



# POWERNEWS

Defiance Mission Statement...

**"ONE TEAM - INNOVATING THE FUTURE"**

February 27, 2025

## On this day in history (February 27)....

- 837 15th recorded perihelion passage of Halley's Comet
- 1813 First federal vaccination legislation enacted
- 1813 US Congress authorizes use of steamboats to transport mail
- 1827 First Mardi Gras celebration in New Orleans
- 1872 Charlotte Ray, 1st African American woman lawyer in USA, graduates from Howard University
- 1873 Dutch socialist Samuel van Wooden demands law against child labor
- 1879 Russian-American chemist Constantin Fahlberg discovers an artificial sweetener (later named 'saccharin'), while working on coal tar analysis at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland
- 1883 Oscar Hammerstein patents 1st cigar-rolling machine
- 1901 National League Rules Committee for baseball decrees that all fouls are to count as strikes except after two strikes
- 1922 US Supreme Court unanimously upholds 19th amendment to the US Constituent - women's right to vote
- 1951 22nd amendment ratified, limiting US Presidents to 2 terms
- 1956 Female suffrage granted in Egypt
- 1963 Mickey Mantle of the NY Yankees signs a baseball contract worth \$100,000
- 1964 The government of Italy asks for help to keep the Leaning Tower of Pisa from toppling over.
- 1970 NY Times (falsely) reports US army has ended domestic surveillance
- 1990 "Hold On" single released by Wilson Phillips (Billboard Song of the Year 1990)
- 1990 Exxon Corp and Exxon Shipping are indicted on 5 criminal counts (Valdez)
- 1996 American film production company "Happy Madison Productions" is founded by Adam Sandler
- 1996 First appearance of Pokémon in the role-playing video game "Pocket Monsters Red and Green" for Game Boy in Japan
- 2010 8.8 magnitude earthquake rattles central Chile; epicenter just off the coast also triggers a tsunami
- 2019 Smallest baby boy ever born to be later successfully released, goes home, after original birth weight of 268g (9.45oz) from Tokyo hospital

*By On This Day in History*

Local 211 UAW Veterans  
T-Shirt Sale  
\$20.00 Each

Please contact anyone  
from the Veterans Committee  
or contact the UAW Hall at  
419-784-5399

All proceeds from this sale  
will be donated to the  
Veteran's Home in  
Sandusky Ohio.

## Welcome back, Mike



In August, SPM 3rd Shift 920 Employee, Mike Ortiz had a life threatening Brain Tumor discovered. Mike has had a long and hard road to recovery, but tonight his teammates welcomed him back to work. Mike's jovialness and sense of humor was sorely missed by his teammates and we are thrilled to have him back at work after his recovery.

## DEFIANCE UNIFORM REP PHONE NUMBER



**Rich Becker**  
**(419)-389-7409**

*\*Text or Call Rich directly  
with any issues. Texting is best.*

# Black History Month 2025

This year's theme emphasizes Black Americans' significant contributions to the workforce throughout history. This year also marks the 100th anniversary of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and Maids (BSPC). This was the first Black union to receive a charter in the American Federation of Labor. This year, we spotlight the contributions of activist A. Philip Randolph, the union's founder and labor organizer.

Nearly every railroad in the South before the Civil War was built using slave labor. During the Civil War, thousands of African Americans were employed by the U.S. Military Railroads (USMRR) to move men and materials. Although virtually no records exist, "Historians are confident that African American workers contributed monumental efforts to the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad." (Source, National Park Service (NPS))



Image: Parks, Gordon, photographer. Washington, D.C. Portrait of A. Philip Randolph, labor leader. 1942. Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division

After the railroad was completed, African Americans worked in many capacities, including engineers,

porters, and firefighters. The Pullman Company was the nation's largest employer of African Americans during this time. The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters was founded in 1925 and was instrumental in advocating for equality and labor rights. Randolph rose to political prominence through his work with organized labor as a pioneer in advancing racial equality within the labor movement. He led campaigns to improve wages and working conditions for Blacks and whites.



Image: African American porters stand in front of a Pullman Company sleeping car. Source, National Park Service

Randolph worked with President Roosevelt's administration in drafting Executive Order 8802 (See p. 7395). This Order was issued In June 1941, banning discriminatory employment practices by Federal agencies and all unions and companies engaged in war-related work. The order also established the Fair Employment Practices Commission to enforce the new policy banning discrimination in defense industries, Federal employment, and the armed services. In July 1941, Executive Order 8823 provided for an additional Committee on Fair Employment Practice member in the Office of Production Management, established by Section 3 of Executive Order No. 8802.



