



# LOCAL 211 NEWS

Union Proud from Defiance, Ohio



Our success is attributed to the rank and file—the working men and women—of our local union!

Chartered 1948

[uawlocal211.com](http://uawlocal211.com)

August 2024

## Grandparents-Grandchildren Day





## President's Report

By Larry Cooper



GM Unit had 34 retirements on August 1st, Rafael Aybar with 49.8 years of service, Paul Branham with 35.5 years of service, Samuel Brown with 34.7 years of service, Jeff Budd with 38.4 years of service, Douglas Caryer with 51.5 years of service, Alfred Conner with 35.7 years of service, Terry Cunningham with 35.5 years of service, Gary Eickholt with 51.0 years of service, Mark Feeney with 31.3 years of service, Tomas Gomez with 58.2 years of service, Edward Gonzales with 64.6 years of service, Lenny Johns with 57.7 years of service, James Johnston with 58.4 years of services, David Karhoff with 31.2 years of service, Bob Lamb with 35.0 years of service, Mark Lamb with 55.9 years of service, Ernie Lambert with 35.6 years of service, Michael Langhals with 58.0 years of service, David Maag with 34.1 years of service, Randy McCoy with 35.7 years of service, John Nusbaum with 31.4 years of service, Daniel Perez with 33.0 years of service, William Proulx with 55.6 years of service, Michael Rau with 58.0 years of service, Michael Russo with 48.0 years of service, Michael Sanchez with 34.8 years of service, John Schulte with 55.8 years of service, David Siefker with 34.7 years of service Timothy Smith with 35.4 years of service, William Tackett Jr. with 32.8 years of service, Jeffrey Troyer with 57.2 years of service, Roger Warnecke with 34.6 years of service, Phillip Williams with 56.2 years of service and Marvin Young with 59.3 years of service.

I would like to thank you all for your dedication and wish you all a very happy and healthy retirement

I would like to thank Tony Curtis, Chad Dockery and Reyes Ramirez for all their hard work at the UAW Hall; there has been a lot to take care of and the hard work shows.

Beginning September 28th through January 7th there will be a Local 211, UAW "Big Buck Contest" The information is posted on the communication boards. If anyone has questions, please contact anyone from the Recreation Committee.

On Sunday September 15th there will be a Kid's Fishing Derby at the UAW Hall from 12:00 Noon until 2:00 P.M. Hot dogs, chips, cookies and drinks will be provided. Bait will also be provided but you must bring your own fishing pole. This event is for all Local 211 members children and grandchildren ages 12 years and under. This is a free event.

The Veterans' Committee is also hosting a

breakfast for all Local 211 UAW veterans, active and retired on Monday, November 11th at the UAW Hall. The breakfast will be served beginning at 8:00 A.M. until 11:00 A.M.

I would also like to congratulate our Local 211 UAW Veterans Committee for their special award they received at the Sandusky Veterans Breakfast. They raised a lot of money to donate to this Veterans Home and we are all so very proud of the hard work they do. Thank you all!

GM Car Show will be held on Saturday September 7th at the Midwest Community Federal Credit Union from 11:00 A.M until 3:00 P.M. The Credit Union is celebrating their 70th year of business in Northwest Ohio.

Sherrod Brown was at the UAW Park about a month ago and we received a letter from him thanking us for allowing him to use our park. He stated in his letter thanking us for all we do for the Labor Movement and we can count on him for the Union Support.

If you see new faces in the plant, please make them feel welcome, show them how to work safely and show them Solidarity. I would like to invite all the new hires to join us for the Local 211 UAW Meetings. Our next meeting will be held on October 2nd. Keep an eye on the union boards for any changes. You can meet the officers and see our beautiful Union Hall and grounds. We welcome you all, so please take a little time to come and join us.

I would like to invite more of our retired and active members to attend a CAP meeting, which are held the second Tuesday of every month. Doors open at 5:00 with a meal served, 5:30 is the meeting. With this being an election year; attending CAP meetings will keep you informed and educated on the candidates and issues in the local and state government.



## Retiree Chairman's Report By Ted Fleming

FROM THE DESK OF TED FLEMING  
- RETIREE CHAIRMAN - FACT SHEET

The Inflation Reduction Act and Prescription Drug Prices

The pharmaceutical industry has been making record profits while many Americans struggle to afford the drugs their doctor prescribed for them to stay healthy.

To help reverse the Big Pharma stranglehold on our healthcare system, President Biden signed into law

the Inflation Reduction Act. It lowered prescription drug prices for millions of Americans.

