Terry acknowledged GM's vision to be all electric by 2035 to be very optimistic in his opinion. He also went on to say that there would be many more large investments into the existing UAW/GM plants over the next 5 years. He did not provide any details about these investments during this meeting.

UAW 774 President Wence Valentin represented our membership well and received answers to his questions on benefits, joint programs, and tuition assistance, issues our members are facing. Great job Wence! We addressed Terry Dittes and the rest of the UAW leadership on the many obstacles we are facing here at Tonawanda Engine Plant, with the most important issue being job security though securing future engine programs. Our memberships concerns were heard loud and clear by the council.

5.3 Cranks - Management notified the Shop Committee that GM is going to move some of our 5.3 crank machining work to Spring Hill Engine Plant. GM Corporate has made the official notification to the International UAW in accordance with the Appendix K and L of the 2019 UAW/GM National Agreement regarding this sourcing. General Motors has decided that it is more cost effective to purchase these cranks from Spring Hill instead of putting refurbishment money into our 5.3 crank machine floor equipment and building them here. This reduction is scheduled to go into effect by May 3rd, 2021.

Spring Hill also builds the 5.3 cranks and has the additional capacity to build the cranks that we need, on top of the cranks that they put into their engines on straight time hours. With the dilapidated status of our 5.3 crank machining equipment, UAW 774 is unable to put together a proposal where we can build them here cheaper than Spring Hill. This is in no way a reflection of the hardworking men and women here at UAW 774, rather this is a business case with circumstances that are beyond our control.

This announcement will result in our 5.3 Crank Department eliminating the afternoon shift and going forward the department will only run on day shift. UAW 774 has argued with GM that this work should not leave our plant, but this is a corporate decision that has been made and it is out of our hands. With the 5.3 crank volume going to another UAW/GM facility in Spring Hill, Tennessee there is no violation of the National Agreement that a grievance can resolve. This is all spelled out in Appendix L of the 2019 National Agreement which says that work outsourced to another UAW/GM facility does not violate the moratorium on outsourcing.

LGE Volume Decrease – Last week, the Shop Committee was notified that the reduction in volume for the LGE engine program will happen earlier than previously announced and will be effective May 24th. The volume will be decreasing to about 190 engines per day from the current 270 per day. This reduction will lead to approximately 25 members being reduced out

of plant 5. The number of reductions is fluctuating but we should have a final plan after the Easter Holiday. As of now, there is no plan to lay any members off, the low members will be reduced in line with our Local Agreement and placed in openings in the plant 1.

Even with the unfortunate news about the 5.3 cranks and the volume reductions in LGE, it is important that the membership stays focused and proud of the great work they are doing every day. Our membership has successfully delivered the world's best engines while achieving the following accomplishments.

- Our assembly lines and head assembly lines are the best at engine assembly when compared to the other Gen 5 plants in quality, throughput (most engines built per hour), and uptime. I have been told that we are the best at engine assembly in all of GM. Great job team!!
- Our HD Block and Crank departments have greatly improved their quality and productivity over the last several months. We are making our build schedules every week and are running regularly above 95% First Time Through Quality (FTTQ) while greatly reducing scrap.
- Our Aluminum Block department is regularly making our build schedules including the machined blocks that we are selling to the other Gen 5 plants. We are running at 95% FTTQ on many days while greatly reducing scrap. Our throughput is improving regularly in aluminum blocks also.
- Our Head department is also regularly making their build schedules, and this includes the machined heads that we sell to the other Gen 5 plants as well. We are running at over 95% First Time Through Quality daily while reducing scrap costs in heads at the same time. Our throughput has been great in heads.

These results are the direct result of the hardworking men and women here at the plant. I want our production and skilled trades members to know that their hard work and dedication does not go unnoticed. While you aren't told enough by management, the leadership of UAW 774 thinks everyone is doing a great job. This shows that when we are given the proper tools to do our jobs, we can perform at world class levels.

Covid 19 - The rate of positive cases at the plant has decreased over the last few weeks, but we continue to have members that are out of work for quarantine and testing. Any member that is not feeling well should call plant medical prior to coming into work. They will assess your symptoms and direct you on how to proceed. If you are directed to get tested, GM will pay each member up to 3 days of base wages for testing on a 1-time basis. Members that must quarantine due to exposure outside the plant, will be paid up to 10 days of your base wages for the quarantine one time per year. Members that are directed to quarantine or get tested due to contact tracing from exposure at the plant will be paid every time this happens and are not subject to the above limits.

Plant 1 Medical 716-879- 5313, Plant 5 Medical 716-447-3054, GM Corporate Medical 1-800-814-3390

Covid 19 Vaccine Time Off – GM has introduced a new policy for employees to have 2 excused unpaid days off for vaccine related illness/absences. All members that receive the 2nd shot for the vaccine can take the next 2 days immediately following the 2nd dose for side effects from the vaccine. Remember that these 2 days are unpaid and can ONLY be used following receiving the 2nd dose of the vaccine. These days cannot be used to schedule getting the vaccine.

Heavy Duty Block Mod 7 – Construction has begun for our new Heavy-Duty Block machine floor and the safety walls are being installed now. The first part of this project will be to relocate our Tool Room and Tooling Services departments. It is great to see GM putting in a roughly 84-million-dollar project into Tonawanda Engine Plant, to increase our HD engine capacity. These trucks are selling as fast as we can make them, and this is a great program for us to be the sole supplier of. Please be careful and pay extra attention when walking by these project areas as there will be increased traffic and activity.

Skilled Trades – Management is still in the process of interviewing and hiring 4 additional Machine Repair skilled tradespersons from the outside. 3 of our production members that were put back on the tools recently, have been retraining with our journeypersons and are doing well. In my conversations with the International UAW, we have made them aware that we need apprentices to replenish our skilled classifications that have been depleted through retirements. We hoping to get apprentices soon.

With the large installation work of HD block mod 7 being done, our Skilled Trades will be on Full Utilization Schedules until the project is completed. Our skilled tradespersons will be offered 2 hours of per person equal to the number of contractors working on site. This will be split up amongst our skilled trades classifications depending on what work is being performed. Please talk to Craig or AI for further details on the full utilization schedule.

Local Negotiations – Local Negotiations are ongoing, and we have made some progress on the issues that our members have asked for. Management is aggressively comparing our day to day operations with the other UAW/GM Powertrain Plants. The Shop Committee is holding the line on these issues while at the same time being open to change if we can secure additional work commitments for our membership.

In closing, the loss of any work is the exact opposite of what this membership deserves at this point. As of today, there is no plan to lay off any members for the above-mentioned reductions, the low members will be reduced in line with our Local Agreement and placed in openings in the plant to cover vacations and absenteeism. Please keep in mind that the number of reductions and the timing of these changes is subject to change based on volume fluctuation. The Shop Committee will continue to work in Local Negotiations on ways to improve our competitive position in order to retain and win new work. I am confident that we will be successful in this endeavor.

In Solidarity, Mike Grimmer



Financial Secretary & Treasurer's Report

Financial Secretary- Cleveland Jones Jr.