Image: A Philip Randolph (seated, center) with leaders of the 1963 March on Washington: (from right to left) Mathew Ahmann, Cleveland Robinson, Rabbi Joachim Prinz, Joseph Rauh Jr, John Lewis, and Floyd McKissick. National Archives Photo

As one of the organizers of the 1963 March on Washington, Randolph fought for the oppressed of all races. In Martin Luther King Jr.'s 1967 Poor People's Campaign, he included Randolph's ideas about economic justice and the importance of Black people being fully recognized as citizens. In 1964, Randolph received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and in 1965, he founded the A. Philip Randolph Institute in Washington, D.C., to continue the struggle for social, political, and economic justice for all working Americans. In 1968, due to health issues, Randolph resigned as President of the BSPC. He died at 90 at his home in New York City on May 16, 1979.

By GovInfo

"I think that throughout the earliest days, even before the time when Rosa Parks or Martin Luther King, Jr., were famous, there was a sense throughout our Nation that A. Phillip Randolph stood for higher aspirations and equality of black Americans. He organized the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters in 1925. He was the vice president of the AFL-CIO, organized the first March on Washington For Civil Rights in 1941. He's a native of Florida. This year he's 90 years old. And I think that those who came later obviously saw him as having set a courageous example to be emulated. And Bayard, I hope that you will extend to Mr. Randolph my appreciation, recognition, and my friendship for the superb leadership that he gave many of those others who are being honored here in the White House this afternoon."

— Remarks by President James Carter Jr. at the White House Luncheon Honoring Recipients of the National Caucus on the Black Aged Organization's Living Legacy, February 23, 1979, [Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: James E. Carter, Jr. \(1979, Book I\) \(See p. 317\)](#)





# GMAAN & GM WOMEN 2025 DIAPER DRIVE

Q1

We collected: 3067 Diapers and 6384 Wipes



**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED!**



## Spirit Wear Fridays – February



# IT's a RED OUT



Happy Valentines Day

Send your Spirit Friday Pics to [Jeremiah.Fleischman@gm.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Fleischman@gm.com) 419-769-1859  
[Eric.Rogers@gm.com](mailto:Eric.Rogers@gm.com) 716-857-1045

Feb 7

Feb 14

Feb 21

Feb 28

# Call Security Dispatch

7911 on a land line  
**OR**  
(419) 784-7400 via cell



**This will ensure the quickest response time!**

## No Text is Worth Dying for

More than **100,000** crashes a year involve drivers who are texting, causing life-changing injuries and deaths



**77%** of teens have seen their parents text and drive – and 75 percent say it is “common” among their friends.<sup>2</sup>

Teens know that texting while driving is dangerous.



but ...



**43%** of teens admit to texting while driving.<sup>2</sup>

Texting drivers are 23 times more likely to be in an accident<sup>2</sup>



# March Food Truck Schedule

**2025**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
					1/2
3	4 <b>LOADED GASTRO</b> 10-1PM 530-8PM	5 <b>LOADED GASTRO</b> (DAY3) 12-2AM	6	7	8/9
10	11	12 <b>La MICHoacana</b> 10-1PM 530-8PM	13 <b>La MICHoacana</b> (Day 4) 12-2	14	15/16
17	18 <b>Wanna Make'er Loaded</b> (DAY 2) 12-2AM 10-1PM 530-8	19	20	21	22/23
24	25 <b>THE TAMALE GUY</b> (Day 2) 12-2AM 10-1PM 530-8PM	26	27	28	29/30
31					



## GROUP LEADER REMINDER:

2025 Monthly Folders have been added to the Teams Files. You can add any Employee Recognition to these folders and it will be added to the Plant TVs.

# AWARELINE

*Report with Confidence.  
Empower Integrity.*

**1-800-244-3460**

## Register for the Defiance Facebook Group



- Private Facebook group for current hourly, salaried, and contract employees.
- Employees can join to receive important business updates, plant recognitions, safety protocols, and additional plant information.
- When registering, you must request access using your own personal Facebook account and you will be prompted to enter your GMIN and answer additional questions for identification purposes.

**This is a private group and only current Defiance employees will be permitted to join.**

To sign up visit: [www.facebook.com/groups/GMDefianceTeam/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/GMDefianceTeam/)

**Tonya Huss**  
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