- \$35.00 per month for insulin. This helped more than 3.3 million Medicare beneficiaries who use one or more of the common forms of insulin.
- 41 million Medicare beneficiaries with Medicare part D and MA-DDs no longer have a copay for vaccines, Covid, flu and shingles shots.
- Our Union and the Ohio Alliance of Retired Americans worked for two decades to convince Congress to allow Health and Human Services to negotiate lower drug prices.

Under the Inflation Reduction Act, 2026, the Secretary of Health and Human Services must negotiate the prices for 10 Medicare Part D drugs—15 more in 2027 and 15 more the following year.

The act President Biden signed will help approximately 13 million Americans pay for health insurance and prevent 3 million from becoming uninsured.

As most retirees know, our drug cost went from \$45 to zero co-pay for 90-day supply on many of our prescription drugs.

Since President Biden and Vice-President Kamala Harris took office, they have worked tirelessly to improve the lives of seniors and retirees. They delivered low-cost drugs for millions on Medicare and save 2 million workers' pension benefits. They have an open-door policy to our union leadership and our CAP Council. The same is true with Senator Sherrod Brown and Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur. In stark contrast, every budget from President Trump sent to Congress included cuts to Social Security and Medicare. He has spoken publicly on cutting so called "entitlements" in his second term, if elected. Our leadership and our members must work every day to protect our system of retirement security. We must fight off the proposed change by the GOP to raise the eligibility age on future retirees to receive Social Security and Medicare.

Creek Farms gave carriage rides to adults as well as children. Lininger Pony Rides was a big hit and so was the bouncing rides. The one I personally enjoyed was the Rocking Chairmen's Band. They were fantastic!

Chili dogs, hot dogs, chips and brownies were served to all who were hungry. This was made possible by all who volunteered their precious time. This yearly event is one of the most important days the kids look forward to. Thank you to Carol Miller, Cindy Suffel, Sara Bennett and Lisa Burgei for making the brownies and cookies. Even us, the big kids, enjoyed this day.

At our upcoming meetings we will have some important guest speakers. In September, the speaker's topic will be about signs to look for when someone you care about could be showing suicidal intentions.

October's meeting, we will have the Trust and Health carriers here. If we can get enough signatures there will be plenty of nurses here to check your blood pressure and give covid and flu shots free of charge.

Last of all we would like to thank Nylice Thomas for helping with the meal tickets. Cheryl Deitrick, Delinda Caves and Bill Thomas for the kitchen help and Carol Miller for the vaccine signup sheet.

Until next time, please be safe.



### Retirees Report By Ivan Burgei, Recording Sec

Once again, the Grandparents/Grandkids Day at the UAW Park was a great success. We had two face painters this year and the lines of kids to be decorated with their favorite characters was non-stop. The snow cone line never stopped either. Lily



## NEGOTIATED BENEFITS

- COLLECTIVE BARGAINING PROTECTION/ REPRESENTATION
- WAGES
- HEALTH CARE/DENTAL/VISION
- 401(k) CONTRIBUTIONS/PENSIONS
- VACATION TIME
- PAID HOLIDAYS
- SAFETY REGULATIONS/SAFER WORK ENVIRONMENT
- PROFIT SHARING/BONUS PAY
- SENIORITY
- SICK LEAVE
- FMLA
- OVERTIME PAY
- JOB SECURITY
- TRAINING
- TAP
- APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

These benefits were fought and won for you by your union at the negotiation tables. They can easily be taken away. Like Walter Reuther said, "There is a direct relationship between the ballot box and the bread box, and what the union fights for and wins at the bargaining table can be taken away in the legislative halls."



## Voter Registration

Due to the recent purging of voters in Ohio please verify your voting status this year by

October 7, 2024. You can easily check your status at [www.vote.org](http://www.vote.org).

Early and absentee voting by mail will begin on October 8, 2024. Please check your local election board for the times.



## Union History

The National Labor Union was established on August 20, 1866, in Baltimore Maryland. They were the first union recognized in the United States. The National Labor Union was the first labor union to call for an 8-hour workday. It took until 1916 for the Adamson Act to go into effect which set the standard for the 8-hour work day. The Supreme Court upheld the decision made by a lower court when railroad workers took the company to court in Wilson VS. New.

This decision helped to start the Fair Labor Standards Act which gave even more protections and setting the 40-hour work week along with overtime bonuses and wages.

*History.com*

## RETIREE SPOTLIGHT

If you like to be featured in the "Retiree Spotlight" or know someone who would,

please contact

Lisa Rankin at the UAW Hall  
(419) 784-5399 or email

Tina Cattell at  
[uawlocal211web@gmail.com](mailto:uawlocal211web@gmail.com).