DECEMBER 2020

Beginning Balance	927,932.84
Income:	
Dues - Regular (Private Sector)	71,970.16
Dues - SUB	3,792.78
Dues - Bonus and Profit Sharing	7,496.60
Dues - Retired Workers @ 35%	2,323.65
Collections (Gate & Shop) Non-Exchange	2,604.75
Donations - Needy Families Etc.	150.00
Interest on CD Riverside Credit Union	185.69
Interest on CD Riverside Credit Union	435.61
Interest on Northwest Money Market Account	39.40
Interest on Financial Trust FCU CD1,	706.46
Raffle Proceeds	6,325.00
Transfer Between Funds	0.00
Income Total	97,030.10
Expense:	
Wages (Clerical)	4,873.60
Wages (Maintenance and Security)	959.00
Lost Time (Officers)	4,502.21
Lost Time (Others)	1,913.28
Paid Personal Time	1,218.40
Holiday (Clerical)	487.36
Vacation (Clerical)	974.72
Donations-Civic Grps:Firefighters/Police	1,576.52
Lunch/Refreshments Reimbursement	220.00
Supply Reimbursement	220.38
Federal Taxes	-1,448.13
FICA	-925.56
MECA	-216.47
NY. Tax	-596.82
OPEIU	-48.50
RIVERSIDE CU	0.00
Federal Income Taxes (941) Forward	1,448.13
FICA-Employee OASDI and HI Forward	1,142.03
State Income Taxes Forward	448.31
Union Dues Forward	48.50
FICA Employer OASDI and HI (941)	1,142.03
Dental/Hearing/Medical/Vision Insurance	1,231.10
Disability/Sick & Accident Insurance	27.00
Pension Allocations	335.50
Bank Charges - Service Fees, NSF, Etc.	6.00
Building Supplies	488.00
Maintenance and Repairs	864.13
Utilities (Building Ownership)	729.80
Donations-Charities	300.00
Donations-Civic Grps:Firefighters/Police	250.00
Furniture & Equip-Leases & Rentals	242.36
Internet Service (Access Fees)	137.61
Maintenance & Repairs - Equipment	29.36
Per Capita Taxes - International	45,519.06
Per Capita Taxes - CAP Councils	1,811.94
Per Capita Taxes - Affiliates	191.00
Per Capita Taxes - Retiree Councils	9.55
Postage	2,150.07
Printing Costs-Pamphlets & Literature	1,084.39
Supplies - Office	384.57
Telephone	387.40
Expense Total	74,117.83
Total	950,845.11

FUND BALANCES

General Fund	\$842,870.72
Education Fund	\$10,630.11
Recreation Fund	\$1,009.44
Education Committee Fund	\$2,433.86

Recreation Committee Fund	\$5,332.83
Retired Workers Chapter Fund	\$75,760.47
Community Services Committee Fund	\$9,839.18
New Member Orientation Fund	\$1,970.95
Conservation Committee Fund	\$2,665.57
Union Label Committee Fund	\$554.99
Consumer Affairs Committee	\$116.57
Civil and Human Rights Committee Fund	\$1,279.46
Building Fund	\$-41,469.33
Children With Special Needs Fund	\$1,178.30
Kitchen Improvement Fund	\$8,892.02
Telethon Committee Fund	\$7,101.01
Chaplaincy Committee Fund	\$2,069.80
Veterans Committee Fund	\$12,697.42
Women's Committee Fund	\$3,010.07
Solidarity Committee Fund	\$2,901.67
Total of All Funds	\$950,845.11

ALLOCATION OF ASSETS

Actual Bank Balance	\$269,491.86
Cash On Hand	\$0.00
Riverside Federal Credit Union Savings	\$63.18
Petty Cash	\$100.00
Water Meter Deposit	\$10.00
Riverside Federal Credit Union COD	\$79,690.11
Financial Trust Federal Credit Union Savings	\$25.00
Financial Trust Federal Credit Union COD	\$210,590.22
Riverside Federal Credit Union COD	\$158,248.43
Northwest Savings Bank Money Market	\$232,626.31
Total Cash Assets	\$950,845.11

JANUARY 2021

Beginning Balance	950,845.11
Income:	
Dues - Regular (Private Sector)	66,998.38
Dues - SUB	7,335.61
Dues - Retired Workers @ 35%	2,323.65
Interest on CD Riverside Credit Union	186.13
Interest on CD Riverside Credit Union	436.81
Interest on Northwest Money Market Account	33.89
Raffle Proceeds	5.00
Sales - Advertising(Newsletter)	160.00
Transfer Between Funds	0.00
Reimbursed for Postage	421.71
Income Total	77,901.18
Expense:	
Wages (Clerical)	10,239.12
Wages (Maintenance and Security)	854.00
Lost Time (Officers)	3,491.70
Lost Time (Others)	1,934.16
Holiday (Clerical)	250.96
Postage Reimbursement	31.30
Lunch/Refreshments Reimbursement	230.00
Supply Reimbursement	79.10
Federal Taxes	-2,081.08
FICA	-1,039.73
MECA	-243.16
NY. Tax	-652.02
OPEIU	-48.52
RIVERSIDE CU	0.00
Federal Income Taxes (941) Forward	2,966.10
FICA-Employee OASDI and HI Forward	1,517.70
State Income Taxes Forward	1,248.84
Union Dues Forward	48.50
FICA Employer OASDI and HI (941)	1,517.70
Unemployment Taxes Federal (940)	76.00
Unemployment Taxes State	80.25
Dental/Hearing/Medical/Vision Insurance	1,231.10

Disability/Sick & Accident Insurance	20.00
Group Life Insurance	7.00
Workers Compensation Insurance	7,980.00
Pension Allocations	268.40
Bank Charges - Service Fees, NSF, Etc.	6.00
Building Supplies	18.86
Maintenance and Repairs	1,598.63
Utilities (Building Ownership)	140.92
Donations-Charities	800.00
Furniture & Equip-Leases & Rentals	242.36
Furniture & Equipment-Purchases	398.02
Insurance-Comprehensive	2,359.68
Internet Service (Access Fees)	169.95
Maintenance & Repairs - Equipment	272.96
Per Capita Taxes - International	49,808.49
Per Capita Taxes - CAP Councils	1,998.22
Per Capita Taxes - Affiliates	206.80
Per Capita Taxes - Retiree Councils	10.34
Printing Costs-Local Newsletter/Paper	2,397.91
Supplies - Office	665.45
Technical and Support Fees	95.70
Telephone	387.40
Trans from Comm Acct to Other Cash Asset	0.00
Beginning Balance	950,845.11
Income	77,901.18
Expenses	-91,585.11
Difference	-13,683.93
Balance	937,161.18

FUND BALANCES

General Fund	\$789,682.70
Education Fund	\$8,936.22
Recreation Fund	\$1,021.09
Education Committee Fund	\$2,433.86
Recreation Committee Fund	\$5,332.83
Retired Workers Chapter Fund	\$78,084.12
Community Services Committee Fund	\$9,839.18
New Member Orientation Fund	\$1,970.95
Conservation Committee Fund	\$2,665.57
Union Label Committee Fund	\$554.99
Consumer Affairs Committee	\$116.57
Civil and Human Rights Committee Fund	\$1,279.46
Building Fund	\$-2,261.65
Children With Special Needs Fund	\$1,078.30
Kitchen Improvement Fund	\$8,892.02
Telethon Committee Fund	\$7,106.01
Chaplaincy Committee Fund	\$2,069.80
Veterans Committee Fund	\$12,447.42
Women's Committee Fund	\$3,010.07
Solidarity Committee Fund	\$2,901.67
Total of All Funds	\$937,161.18

ALLOCATION OF ASSETS

Actual Bank Balance	\$217,617.41
Cash On Hand	\$160.00
Riverside Federal Credit Union Savings	\$63.18
Petty Cash	\$100.00
Water Meter Deposit	\$10.00
Riverside Federal Credit Union COD	\$79,876.24
Financial Trust Federal Credit Union Savings	\$25.00
Financial Trust Federal Credit Union COD	\$210,590.22
Lake Shore Savings Account	\$25,000.00
Riverside Federal Credit Union COD	\$158,685.24
Northwest Savings Bank Money Market	\$245,033.89
Total Cash Assets	\$937,161.18



The Fiscal Factor

Financial Secretary/ Treasurer
Cleveland Jones Jr.

Brothers and Sisters,

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 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.

In February 2021, I completed my Uncollected Union Dues Audit and found no major discrepancies.

If you were eligible for the profit sharing payout on Friday February 26, 2021, pursuant to Exhibit F of the 2019 UAW/GM Supplemental Agreement and you received less than the maximum amount payable (\$9,000), then you may be eligible for compensation pursuant to Article 7 Section 3 of our Local Union Bylaws. This only applies to members who received lost time from the Local Union during the 2020 plan year. Members will be required to furnish their final paystub from 2020 and the paystub in which the profit sharing payment was made. If you are unsure of your eligibility or if you have yet to receive compensation, please stop by the local union hall or contact me for verification. A lost time voucher must be completed for compensation.

