



# UAW Local 774 President's Report

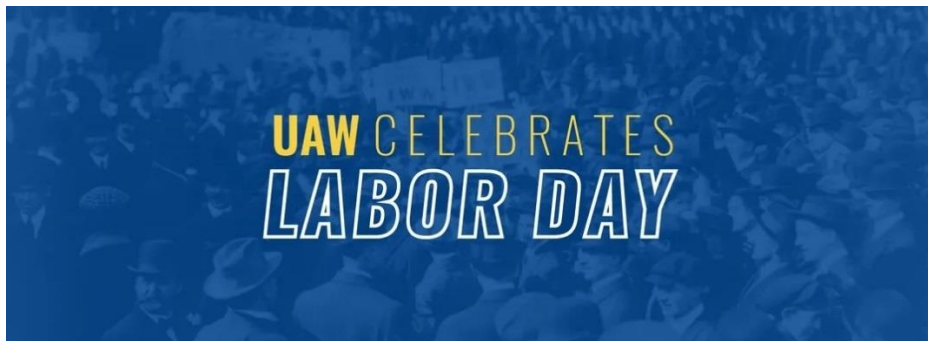
President Wence Valentin III



Friday September 3, 2021

## Labor Day Parade & Picnic

The Labor Day Parade will take place on Monday September 6, 2021 at 12pm. Once again; as a testimony to all the hard working people in our community, the AFL-CIO and the UAW will be participating in the Annual Labor Day Parade. Any member and his/her family that is interested in representing Local 774 by walking in the Labor Day Parade (approximately one mile), are welcome. This year's parade will have a new marching route that begins in the City of Lackawanna. UAW Region 9 will provide T-shirts to show our solidarity and we will meet at the Dorrance Ave/Ward Ct. roundabout at 11am. Following the parade, a picnic sponsored by the WNY Area Labor Federation, AFL-CIO will be held in Cazenovia Park.



## Six Flags Darien Lake - UAW Local 774 Family Picnic, Recreation Committee

UAW Local 774 Family Picnic will be held at Six Flags Darien Lake on Saturday September 11, 2021. The price for admission to the park is \$25.00 per person, for up to six (6) tickets. Any additional tickets can be purchased for \$34.00 per person (Children 2 and under are free.) Season Pass Holders and Campers/Hotel Guests will need to purchase picnic passes only for \$15.00.

Tickets will be available at the Union Hall from 8:00am until 3:45pm beginning Monday, August 16<sup>th</sup> (September 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>, the hall will be open at 7:00 am). After **Thursday September 9<sup>th</sup>** tickets will only be sold at the gate for full price. No checks, credit cards, or money orders accepted for payment. CASH ONLY!

## Benefits Update

It is strongly recommended that all members set up an online account with NYS Unemployment. Remember, that if you do not have an open claim you should **open the claim** the first week you are on layoff and **certify your claim** the week after. If during that time off, you have issues, please reach out to your Benefit Rep for assistance. Do not wait until you return to work.

NYS Unemployment has implemented an identification verification system, "ID.ME" for certifying for your unemployment benefits. Please make sure this process is completed. If there are any questions or you need support with anything, reach out to us.

(716) 873-4715

Tim Mc Innis – ext. 13

Jose Colon – ext. 17

## T – Shirt Order Form: Women’s Committee Fundraiser

We are accepting orders for The Women’s Committee T- Shirts. Cost is \$20.00 for S - XL, \$25.00 for 2XL and \$30.00 for 3XL & 4XL. Please return completed order forms and payment to the local Union Hall or any Women’s Committee member by **Friday September 10, 2021.** A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the American Cancer Society.



In solidarity,

Heather Grimmer, Chairperson  
Amy Kloc, Co-Chairperson  
Women’s Committee, UAW Local 774

## Office of the Financial Secretary/Treasurer

Brothers and Sisters,

Please be advised that, our International Union Auditor, Irene Poray has concluded an audit of UAW Local 774's financial operations which covered the period of September 1, 2017 through June 30, 2021. As a result, the Trustees are not required to complete their August semi-annual financial audit. While the complete final report takes extended time to return from Detroit, I sat with the Auditor for an exit meeting and we went over her notes for the Local Union and Financial Office. Many were simply reminders and general information but any other guidance or direction has been implemented. Additionally, at my recommendation to the UAW Local 774 Finance Committee and Executive Board, the Petty Cash Fund which was held at \$100 has been zeroed out and closed. Eliminating the use of this account will allow us to accurately record and track expenses.

The latest Strike and Defense Fund Report was submitted for May 2021 and records a net worth of \$811,696,461.10. Now that the fund has crossed \$800 million dollars, as a reminder in accordance with Article 16, Section 2(a) of the UAW Constitution, the mechanism in place states that once the Strike and Defense Fund reaches \$850 million dollars, the monthly union dues rate drops from 2 ½ hours of straight time pay to 2 hours of straight time pay. The lower dues structure shall remain in effect unless the fund drops to \$650 million at which time the higher dues structure will be in effect until the fund once again reaches \$850 million. I know that our members are looking forward to this relief so I will continue to watch these reports very closely.

Moreover, to avoid delays in processing and payment, when filing for NYS Unemployment Benefits, please do not list UAW Local 774 as your employer or state that you were hired through the union hall. I have received a number of notices from the NYS DOL for members who claimed they are employed by the local union which is obviously not the case. Our employer is either General Motors Co. or Caravan Facilities Management LLC.

