

UAW Local 31 News



UAW Local 31 Members talking to and thanking local and state officials (from Missouri and Kansas) for their support (Staff Photo)

The Never-Ending Fight for the Middle Class!



There is a war on the middle-class in this country. I know how tired and cliché that expression is, but it happens to be the truest representation of the challenge facing the UAW today. In 1979, the UAW boasted membership around 1,500,000. This represented the largest collection of middle-class workers in the country at the time; that's 1.5 million workers earning a fair livable wage; that's 1.5 million workers participating in collective bargaining; that means 1.5 million (potential) votes to promote support for labor rights and labor friendly candidates; that means 1.5 million families contributing the economic growth both in this country and worldwide. The drastic changes the UAW has seen over the last 30-plus years have been well documented.

Our membership as of 2014 is 403,466, less than 1/3rd of the 1.5 millions three decades ago. As the UAW membership shrank so did the American middle-class. And as the American middle-class shrank, the profits for Corporations skyrocketed. Coincidence? Of course not. The tactical, deliberate, attack on the largest representation of middle-class workers, has been as devious and unscrupulous as it has been downright successful. Our elected officials during this time have been more puppets than politicians and the puppet masters are the very corporations that see increased profits when your wages/benefits decrease. They have decimated our density by perpetuating negative stereotypes and passing "labor destructive" legislation (i.e. Right-to-Work). They do this under the guise of putting America first, while in actuality they are just furthering their true agenda of suckling at the teats of millionaire and billionaire donors. They have the money, but what we have is more powerful than money...We have the NUMBERS. In addition to the active membership,

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (COMPANIES TO HELP WITH RENT & UTILITY PAYMENTS)

Metro Lutheran Ministry - Northland - Emergency Assistance Coordinate social service programs which include emergency assistance (rent, utilities, food/commodities). Services: Commodity Supplemental Food Program, Electric Service Payment Assistance, Food Pantries, Rental Deposit Assistance, Rent Payment Assistance, Water Service Payment Assistance 1100 NE Vivion Rd, Kansas City, MO 64118 (816) 454-5295.

Saint Andrew The Apostle Catholic Church sponsored emergency assistance including utilities and rent. Services: Electric Service Payment Assistance, Gas Service Payment Assistance, Rent Payment Assistance, Water Service Payment Assistance (Assistance Not Provided at Church) 6415 NE Antioch Rd, Kansas City, MO 64119 (816) 453-2089 x2.

Community Assistance Council - Utility & Rent Assistance: Can assist with overdue rent, electric, gas and water bills when funds are available. Services: Electric Service Payment Assistance, Gas Service Payment Assistance, Rent Payment Assistance, Water Service Payment Assistance 10901 Blue Ridge, Kansas City, MO 64134 (816) 763-3277.

Operation Homefront - KS & MO Operation Homefront provides direct services to alleviate military families or individual's emergency, as well as counseling & recovery support. Services: Medical Care Expense Assistance, Mortgage Payment Assistance, Rent Payment Assistance, Undesignated Temporary Financial Assistance PO Box 175, Lee's Summit, MO 64063 (800) 722-6098.

Saint Charles Church - Rent & Utilities Assistance provided through Bishop Sullivan Center, with applications taken. Services: Electric Service Payment Assistance, Gas Service Payment Assistance, Rent Payment Assistance, Water Service Payment Assistance 900 NE Shady Lane Dr., Kansas City, MO 64118 (816) 231-0984.

Saint Thomas More - Emergency Assistance Church sponsored emergency assistance providing rent and utility assistance. Services: Electric Service Payment Assistance, Gas Service Payment Assistance, Rent Payment Assistance, Water Service Payment Assistance 11822 Holmes Rd, Kansas City, MO 64131 (816) 810-7863.

Community Services League - 39th Street Promotes self-sufficiency and provides integrated service delivery to those in need South of 23rd Street in Independence, MO. Services: Electric Service Payment Assistance, Food Pantries, Rent Payment Assistance, Winter Clothing Christ United Methodist Church, 14506 E 39th St Independence, MO 64055 (816) 254-8209.



Guadalupe Center - Family Support Center This site/location provides recreational, educational, social and cultural services to residents living on the Westside of Kansas City/Jackson County in Missouri. Services: Case/Care Management, Commodity Supplemental Food Program, Court Community Service Sites, Electric Service Payment Assistance, Food Pantries, Gas Service Payment Assistance, Job Finding Assistance, Language Instruction, Rent Payment Assistance, Teen Expectant/New Parent Assistance, Water Service Payment Assistance 1512 Van Brunt Blvd, Kansas City, MO 64127 (816) 561-6885.