As a non-profit organization, our main source of income is our membership dues. My financial plan involves never having our expenses exceed revenue for any given fiscal year which in accordance with Article 14, Section 4 of our Local Union Bylaws, runs from January 1st – December 31st. 2020 was a very strong year for Local 774. During a pandemic, we remained fiscally responsible, deployed financial restraint and improved our viability. I have the fiduciary duty to ensure that we are fiscally efficient and in the best possible financial position. At the conclusion of Fiscal Year 2020, I am proud to report a net income in retained earnings of \$144,420.42, a 27% increase over FY19. I have placed a continued focus on reallocating our assets through the purchasing of savings investments and transferring funds when necessary. In FY20, the reported earnings in interest revenue was a record-high, \$14,712.78. With our non-profit exemption from income taxes, these returns are substantial. In February 2021, we established a new savings account at Lake Shore Savings Bank to deposit excess cash flow. This was necessary as our other asset accounts were near the insurance limits. Utilizing interest bearing, cash flow accounts, allows us to achieve higher returns on our dues dollars while providing the flexibility to make withdraws or deposits without penalty. All accounts remain protected and compliant with the FDIC and NCUA.

We are in an amazing position and financially strong going into 2021. We have ran a fiscal surplus for the last three fiscal years, consecutively.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate Gary Shonitsky on his recent retirement after 47 years as UAW Local 774's Administrative Assistant. I thank him for sharing his invaluable skills and knowledge. Also, for assisting me in redefining the Office of the Financial Secretary/Treasurer. Since his departure, I have fully assumed my UAW constitutional role and duties while

also fulfilling the Administrative Assistant's responsibilities until a replacement is hired. This ensures that the Financial Office continues to function properly and effectively service the membership.

I wish you all peace, love and prosperity throughout 2021. Happy Spring!

Solidarity Forever.

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

“Movements are most powerful when they begin to affect the vision and perspective of those who do not necessarily associate themselves with those movements.”

-Angela Davis

**International Strike and Defense Fund Net Worth January 2021:
\$ 794,316,836.63**



National Women's Advisory Council

Stacie J. McKernan
Region 9 Representative for the NWAC

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It's been quite a year, hope everyone is staying safe. We had a lot going on in 2020, Covid hit and we had a big Presidential Election, besides our daily lives.

I'll update everyone on communications, since our last publication. We've made donations to Danceability, Inc, James V Ryan Paramedic Foundation, TALL (Tonawanda American Little League), Buffalo AFL-CIO Central Labor Council, Cradle Beach and the Sheridan Park Volunteer Fire Co, Inc. Minutes can be reviewed at the union hall, just call to make an appointment. 873-4715 X22.

With March being Women's History month, we need to continue to empower women to get into decision making positions. We had many advancements with women in power, with the new President putting many women in key spots for his administration.

There is still much more we can do. I hope we can expand on the progress women have made. You can help by getting involved in our local committees, or government positions. There is also CLUW (Coalition of Labor Union Women). We have a local chapter, which is meeting virtually still. There are applications for the local and International chapters available at the Hall.

Stay strong and continue to follow all the CDC guidelines. There seems to be an end in sight.

In Solidarity,
Stacie J McKernan
774 Recording Secretary
Chairperson, National Women's Advisory Council

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: In response to the Covid-19 pandemic retiree meetings are canceled until further notice. Because of New York State restrictions on gatherings of people, the recommendations of UAW Region 9 and concern for the health and well-being of the retirees, the UAW Local 774 Retiree Chapter Executive Board feel that this is both necessary and in the best interest of the retiree membership. Please share this information with other retirees. 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/>

Gary Shonitsky: Gary has retired effective March 1st 2021. He worked at the Local 774 Union Hall for 47 years and was a member of OPEIU Local 153. Gary was the Administrative Assistant and Bookkeeper at the union hall and was family and friend to all who worked and came to the union hall to transact any business. He was always available to help the retirees whether it was to help out at meetings, sell tickets for our events or help us with anything that needed to be done. We wish Gary and his spouse Marsha the best of life and a healthy and happy retirement. He will be missed.

Address Change: It is important to keep your address and phone number(s) on file with the 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. **Temporary Address Change:** In addition to keeping your permanent (primary home) address up-to-date, you can provide the Trust with an alternative (temporary) address. The alternative address can be used by retirees who spend time away from their primary home. Adding an alternative address to your file does not change your health care plan or the options available to you. All address changes are effective the first day of the month following notification of the address change.

How to Report the Passing of a UAW-GM Retiree, Spouse, Surviving Spouse: 1) 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). 2) 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.



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

Latest Medicare & Social Security Scams

If you're on Medicare be aware: You will **not be receiving a new chip card to replace your paper ID card. If somebody tells you that, they're lying.** A chip card, the size of a debit or credit card, contains a microchip to encrypt transactions for greater data security. But protecting your data is the last thing bad actors want. Often they aim to defraud the taxpayer-financed Medicare program — or to steal your identity and rip you off. A chip card, the size of a debit or credit card, contains a microchip to encrypt transactions for greater data security. But protecting your data is the last thing bad actors want. Often they aim to defraud the taxpayer-financed Medicare program — or to steal your identity and rip you off

- If you suspect Medicare fraud, immediately report it online or call 800-HHS-TIPS (800-447-8477).

- You may also wish to contact your state consumer protection office.

- Senior Medicare Patrols also advise beneficiaries, families and caregivers if patients are billed for services they did not receive or if they suspect other types of Medicare fraud.

- If you believe your identity has been stolen, contact the Federal Trade Commission's Identity Theft Hotline (877-438-4338) and visit an FTC website, identitytheft.gov, to develop a recovery plan.

Another type of Social Security scam call attempts to sell to the recipient services the Social Security Administration readily provides at no charge. The caller might, for example, offer to provide a new Social Security card, enroll a new family member in the program, or provide a record of Social Security contributions to date, along with the expected future income they will yield. Victims can also be reeled in by "phishing" emails that appear to be messages from the SSA. The emails may have attachments that resem-

Retiree's Report - Continued

ble actual letters from the SSA, complete with the agency's seal and similar font styles. The email messages may also direct readers to a fake web page designed to look like the real SSA website. The motive is to obtain personal information from you, which you should never provide. The same clues of fraudulent intent as with the phone calls apply here. The SSA says that legitimate emails from the agency never seek personal information and do not adopt an alarmist or threatening tone. The Social Security Administration says it will never use intimidating or threatening language in any form of communication. While the rise of scams perpetrated electronically, and thus cheaply, has reduced the volume of Social Security fraud by mail, the practice has not entirely vanished. One such scheme is a direct mail scam that primarily targets older people. A letter comes in the mail offering an extra check, along with a form asking for personal information and a filing fee. In it, the scammer asks the recipient for a Social Security number, money, and/or bank account information to help with the application. Again, this is a red flag. The Social Security Administration will never ask for your full Social Security number, because it already knows it. In the event the SSA does send you a letter—for example, when your benefits increase—it will never ask you for money or any.

AVOID CORONAVIRUS SCAMS

Learn how to tell the difference between a real contact tracer and a scammer. Legitimate tracers need health information, not money or personal financial information.

Don't respond to texts, emails or calls about checks from the government. Here's what you need to know. Ignore offers for vaccinations and miracle treatments or cures. Scammers are selling products to treat or prevent COVID-19 without proof that they work. Be wary of ads for test kits. Many test kits being advertised have not been approved by the FDA, and aren't necessarily accurate. Almost all authorized home tests don't provide rapid results and require you to send a test sample to a lab for analysis.

Hang up on robocalls. Scammers are using illegal robocalls to pitch everything from low-priced health insurance to work-at-home schemes. Watch for emails claiming to be from the Center for Disease Control or World Health Organization. Use sites like [coronavirus.gov](https://www.coronavirus.gov) and [usa.gov/coronavirus](https://www.usa.gov/coronavirus) to get the latest information. And don't click on links from sources you don't know. Do your homework when it comes to donations. Never donate in cash, by gift card, or by wiring money.