# GRANT MUNCY MEMORIAL CAR SHOW JUNE 23, 2024





## Quench Your Thirst With Union-Made GATORADE

**Our sympathy for your loss...  
To our bereaved members and  
their families, we offer our  
condolences for the loss of  
their loved ones. We extend our  
sincere sympathy to the families of:**

Nathaniel Leftwich – Retired 11/04

James Tobias – Retired 1/99

Lewis Allen – Retired 9/93

Mason Demland – Retired 1/93

Ronald Lulfs – Retired 9/93

Keith Kinner – Retired 8/08

Philip Winkler – Retired 1/95

Melvin Corwin – Retired 3/93

Bill Hall – Retired 1/91

Larry Jackson – Retired 7/06

Leon L. Froelich – Retired 2/12

Victor Lloyd – Retired 6/06

Keith Wilhelm – Retired 12/96

Melvin Hoch – Retired 10/98

**\*Correction from June  
newsletter - Doug Layne's  
retirement date was January 2018**

## **TO ALL RETIRED & ACTIVE LOCAL 211 MEMBERS:**

**If you would like to submit an  
article or announcement of  
activities at your plant for the  
Local 211 newsletter, please  
send an email to  
[tonyahuss22@gmail.com](mailto:tonyahuss22@gmail.com)  
or [local211@defnet.com](mailto:local211@defnet.com)**

For the 300 members of Local 1999-15 in Indianapolis, the Gatorade sports drink does far more than simple quench their thirst. It provides them and their families with the quality of life and sense of security that comes with USW membership.

Unit President Bailey Carter, a USW member for 18 years, said it also gives him a feeling of pride when he walks through his neighborhood and encounters young Little League, soccer or football players who ask him about the iconic beverages he helps to create.

"It's a great feeling," said Carter, who added that his participation in the USW's Next Generation program has helped him convey the importance of union membership to young workers.

"We let them know that this is what the union represent, that the union can get you good pay, a good job and can help you lead a good and decent life," he said.

Local 1999-15 also supports residents throughout the Indianapolis area by performing community service projects and making charitable donations, ensuring that the union difference is felt beyond the factory walls.

"They appreciate that," Carter said of the local's relationship to the community "It's something special."

In addition to producing bottled Gatorade drinks of every variety, Carter and his co-workers also make Muscle mile protein shakes for PepsiCo.

The Gatorade sports drink was developed in the 1960's for use by student athletes at the University of Florida, nick-named the Gators. It has since become known worldwide as a fixture on sports benches, as well as for the "Gatorade Shower" traditionally delivered to victorious coaches and athletes after big wins.

While PepsiCo operates six Gatorade plants in the United States, the Indianapolis location is the only one where workers enjoy USW representation. The site supplies retailers throughout the Midwest and the East Coast.

Carter said that while he's proud to be associated with such a popular product, he's even prouder of his USW membership. "Being a USW member means everything to me," Carter said. "it's about knowing that you're represented by the best union in the Country. *USW@work*

## Why Do We Celebrate Labor Day?

Labor Day, an annual celebration of workers and their achievements, originated during one of American labor history's most dismal chapters.

In the late 1800s, at the height of the Industrial Revolution in the United States, the average American worked 12-hour days and seven-day weeks in order to eke out a basic living. Despite restrictions in some states, children as young as 5 or 6 toiled in mills, factories and mines across the country, earning a fraction of their adult counterparts' wages.

People of all ages, particularly the very poor and recent immigrants, often faced extremely unsafe working conditions, with insufficient access to fresh air, sanitary facilities and breaks.

As manufacturing increasingly supplanted agriculture as the wellspring of American employment, labor unions, which had first appeared in the late 18th century, grew more prominent and vocal. They began organizing strikes and rallies to protest poor conditions and compel employers to renegotiate hours and pay.

Many of these events turned violent during this period, including the infamous Haymarket Riot of 1886, in which several Chicago policemen and workers were killed. Others gave rise to longstanding traditions: On September 5, 1882, 10,000 workers took unpaid time off to march from City Hall to Union Square in New York City, holding the first Labor Day parade in U.S. history.

The idea of a "workingmen's holiday," celebrated on the first Monday in September, caught on in other industrial centers across the country, and many states passed legislation recognizing it. Congress would not legalize the holiday until 12 years later, when a watershed moment in American labor history brought workers' rights squarely into the public's view. On May 11, 1894, employees of the Pullman Palace Car Company in Chicago went on strike to protest wage cuts and the firing of union representatives.

On June 26, the American Railroad Union, led by Eugene V. Debs, called for a boycott of all Pullman railway cars, crippling railroad traffic nationwide. To break the Pullman strike, the federal government dispatched troops to Chicago, unleashing a wave of riots that resulted in the deaths of more than a dozen workers.