Salvation Army – Northland Provides emergency assistance to eligible low-income individuals and families. Services: Air Conditioners, Case/Care Management, Electric Service Payment Assistance, Extreme Heat Cooling Centers, Faith Based Counselling, Fans, Food Pantries, Gas Service Payment Assistance, Religious Literature Distribution, Rental Deposit Assistance, Rent Payment Assistance, Social Clubs/Events, Water Service Payment Assistance, Winter Clothing 5306 N Oak Tfw, Kansas City, MO 64118 (816) 452-5663.

Northland Assistance Center Northland Assistance Center offers assistance to area residents in the form of electric, gas, water and rent. Services: Electric Service Payment Assistance, Food Pantries, Gas Service Payment Assistance, Rent Payment Assistance, Water Service Payment Assistance 2018 Gentry St Kansas City, MO 64116 (816) 421-2243.

Save, Inc. Provides housing solutions for people who are socially and medically disadvantaged by issues such as HIV/AIDS, mental illness and substance use. Services: Low Income/Subsidized Private Rental Housing, Rent Payment Assistance PO Box 45301, Kansas City, MO 64171 (816) 531-8340.

Local 31 News/Media

Communications:

Eric Chappell, Communication Rep.

Robert Pacheco, Newspaper

Mikayla Reves, OPEIU277

Website/Social Media:

Nicholas Livick,

Ed Peaslee,

Milton Henry

A Message From Benefits : Retirees

For 2024, the Trust is enhancing its over the counter (OTC) benefits. Effective January 1, the new Trust OTC benefit will be through CVS. Under the CVS program, members will be issued a “flex card,” which allows them to not only order by phone and online but also purchase approved products at a CVS pharmacy or other retailer in the OTC Network. There are over 68,000 retail locations participating in the OTC Network.

I always say when something is good it is good. The **annual allowance for the Trust OTC benefit will be increased to \$200 for all members regardless of their healthcare plan.** Because of the transition to CVS, members who currently are eligible for this benefit have **until December 15, 2023**, to place orders using their 2023 annual allowance. (Non-Medicare HMO plan members are not eligible for the Trust OTC benefit in 2023.) This does not mean anyone living in Kansas City, KS/MO and surrounding areas.

All members will receive a letter from the Trust in late November to explain this transition. An online educational video will be available in December. Members will receive a postcard with a link to the video, as well as an invitation to participate in a webinar/teleconference about the program. Members will receive their “flex cards” in late December and a welcome kit—including a catalog—in early January.

Just another reminder: Please make sure your address and phone number are updated. If you have moved and you are not receiving any communications from UAW Local 31. This is the right time to get everything updated. Have you ever thought about what is to go on with UAW Local 31? Especially now with so much going on. The best way to stay connected is to reach out and say hello. Send a thanking of you, card or just reaching out the best way you know how.

Hopefully, you have received your 2024 highlight. Please read it carefully. There are some good things being offered next year in your Healthcare plan. We will talk about that next month. Looking forward to seeing everyone next month at the Retiree Thanksgiving dinner.

Thank you,

Bobbie Dunnell Dedire Hawkins Norma Raya Nancy Hicklin Shannon Roehl Wickinson Zokie Simien-Jackson

Presidents Message Continued.