New York to expand COVID vaccination sites for those age 65+

County health departments are able to offer COVID-19 vaccinations to those over the age of 65. The the clinics -- which may be new vaccination sites or clinics at existing sites, depending on the county -- will include support staff to help seniors with vaccination paperwork. Some facilities will include transportation assistance for getting them to and from the vaccine site, according to the state. Now, counties will have the ability to vaccinate the over-65 people after previously being limited to essential workers and those with comorbidities. Counties will be getting a boost in Moderna vaccine doses to help stock the new sites with the vaccine. It wasn't immediately clear how many new sites would open or if counties would instead opt to add 65+ eligibility at their existing sites. Thus far, about 2.7 million people had received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, according to the state Department of Health. About 1.5 million -- nearly 10% of the state's population over the age of 16 -- had received both doses and are now fully vaccinated.

To determine if you are COVID vaccine eligible and schedule an appointment, the **Am I Eligible app** is the quickest way to see if you're eligible and make an appointment. You can also call the New York State COVID-19 Vaccination Hotline at 1-833-NYS-4-VAX (1-833-697-4829). Once you have successfully scheduled an appointment, you will receive a confirmation email that contains a barcode. You will need to bring this to your appointment.

To schedule at CVS Pharmacy go to: <https://www.cvs.com/immunizations/covid-19-vaccine>

To Schedule at Walgreens Pharmacy go to:

<https://www.walgreens.com/topic/promotion/covid-vaccine.jsp>

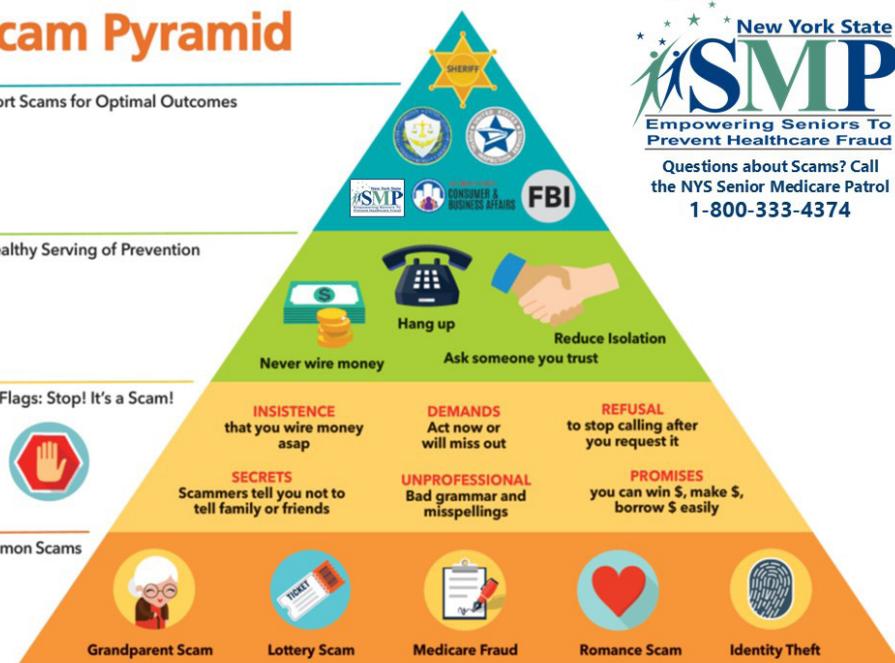
Scam Pyramid

Report Scams for Optimal Outcomes

A Healthy Serving of Prevention

Red Flags: Stop! It's a Scam!

Common Scams



This project was supported, in part by grant number 90MPPG0010-01-00, from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C. 20201

Biden Administration Takes Two Big Steps in Support of Health Care Coverage

The Biden administration recently took two important steps to preserve health care coverage for millions of Americans. First, the Department of Justice (DOJ) reversed course on its non-defense of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and notified the U.S. Supreme Court of its change in stance. Second, the administration asked the Supreme Court to cancel upcoming oral arguments in a case centering on Medicaid work requirements, because it plans to roll back the ability of states to impose such restrictions. In November 2020, the Supreme Court heard oral arguments in a case challenging the constitutionality of the ACA. The suit was initially brought several years ago by a group of Republican state attorneys general and governors. They claim the entire law is unconstitutional because Congress reduced the financial penalty for not having insurance to zero in the 2017 tax bill. Though this argument was dismissed by many legal scholars, the Trump administration's DOJ first supported the lawsuit, and then asked for the entire law to be struck down. On February 10, the Biden administration reversed course, informing the Supreme Court in a letter that the change in administration had led to a change in DOJ's position and that the law as it stands is valid. Even if the specific provision of the law at issue, the now-zeroed out penalty, is unconstitutional, the administration argues that it can simply be cut out and the rest of the law can stand. This shift is a step in the right direction to protect care for millions who rely on the ACA. Ending the law would have devastating consequences, including disrupting coverage for pre-existing conditions, re-opening the Medicare donut hole, and eliminating the Medicaid expansion. In other news, the administration also reversed course on Medicaid work requirements, states' attempts to create hurdles that prevent people from accessing the coverage they need. Federal courts have found work requirements impermissible and not in keeping with the primary objectives of Medicaid, but Arkansas, backed by the Trump administration, argued that the requirements were legal. The Supreme Court decided to hear the case and oral arguments are scheduled for March. But the Biden administration has already taken steps to pull back this authority, notifying states that they will not be permitted to institute work requirements. The administration also requested that the Supreme Court throw out pending cases because states will not be permitted to institute such barriers, making a Supreme Court decision unnecessary.

UNION
YES



Vice President's Report

Teddy Maldonado
1st Vice President UAW Local 774

Brothers and Sisters,

I have some exciting news to share with you. I am proud to announce that Local 774 is having our First Annual Golf Tournament this year on June 27, 2021. This fundraising event will take place at Chestnut Hill Golf course in Darien Center, NY. All proceeds from this event will reestablish the Annual Scholarship Program for our Local 774 families. Sign up is limited to 36 foursomes and is on a first come first serve basis. You must have at least 1 active or retired member in your foursome. More information can be found below and at the union hall. If anyone would like to donate personally or if you know of a business that would want to donate or sponsor a hole please contact me ASAP. I would greatly appreciate any and all donations made to help out with our fundraising efforts. Thank you in advance and we look forward to a successful event.

UAW Chestnut Hill
FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED PUBLIC GOLF COURSE

First Annual UAW Local 774 Golf Tournament
Proceeds will reestablish the annual scholarship program.

Chestnut Hill Golf Course
1330 Broadway
Darien Center, NY 14040
Date: June 27th, 2021
Registration: 12:45 PM
Shot Gun Start: 1:30 PM

COMPLETED FORM AND PAYMENT DUE AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION!
*MUST HAVE AN ACTIVE OR RETIRED MEMBER IN YOUR FOURSOME.
34 TEAMS MAX

\$85 per person includes: golf, cart, lunch, and dinner!
CASH OR CHECK MAKE PAYABLE TO UAW LOCAL 774

TEAM NAME: _____

Your Name: (PLEASE PRINT) _____ **Player #3** _____
First _____ Last _____
Address: _____ Address: _____
Phone#: _____ Phone#: _____
EMAIL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Player #2 _____ **Player #4** _____
First _____ Last _____
Address: _____ Address: _____
Phone#: _____ Phone#: _____
EMAIL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Have a safe and pleasant spring.

In Solidarity,
Teddy Maldonado
1st Vice President

ATTENTION!

UAW Legal Services

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

President's Report Continued

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://UAWGM.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.

59th Annual Variety Kids Telethon

The 2021 Telethon was held Saturday, February 27 and Sunday February 28 at the Variety Children's Charity of Buffalo & WNY headquarters in Lancaster, NY. On the first day, UAW Local 774 members Wence Valentin III, John Orsini, Shelby Misiak, Kim Wittcop Jr. and Geoff Gambino volunteered as phone operators. On the second day, Wence and Cleveland Jones Jr. presented UAW Local 774's donation of \$10,412.87. The WNY labor community donated a total of \$33,376.07. The overall amount raised for this year's Telethon was \$787,264. Thank you to everyone who donated and volunteered.