As always, I am available to provide assistance or answer any questions you may have and can be reached through Facebook messenger, (716) 873-4715 ext. 20 or [cjonesjr@uaw774.com](mailto:cjonesjr@uaw774.com). Stay safe. Stay strong. Stay healthy.

Solidarity forever,

Cleveland Jones Jr.  
Financial Secretary/Treasurer  
UAW Local 774

## Raffle Tickets for Roswell Park's Herd of Hope and the Leukemia Lymphoma Society (LLS)

This year, with the pandemic not letting up, the Community Services Committee has decided to have a prize raffle, after our October membership meeting in lieu of the meat raffle that was so successful two years ago. The Proceeds are going to go toward Roswell Park's Herd of Hope and the Leukemia Lymphoma Society's (LLS) Light the Night walk.

Research conducted at Roswell Park has led to historic breakthroughs in the way they understand, prevent and cure cancer, and today they are one of the leading cancer facilities in the country. The Herd of Hope was created to build awareness of the research taking place at Roswell Park while raising funds to advance innovative ideas that have potential to make a significant difference in the fight against cancer. The Herd is local companies coming together as one to fund promising team science research at Roswell Park with one common goal: "Finding a Cure for Cancer!!!"

LLS's mission is to cure Leukemia, Lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and Myeloma, and improve the quality of life of patients and their families through our participation in the Buffalo Light the Night on October 1, 2021. Light The Night is LLS's annual walk and fundraising event and the nation's night to pay tribute and bring hope to people battling cancer.

We are hosting a Prize Raffle, to be held at our UAW Local 774 union hall on October 17, 2021, with the proceeds going to both Roswell's Herd of Hope and LLS. At the raffle we are going to be raffling off a Josh Allen autographed helmet and a Jordan Poyer autographed cleat. The success of this raffle will be due to the generosity of the people at UAW Local 774.

Tickets are going to be \$5 each and will be going on sale very shortly. If you are interested in buying tickets and supporting these two worthy causes please stop by the Union Hall or see the following people for tickets:

John Orsini, Jeanne LoHouse, Wence Valentin III, Mike Grimmer, Ted Maldonado, Cleveland Jones Jr, Geoff Gambino, Marc Wheeler, Kim Wittcop, Doug Seefeldt, Bobby Mc Rae, PJ Lemme, Shelby Misiak, Heather Grimmer, and Jon Chase.

Thank you for your continued support,

John Orsini, Chairperson

Jeanne LoHouse, Co-Chairperson

Community Services Committee, UAW Local 774

UAW Local 774  
Raffle to benefit Roswell Park's Herd of Hope and  
Leukemia Lymphoma Society Light the Night  
Sunday, October 17, 2021

### RAFFLE TO BENEFIT Roswell Park's Herd of Hope and Leukemia Lymphoma Society Light the Night



Sponsored by The UAW Local 774  
Community Services Committee

**Sun. October 17, 2021**

At UAW Local 774 Union Hall  
after monthly membership meeting

More prizes will be added  
closer to the event date.

Need not be present to win.



### PRIZES:

1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Josh Allen Autographed Helmet

Donated by UAW Local 774  
Community Services Committee

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: PlayStation 5 (Disc Edition)

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Tickets to the Buffalo Bills  
Vs New York Jets

on January 9th, 2022  
Donated by Wence Valentin III

4<sup>th</sup> Prize: 16x20 Framed Andre Reed  
Autographed Photo

Donated by Bases Loaded  
Framing Donated by Fame in Frame

5<sup>th</sup> Prize: Stephan Diggs  
Autographed Mini Helmet

Donated by Bases Loaded

6<sup>th</sup> Prize: Jordan Poyer Autographed Cleat

Donated by Leukemia Lymphoma Society

Donation:  
**\$5.00**

No.



## **Important Upcoming Dates and Events**

- Monday September 6, 2021 – Labor Day Holiday and Parade/Picnic
- Thursday September 9, 2021 – Saf-Gard Safety Shoemobile: Plant 1 – R13, 1:00pm – 5:00pm
- Friday September 10, 2021 – Saf-Gard Safety Shoemobile: Plant 5, 6:00am – 11:00am
- Saturday September 11, 2021 – Six Flags Darien Lake: UAW Family Picnic
- Saturday September 18, 2021 – Defensive Driving Course, contact Ken Ryan (716) 861-4896
- Friday September 10, 2021 – Saf-Gard Safety Shoemobile: Plant 5, 6:00am – 11:00am
- Thursday October 7, 2021 – Saf-Gard Safety Shoemobile: Plant 1 – R13, 11:00am – 6:00pm
- Saturday October 16, 2021 – Defensive Driving Course, contact Ken Ryan (716) 861-4896
- Sunday October 17, 2021 – Regular Membership Meeting at 10:00am
- Sunday October 17, 2021 – Community Services Committee Raffle to Benefit Roswell Park & LLS
- Sunday October 31, 2021 – Happy Halloween!

## **National Hispanic Heritage Month**

Celebrated from September 15<sup>th</sup> to October 15<sup>th</sup>, Hispanic Heritage Month recognizes the achievements, histories, cultures and contributions of Hispanics everywhere. September 15<sup>th</sup> is recognized as the independence day of five (5) Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. September 16<sup>th</sup> is the independence anniversary of Mexico and September 18<sup>th</sup> for Chile.



**In Solidarity,**

**/s/ Wence Valentin III, President - UAW Local 774**