In the wake of this massive unrest and in an attempt to repair ties with American workers, Congress passed an act making Labor Day a legal holiday in the District of Columbia and the territories. On June 28, 1894, President Grover Cleveland signed it into law. More than a century later, the true founder of Labor Day has yet to be identified.

Many credit Peter J. McGuire, cofounder of the American Federation of Labor, while others have suggested that Matthew Maguire, a secretary of the Central Labor Union, first proposed the holiday.

Labor Day is still celebrated in cities and towns across the United States with parades, picnics,

barbecues, fireworks displays and other public gatherings, especially over the long Labor Day weekend. For many Americans, particularly children and young adults, it represents the end of the summer and the start of the back-to-school season. *History.com*

## A Union-Made Labor Day BBQ Shopping Guide

LABOR 411

- **Hot Dogs, Meats, & Buns**
- Ball Park Franks (UFCW, IBT)
- Boar's Head (UFCW, IBT)
- Butterball turkey tenderloins, drumsticks, burgers, and franks (UFCW, IBT)
- Dearborn Sausage Company (IBT)
- Empire Kosher chicken and turkey (UFCW)
- Farmer John (IBT)
- Foster Farms poultry (IBT, UFCW)
- Hormel beef, pork, and chicken franks (IBT)
- Sara Lee buns (BCTGM, IBT, UFCW)
- Croweats buns (BCTGM)
- 
- **Snacks**
- Cheez-It (BCTGM)
- Cheetos (BCTGM)
- Doritos (BCTGM, IBT)
- Keebler (BCTGM, IBT)
- Nabisco (IBT)
- Ritz Crackers (BCTGM, IBT)
- Rold Gold Pretzels (BCTGM, IBT)
- Sun Chips (BCTGM, IBT)
- Wheat Thins (BCTGM, IBT)
- 
- **Beer**
- Budweiser (IBT, IAM)
- Coors Light (IUOE, IBT)
- Goose Island (IBT)
- Henry Weinhard's (IUOE, IBT)
- Miller Genuine Draft (UAW, IAM, IUOE, IBT)
- Miller Lite (UAW, IAM, IUOE, IBT)
- Red Stripe (IUE-CWA)
- Rolling Rock (IAM)
- Sam Adams (IBT, IUOE, SEIU)
- Shock Top (IAM, IUOE, IBT)
- Stella Artois (IAM)
- 
- **Drinks**
- 7UP (BCTGM)
- A&W (BCTGM)
- Barq's (IBT)
- Canada Dry (BCTGM)
- Coca-Cola (UAW)
- Dr. Pepper (UFCW, UAW)
- Gatorade (UAW)
- Mountain Dew (IBT)
- Pepsi (IBT)
- RC Cola (BCTGM)
- Sprite (IBT, UAW)

United Auto Workers  
Amalgamated Local 211  
2120 Baltimore Road  
Defiance, Ohio 43512



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Amalgamated Local 211  
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Defiance, Ohio 43512

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Facsimile: 419.784.5838  
Email: local211@defnet.com

**UAW Local 211 Unit Meetings**  
Please confirm exact dates and times.

**General Motors**

Active, Wednesday, October 2 (UAW Hall)

Retiree, Thursday, September 5 (UAW Hall)

**Herbert E. Orr**

Tuesday, September 3 (Paulding Fire House)

**Midwest Community FCU**

Wednesday, October 2 (UAW Hall)

**Sims Metal Management**

Tuesday, September 3 (UAW Hall)

**Johns Manville**

Tuesday, September 3 CANCELED (UAW Hall)

**Powers & Sons** Wednesday, October 9 (Drop Tine Winery & Tap House)

**DFM** Monday, September 9 (UAW Hall)

**Teijin Automotive Technologies** Monday, October 14 (USW Hall, Van Wert)

**Defiance Area UAW CAP Council** Tuesday, September 10

## Local 211 News

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Visit [uawlocal211.com](http://uawlocal211.com).

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The views or opinions expressed by the individual writers in *Local 211 News* are not necessarily those of the editors or of the Local 211 administration. The editors reserve the right to edit all material submitted. Any submissions for *Local 211 News* may be e-mailed to: [local211@defnet.com](mailto:local211@defnet.com) or dropped off at the UAW hall. Articles must be received by the Friday following the GM Unit membership meetings which are held on the first Wednesday of every month.

Here's a reminder! If you find a mistake in *Local 211 News*, please realize that we have not included it on purpose. But, if you feel inclined, bring it to our attention and every attempt will be made to correct it.



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is proudly printed  
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