In Solidarity,
Wence Valentin III
UAW Local 774 President

COVID 19 CORONAVIRUS DISEASE **STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS**

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.** (Illustration of two people shaking hands with germs floating between them)
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.** (Illustration of a person sneezing into a tissue)
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.** (Illustration of hands being cleaned with a spray)
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.** (Illustration of a person touching their face with a red 'X' over it)
- Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.** (Illustration of a person in bed with a house icon)
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.** (Illustration of hands being washed with soap and water)

For more information: www.cdc.gov/COVID19

CDC



Veterans Report



Teddy Maldonado
1st Vice President UAW Local 774

"THE WALL THAT HEALS"

I hope everyone had a safe and healthy winter season. With the world starting to open up again there are many things to look forward to as the weather warms up. This summer the City of Tonawanda will be visited by a special Vietnam Veterans memorial, honoring the men and women who served in Vietnam "The Wall That Heals" is a three-quarter scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington. It will be on display from July 22 thru July 25, 2021. It's free to visit and open 24 hours a day. This gives everyone an opportunity to see and pay their respects if they have never seen it in Washington D.C. The wall honors more than three million Americans who served in the United States Armed Forces in the Vietnam War and it has the names of the 58, 279 men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam. The wall itself is 375 feet in length and stands 7.5 feet high at its tallest point. There's also a mobile education center that will display information about our "Hometown Heroes" that are on the wall. I look forward to helping with the set up of this exhibit and hope to see my fellow Brothers and Sisters there.

WOMEN VETERANS

Women have volunteered to serve in the U.S. military since the American Revolution, and yet, all too often that service has gone unrecognized. They served in combat, disguised as men during the American Revolutionary and Civil Wars, pilots during World War II and today they are in logistics, munitions, pilots, commanders, and other military occupational specialties. While there is still work to be done, today the needs of women Veterans are considered more than ever before in history. Women currently make up 10% of the Veteran population and the population of women Veterans has been growing steadily each year. Most female Veterans alive today served during the Gulf War II and during peacetime. In fact, women comprise 20% of Gulf War II Veterans – those who served after 9/11. Today, there are over 2 million women Veterans in the U.S. By 2043, it is expected that nearly 17% (2.4 million) of Veterans will be women. [1]

Women Veterans may be eligible for a wide-variety of benefits available to all U.S. military Veterans. VA benefits include disability compensation, pension, education and training, health care, home loans, insurance, vocational rehabilitation and employment, and burial.

At each VA Medical Center nationwide, a Women Veterans Program Manager is designated to assist women Veterans. She can help coordinate all the services you may need. Services include primary care, pregnancy care, mental health care and sexual abuse counseling, inpatient medical/surgical care, programs for homeless women Veterans, and quality of care issues. Woman Veterans who are interested in receiving care at VA should contact the nearest VA Medical Center and ask for the Women Veterans Program Manager. The VA Western New York, Women's Primary Care Call Center phone number is: 716-862-8567.

[1] U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics accessed at: http://www.va.gov/vetdata/Veteran_Population.asp

HOPE CAN HAPPEN

Suicide is not inevitable for anyone. By starting the conversation, providing support, and directing help to those who need it, we can prevent suicides and save lives.

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINE: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
<https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/help-yourself/veterans/>

UPCOMING HOLIDAYS

Sunday	May 09	Mother's Day
Monday	May 31	Memorial Day
Sunday	June 20	Father's Day
Sunday	July 04	Independence Day

TED BIT

"Because all of us believe and understand in the fabric of the common bond of why we call ourselves American is to care for the men and women who wear the uniform; and when they take off the uniform, we care for them when they are veterans."

-Steve Buyer

Have a safe and wonderful springtime!

Teddy Maldonado
1st Vice President



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

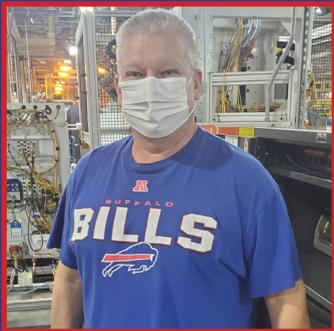
Prescription- CVS/Caremark

- 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



**UAW
Local 774
Supporting
our Buffalo
Bills!**



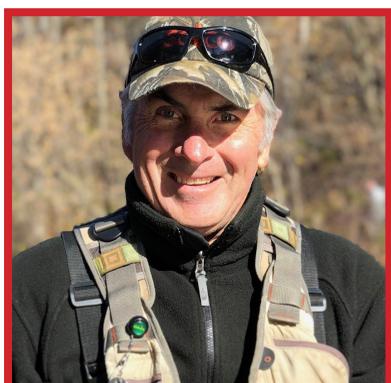
Congratulations ON YOUR RETIREMENT!

Recent Retirees

Jeff Kraus 10.07.2019
 John Brei Jr. 12.31.2020
 James Mc Graw 02.01.2021

Dean Mumley 12.31.2020
 Edward Radder Jr. 12.31.2020

Susan Moe 12.31.2020
 Lawrence Ayler 12.31.2020
 Paul Nosbisch 02.01.2021



Cliff Macdonald
1.1.2020



Tom Parks
6.30.2020



Al Runkel
7.31.2020



Wence Valentin Jr.
8.1.2020



Joe Silvaroli
8.31.2020



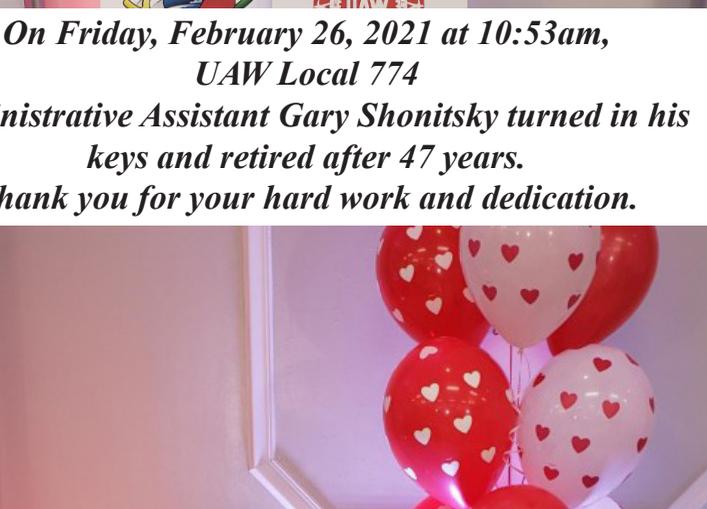
Phyllis Macdonald
12.21.2020



Stanley Pearse
12.21.2020



*On Friday, February 26, 2021 at 10:53am,
 UAW Local 774
 Administrative Assistant Gary Shonitsky turned in his
 keys and retired after 47 years.
 Thank you for your hard work and dedication.*





Trustees Semi-Annual Report

John Orsini
Chairman of Trustees

On February 18, 2021, the UAW Local 774 Trustees completed their Semi-Annual Audit and submitted the results to the International Union. The following tasks were completed. Verified the total amount of income from all sources. We traced all income to the banks and credit unions. Confirmed all accounts at M&T Bank, Financial Trust Credit Union, Northwest Bank and Riverside Credit Union. Visually inspected the contents of the Safe Deposit Box at Riverside Credit Union. We reconciled our monthly bank statements. Established all checks contain the actual signatures of authorized officers and recipients. Made certain we had adequate insurance coverage. Reaffirmed that the Per Capita Taxes have been paid. Authenticated that all expenditures are proper and authorized. Inventoried all new purchases and acquisitions since last audit was done in August 2020. Updated and uploaded inventory list for all furniture and equipment into new inventory program through Roberts Custom Software.

Happy Easter to all our members and their families.

John Orsini
Chairman Of Trustees



Civil and Human Rights Committee

Roberto Fuentes Sr.
Civil and Human Rights
Committee Chairman

Walter Philip Reuther was an American leader of organized labor and civil rights activist who built the United Automobile Workers into one of the most progressive labor unions in American history. He saw labor movements not as narrow special interest groups but as instruments to advance social justice and human rights in democratic societies. He leveraged the UAW's resources and influence to advocate for workers' rights, civil rights, women's rights, universal health care, public education, affordable housing, environmental stewardship and nuclear nonproliferation around the world. He believed in Swedish-style social democracy and societal change through nonviolent civil disobedience. He survived two attempted assassinations, including one at home where he was struck by a 12-gauge shotgun blast fired through his kitchen window. He was the fourth and longest serving president of the UAW, serving from 1946 until his untimely death in 1970. A household name during his life, Reuther's legacy is all but forgotten to history.



President Wence Valentin III and Shop Chairman Mike Grimmer represented UAW Local 774, at the USW Solidarity Rally against Unifrax. They are fighting for a fair contract for Local 2058.

UNITED STEELWORKERS



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



UAW Local 774 716-873-4715	Health Care/Dependent Change & Eligibility.....
Front Office..... ext 101-800-489-4646
Wence Valentin III..... ext 12	Retiree Servicing Center 1-800-489-4646
Tim McInnis ext 13	PSP Savings Plan (Hourly & Salary) 1-800-489-4646
Mike Grimmer..... ext 15	Disability / Sick & Accident Benefits 1-800-489-4646
Jose Colon ext 17	Davis Vision 1-888-672-8393
Cleveland Jones Jr..... ext 20	Metropolitan Life Insurance..... 1-888-543-3461
Russ Flynn ext 21	Worker's Compensation 1-800-489-4646
Stacie McKernan ext 22	Sub..... 1-800-489-4646
Gary Shonitsky ext 23	Life Insurance Admin 1-800-489-4646
Amy Kloc ext 29	Vehicle Purchase..... 1-800-235-4646
Chaplaincy Prayer Requests..... ext 30	Riverside Credit Union..... 875-1747
UAW Local 774 (FAX) 716-873-8341	Fidelity Investments 1-800-489-4646
	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

The Foundation of The UAW Chaplaincy Program
Article 41 Section 2 of The UAW Constitution

"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"



The EAGLE has flown to Region 9

On Friday February 26th, 2021 Region 9 Chaplains hosted a virtual presentation for The International Chaplaincy Program Ministry. Chaplains Peter (UAW Local 2367) Revere Copper and Kelly Thurber hosts a live internet radio program on Facebook called "HITCHED" Love Cast on Thursday nights 8pm -9pm. The format of this program is to offer suggestions to married couples on developing healthy communication tools.

Region 9 presented a skit on "Hitched." The content was so real to the degree that people called in to the presentation not knowing that Region 9 Chaplains were role playing parts! It was by far the most hilarious event I have experienced. Needless to say, Region 9 won The Trophy-----"The Bald Eagle"

The spiritual meaning of the Eagle

It signifies inspiration, release from bondage, victory, longevity, speed pride, father and royalty; it is often an emblem for powerful nations. Strength and vision are their meat.

A Characteristic of the Eagle

When all other birds try to flee from the storm and hide its fierceness, Eagles fly into it and will use the wind of the storm to rise higher in a matter of seconds. They use the pressure of the storm to glide higher without having to use their own energy.

A Biblical scripture of the Eagle

"But they that wait upon The LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as Eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint" (Isaiah 40:31 KJV)

"Caring in the workplace"

Local 774 Chaplains and their locations:

Chaplain Renita F. Chatman
3rd shift Dept 8301 Head Machining
Local 774 Chairperson/Region 9 Coordinator

Chaplain James L Clark
1st shift Dept 8401 Gen V Assembly
Co Chairperson

Chaplain Robert Lacy Jr.
1st shift Dept 8301 Head Machining
Ambassador

Chaplain Leonard Lamar
1st shift Dept 8201 HD Cranks
Ambassador

Chaplain Jeanne Lohouse
2nd shift Dept 8601 HD Blocks
Communications

Rev. Rick Mainsano
Retiree Chapter/Advisor

IN NEED OF PRAYER?

**please call the confidential prayer line
(716) 873-4715 ext 7 or**

place your request in the prayer boxes located in the plants and union hall.

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

UAW Local 774 Chaplaincy Committee



**UAW Local 774
Administrative
Assistant and Bookkeeper
Gary Shonitsky**

Members of UAW Local 774:

It has been my pleasure, to serve the membership of UAW Local 774, for the past 47 years.

On August 24, 1974; I accepted a 2-4 week temporary part time position to assist my mother who was the Local Union's Office Secretary. At the time, I was a fulltime student at Niagara University working on my Bachelor's Degree in Business Management/Accounting, and was brought in basically because I knew how to use that old IBM typewriter. Her working partner, Frank Collins, had suffered a heart attack and was on sick leave, and office work was piling up. In those days, there were no computers, copiers or fax machines. Everything had to be manually typed and then stenciled to print off on an AB Dick Offset Printer Press. Union Dues were manually posted to a member's file card on a monthly basis. Eventually Frank returned to work, only to give his notice and retire. I was convinced to accept the position full-time while attending University in the Evening Division and ultimately the position grew to what it is today.

Over the years, the plant population also grew and so did the Office Staff here at the Local 774. At one time the Local employed 3 full time secretaries plus myself working in the Financial Office. I worked under the leadership of 14 different Presidents, 11 Shop Chairmen and 9 Financial Secretary/Treasurers. In those days there were over 6,000 Active Members and another 2,000 Retired Members compared to the under 1,000 Active Members and 3,400 Retired Members of today.

When I retire on March 1st, it will mark the first time in over 80 years that the Shonitsky name will not be associated with UAW Local 774. My father retired in 1980 after 39 years as a member and employee of General Motors; my Mother retired after 20 years' as the Local Union Office Secretary in 1989; and now myself after 47years of service to UAW Local 774.

It is now time for me to enjoy some quality years with my wife Marsha, our children and grandchildren. I will always cherish my memories, lifelong friendships, and the good work we have done here at UAW Local 774.

Stay Safe, Stay Strong and Long Live the UAW!

Sincerely,
/s/ Gary Shonitsky





Citizenship and Legislative Report

Karen Baker

Greetings, Brothers and Sisters! I hope that with the coming of spring, we can start to see a dramatic reduction in the number of COVID19 cases, within TEP, and in the “outside world.” It seems that soon, more of us will be able to be vaccinated, and I urge everyone to take advantage of these shots. And, even if you are vaccinated, continue to wear masks, because you never know who is vaccinated, or who could be an asymptomatic carrier of COVID19. Until the experts in virology and epidemiology give us the all clear, like that sign on the 290 says, “One Small Ask, Mask !”

Lately, there have been some interesting developments in labor law, at the Federal level that should concern all of us. One, is the PRO Act, which if passed, will work on the side of labor unions. The PRO Act, short for Protecting the Right to Organize Act, will be the first major piece of union legislation since the Taft Hartley of the 1930’s. I think we all can agree, the work world has changed; so must the laws governing it.

Federa

The PRO Act would help do away with Right to Work laws, which so many states have enacted, to all workers, unionized or not, detriment. As we all know, the Right to Work laws are misnamed; in many states with these laws, workers now make less money, and find themselves with resultant reduced living conditions. People who make less money, rent, they don’t buy houses-therefore, they don’t pay school and property taxes, which in turn pay for their community’s workforce, such as police and fire, teachers and street workers. With a lessened ability to hire police officers, crime increases. With fewer firefighters, or fire departments eliminated, volunteer firefighters must pick up the slack. What happens when most of a volunteer fire department is at work? They miss notifications of fires or other emergencies, and property and people suffer. Fewer teachers mean larger class sizes, and a reduction in the quality of learning for students. Lower wages have a ripple effect throughout a community, there’s no doubt about it.

The PRO Act would do away with employees being able to opt out of paying union dues, under Right to Work laws. And, we know that these same employees, if they get into a dispute with management, or are unfairly penalized at work, will expect the union to defend them.

The PRO Act would ensure that an employer, will not be able to permanently replace workers during a strike. Striking workers would be able to return to their jobs, at the end of a strike. Also, there would be no lockouts during a strike; both of these would be in unions’ favor, especially of use as bargaining tools during a strike.

The PRO Act would allow unions involved in a strike, to picket the workplaces of suppliers and vendors, which would further educate the public about working conditions in this country, the fact that wages do not keep pace with inflation, safety concerns, all things unions have gone on strike to improve.

Pushing

The PRO Act will also help workers to organize, without fear of retribution by their employer. Such employers, should they fire, demote, or otherwise penalize an employee for daring to want a union, will be penalized. So many workers would gain the right to freely organize, and to have collective bargaining rights. One of the basic freedoms the Founding Fathers of this country sought, was the Freedom to speak freely, and to assemble peaceably, and the PRO Act would help ensure that workers who want to find out more

about unions, who want to organize, would see these freedoms as applied to union organizing, ensured.

As of February 4th of this year, the PRO Act has been introduced by Democrats to the House of Representatives, and the Senate. Last year at this time, both bodies passed on this important bill; we have to make sure our legislators, no matter what party they belong to, know, that there are union members in this country, who need the rights the PRO Act will give us. Email and call their offices, locally and in Washington, to let them know, I’M A UNION MEMBER, AND I VOTE!

To find out the contact numbers and emails of your Federal legislators, go to usa.gov. Just be aware, that because of COVID19, many legislators and their aides are not taking in office appointments. And, if you call, and talk to an aide, don’t feel your legislator is pushing you off to an underling! These aides often are more knowledgeable than their boss-the aides are the ones, who read over bills proposed by other legislators, who do the research for their legislator. Also, legislators want to know, how many people are contacting their office, and for what, whether its to find out information about benefits they may be entitled to, or bills up for discussion by Congress.

Be Well, everyone!

Karen Baker

Dates for Upcoming 2021 Membership Meetings:



April 18th

May 16th

June 13th

October 17th

November 14th

December 12th



Subject to change

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
4/15/2021	5	1:00 PM	5:00 PM
4/16/2021	1-R13	6:00 AM	11:00 AM
5/10/2021	5	6:00 AM	11:00 AM
5/11/2021	1-R13	1:00 PM	5:00 PM
6/7/2021	1-R13	6:00 AM	6:00 PM
6/8/2021	5	11:00 AM	3:00 PM



Ethics Committee

Wence Valentin III

UAW President Rory L. Gamble has announced 14 UAW members who were selected by blind draw from each UAW region to serve on the UAW's newly constituted Member Advisory Committee on Ethics.

The Committee includes rank-and-file members of the UAW along with UAW Ethics Officer Wilma Liebman and UAW Public Review Board Co-chairs Professor Jim Brudney and Professor Janice Bellace.

A member and alternate member were chosen from each of the UAW's eight regions by blind draw on Friday, February 18. A total of 122 eligible applications were received. UAW Public Review Board Co-chair Professor Jim Brudney was a virtual witness to the blind draw selection by Ethics Officer Wilma Liebman. Liebman has notified already the successful applicants by email. UAW President Gamble is sending acknowledgment letters to the applicants not chosen, thanking them for their interest in participating on the Committee and for their continued service to UAW members by virtue of their participation in Local Union activities and functions.

The Committee will be responsible for:

Reviewing the Union's existing internal rules and policies on ethical practices and financial matters.

Developing, based on members' individual experience, any recommendations to the International Executive Board (IEB) for improving existing ethics guidelines, practices, policies, enforcement standards, and education of these standards.

Reviewing the operation and function of the Ethics Ombudsman and Ethics Officer positions instituted by President Gamble and the IEB. Providing a dialogue between the Ethics Officer and the Committee to enhance understanding, acceptance and operations of the Ethics Program. "It was an extremely important goal to give members a direct role in the Ethics reforms we have instituted since I took office in November 2019," said Gamble. "I am pleased that we are able to provide direct member participation in our efforts to create a new ethical culture for the UAW going forward."

The only requirements for applying for the position were that members be in good standing and had some experience serving UAW membership through participation in Local Union activities or responsibilities.

Members selected by blind draw are:

- Region 1 — David Murray (Local 400)
Kristofor Harrison, Alternate (Local 2500)
- Region 1A — Kelly D. Barnett (Local 6000)
Demetrius Burton, Alternate (Local 182)
- Region 1D — Rick Smith (Local 652)
Joshua Wesolek, Alternate (Local 668)
- Region 2B — Rick Ward (Local 685)
Larry Cooper, Alternate (Local 211)
- Region 4 — Kim Cook Bell (Local 2250)
Justin Mayhugh, Alternate (Local 31)
- Region 8 — Justin Gonzalez (Local 887)
Kim Evans, Alternate (Local 472)
- Region 9 — Peter Griffin (Local 1097)
Ryder Littlejohn, Alternate (Local 897)
- Region 9A — Angie Scraders-Murphy (Local 2377)
Pamela Smith, Alternate (Local 2320)



Medical Staff Report

Gina Moell
RN

Hello,

I would like to introduce myself to those who may not know me. I am, Gina Moell, the Registered Nurse on 1st shift in Plant 1 Medical here at Tonawanda Engine. I have been a registered nurse for many years and have wealth of experience from working in the ICU, OR, Med/Surgical floors to Urology /Endoscopy. I along with Janelle Manikowski and Randy Dewolfe are part of UAW Local 774. Both Randy and Janelle are also Registered Nurses. Janelle is 2nd shift, plant 1 medical and Randy is 3rd shift plant 1 medical. We also have Erika Copeland, Physician Assistant at plant 5 medical on 1st shift.

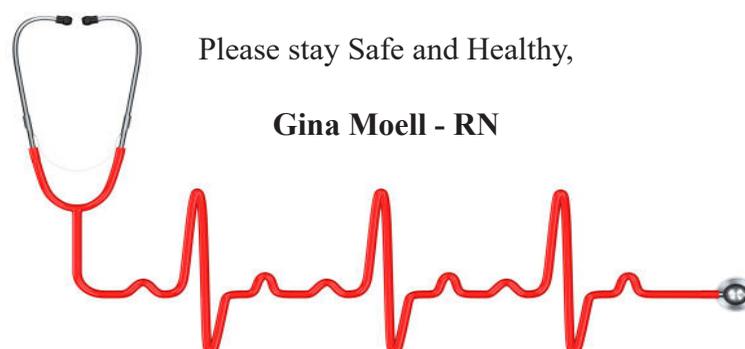
It has been a long and very stressful year for us all. We appreciate your patience and understanding throughout this year. We know it has been difficult at times to reach Medical along with understanding exposures to Covid 19 and contact tracing.

When someone is tested positive for Covid 19 in the plant, we interview the employee (index case) about anyone they may have been in close contact with. We know sometimes people may not remember who they were in contact with or maybe embarrassed to tell us, but this is very important information that we need to know.

Each potential exposure is interviewed, and not every case is the same. There are many factors that determine if another person has been exposed, such as physical closeness, ventilation, was the index case coughing, sneezing, drinking, or eating are few examples. Please understand not all situations are the same. We are doing our best with the information we are given by the index case (the person who is Covid 19 positive). If you have any questions, concerns or think you might have been in close contact, you can come to medical and we can help make the determination for contact tracing.

Also, Thank You to everyone for staying home when you are sick, this is so important to keep Covid 19 and other illnesses from being spread at work, even if it turns out to be the common cold. Think about this, if you do come to work sick, you could be jeopardizing your fellow employee's health or possibly a family member that are at a high risk. You may then get another employee sick and then they are off work as well. This can cause a lot of stress for you and your family. If you are sick, you can call medical directly, Plant 1, 716-879-5313 or Plant 5, 716-447-3054. During the hours between Saturday at 3pm and Sunday 11pm, when Medical is closed, you should call the GSIC number at 1-800-334-8190.

Many of you have been asking about the Covid 19 vaccine. Our plant did a survey to determine the interest of getting the vaccine, 62% say they are interested in getting the vaccine if it comes available. GM is working on this. We do not have any definite information currently. GM Medical knows there is an interest and right now the biggest obstacle is the access to the vaccine itself do to high demand and shortage of the vaccine.



Please stay Safe and Healthy,

Gina Moell - RN



Women's Committee Report

Heather Grimmer
Women's Committee Chairperson

Hello sisters and brothers,

March is Women's History Month, which has been celebrated since 1987. During the month of March, we celebrate the achievements, contributions and accomplishments women have made through the years. March 8th (also celebrated internationally) is the day we can show support for women by wearing purple (it represents loyalty, self esteem and dignity).

Back in October our Committee originally made a motion to donate \$200 from our tee shirt sales to The American Cancer Society. However, we were unable to process that donation and instead we made a motion to donate the \$200 to Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Care Center. This money went towards the Herd for Hope Program.

The revenue generated from the Herd for Hope Program will be used to help fuel new research projects, from the latest Immunotherapy treatments to ground breaking clinical trials and personalized medicine. We received a painted blue Buffalo statue from them which is on display at the union hall.

Unfortunately, our monthly Women's Committee meetings have been canceled due to the covid, but we're hoping that things will be back to somewhat normal soon. As always, new members are encouraged to join the Women's Committee.

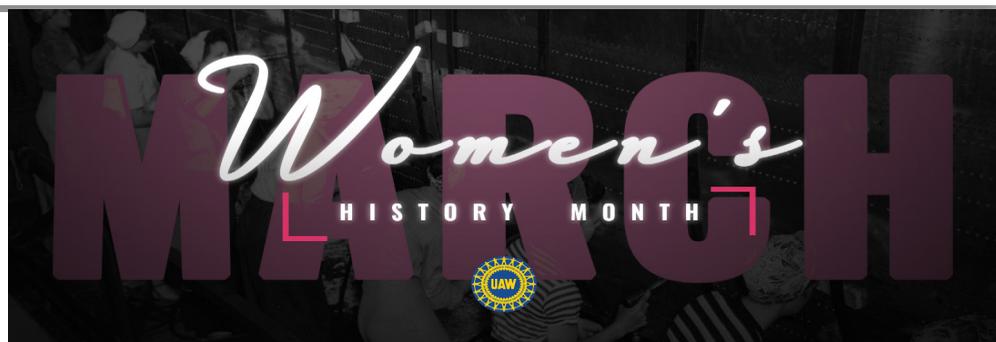
Lastly, on behalf of the Women's Committee we would like to congratulate Gary Shonitsky On his retirement!

In solidarity,
Heather Grimmer
Women's Committee Chairperson



**Dream with ambition,
lead with conviction.**

— *Kamala Harris*



Women's history is the study of the role that women have played in history and the methods required to do so. It includes the study of the history of the growth of woman's rights throughout recorded history, personal achievement over a period of time, the examination of individual and groups of women of historical significance, and the effect that historical events have had on women. Inherent in the study of women's history is the belief that more traditional recordings of history have minimized or ignored the contributions of women to different fields and the effect that historical events had on women as a whole; in this respect, women's history is often a form of historical revisionism, seeking to challenge or expand the traditional historical consensus.



**I am eternally grateful to the
women before me who
fought for my rights**



Deceased Active and Retired Local 774 Members

WITH DEEPEST
Sympathy

	Retire	Deceased
Annunziata	John	02/11/2021
Burnett	Gerald E	01/19/2021
Campagna	Daniel P	12/11/2020
Chiappone	Pasqualino	12/21/2020
Dennis	Joseph E	12/11/2020
Fiorella	Charles N	12/29/2020
Formanowicz	Daniel R	12/07/2020
Forys	Edward J	12/11/2020
Fusco	Paul J	01/12/2021
Hammer	Arthur D	12/15/2020
House Jr	Harold F	01/17/2021
Korman	Harold	12/20/2020
Krajewski	Paul C	12/27/2020
Lavis	Edwin E	01/06/2021
Lee	Ivan L	12/24/2020
Marcoaldi	Robert D	12/09/2020
Mc Cormick	Robert D	01/19/2021
Olewine	Harry F	12/29/2020
Smeal Jr	Woodrow W	12/03/2020
Smith	Richard	12/29/2020
Vanich	George	12/31/2020
Wachowiak	Raymond J	01/31/2021
Watson	Darryl K	12/31/2020
Wolff	Brian	01/05/2021
Zielinski	Ted	12/25/2020

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: _____

Mail to: UAW Local 774,
2939 Niagara Street, Buffalo, NY 14207
or e-mail change to cjonesjr@uaw774.com or
gshonitsky@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".

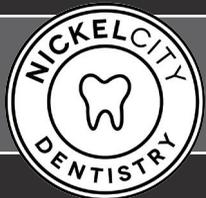




UAW Local 774 Executive Board Meeting held while maintaining a Social Distance atmosphere.



SOCIAL DISTANCING



(716) 839-1546

Snyder | 4498 Main St. @ Harlem

(716) 838-1415

North Buffalo | 1603 Hertel Ave @ Parkside

**We ♥ Our
UAW
Family!**



Scan or Call
for a Dental
Appointment!



In-Network with Delta Dental

Advertisement Page

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

We have currently suspended any Union Hall Functions or Rentals until **May of 2021**, due to Coronavirus concerns.

We will keep you updated if this changes.



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
wvalentiniiii@uaw774.com
ext.12

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

HEARING AIDS KEN-TON HEARING

UAW INSURANCE

NYS WORKERS COMPENSATION

EZ Steps:

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



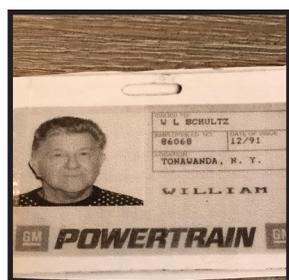
**I WANT YOU TO
HEAR WELL
AGAIN!**

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

Caring for the UAW for over 40 Years

**Wishing William "Schultzee"
Schultz
Happy 90th Birthday!**

William "Schultzee" Schultz celebrated his 90th birthday on February 20, 2021. William left his job at the Wurlitzer plant fearing the uncertainty of the company. In 1963, William started his career at GM Tonawanda. Starting on second shift V8, he lifted 35lb flywheels, and had 10-12 seconds to put 3 bolts on. William spent from 1963-1981, on 2nd shift, moving to the V8 Piston Dept. In 1981, he was offered first shift which was a great opportunity to spend more time with family. William worked on the L4 line making pistons, and in the last few years of his career had an easier job from his start, repairing pistons. He made the decision to retire on June 1, 1993. Throughout his 30 years working William made a difference not only spending many years training his brothers/sisters for the job, but for giving advise on anything when asked for. He was given the name Schultzee and Big Daddy. Please help us celebrate by emailing any greetings or stories to icemom273597@icloud.com, this is a surprise for him even if late. Hopefully, he can get a greeting from many he has talked about and misses, and some of you he has never met.



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



Caleb's Wish for Others

My name is Caleb, I am a young boy that loves to draw. I hope that my artwork makes you smile while also helping children related charities and kids in need, creating a full circle of happiness!



Caleb



If you would like to donate or purchase art work from Caleb, please scan the QR Code for more details.

Caleb is the grandson of UAW retiree Tony Kabala and the nephew of UAW members Amy & Chris Kloc.



BUICK

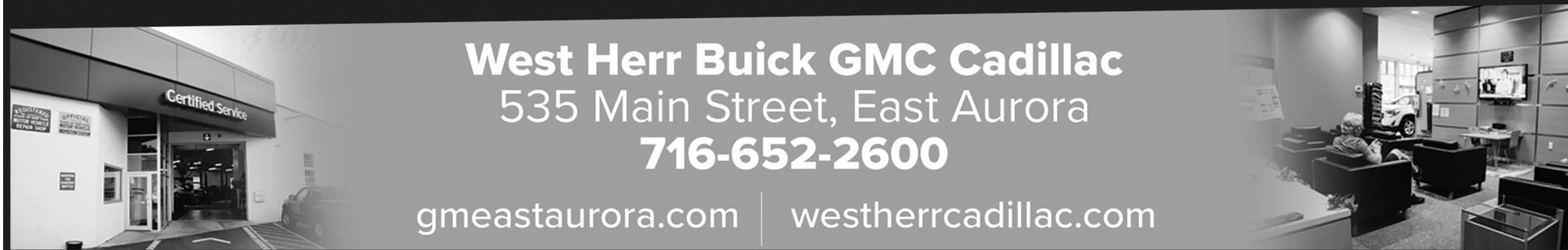
GMC



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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Local 55 UAW



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Lauren Paddock
VP Marketing & Operations
716.261.1110



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	Wednesday	9 AM – 6 PM	Saturday	9 AM – 5 PM
			Sunday	CLOSED



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