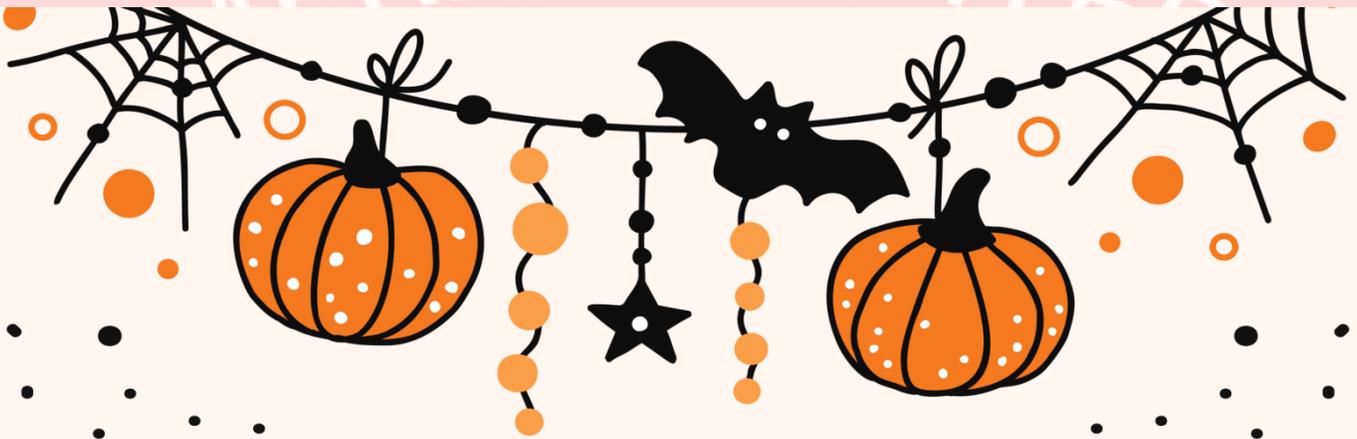


the UAW has over 580,000 retired members (USA, Canada & Puerto Rico) with families & friends (both internet and actual friends). We must enthusiastically tell our story. Remind the world that the UAW is still the foremost leader is organized labor. Remind them that the UAW negotiated the first ever employer-paid health insurance plan for industrial workers. Remind them that on average union workers make approximately \$200 more per pay period than non-union workers. Remind them that union workers enjoy safer working conditions, better health/medical benefits and consequently live longer than non-union workers. If we unapologetically remind this country of who we are, united we can collectively talk to our politicians in the only language they understand... VOTES!

This is not about party affiliation. This is not about identity politics. This is not about political correctness. This is not about religious beliefs. This is about a fair-livable wage. This is about a dignified retirement. This is about social equality. This is about using our diverse membership to our advantage. This is about focusing on the many threads that bind us together, not the few that will surely rip us apart. This election and every election to come, support candidates that support you; because you are the UAW.

President Dontay M. Wilson





UAW LOCAL 31

**FT. RWDSU 184-L & UAW LOCAL 249
(KELLOGG) (FORD)**



Trunk *OR* TREAT

SATURDAY

**28
OCT.**

4-7PM

**DONATIONS ACCEPTED AT
THE UNION HALL.**

500 KINDELBERGER RD. KCK 66115



MR/OPEIU277

DONTAY M. WILSON
UAW LOCAL 31 PRESIDENT

OPEN A NEW
CHECKING ACCOUNT
AND SET UP DIRECT DEPOSIT

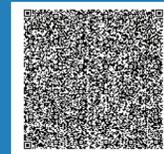
EARN
\$150*

Special
OFFER

FOR UAW MEMBERS ONLY


MAINSTREET[™]
CREDIT UNION
MAINSTREETCU.ORG

APPLY NOW



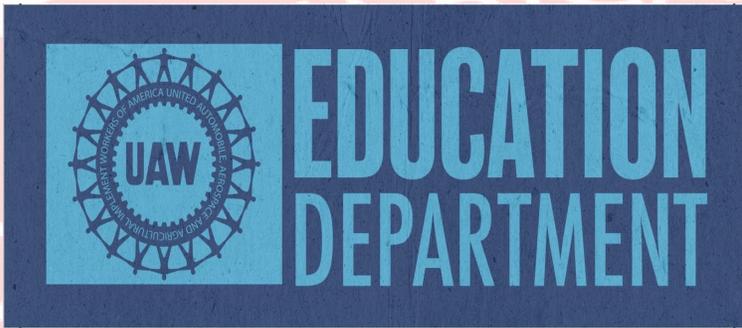
*Offer valid for checking accounts opened between October 1st, 2023 and November 30th, 2023.. Limit one account per person. Valid for new Members and current Members without an established checking account. Requires new checking relationship with the Credit Union (those with existing checking accounts do not qualify). \$150 Bonus - Checking Account Bonus Requirements: Membership eligibility required. Member must present proof of GM Fairfax employment. The Member must open the checking account by November 30th, 2023. The Member must have a UAW direct deposit posted to the account at least once within 60 days of account opening. \$150 will be deposited into the primary savings account within 20 days of meeting the qualifications. Account must be active and in good standing with no fraudulent activity. Business, Minor, Trust, Custodial, and Representative Payee accounts are not eligible for this promotion. All bonus payments will be reported to the Internal Revenue Service as an extraordinary dividend in the year they are paid. Offer is subject to change or cancellation without notice. Employees, Board of Directors, and volunteers of Mainstreet Credit Union are not eligible.

Federally Insured by NCUA.

UAW Member Specific Loan Offer/Loan Extension

To better assist our UAW members during these challenging times Mainstreet Credit Union has introduced a checking account promotion exclusively for our UAW members, enabling them to receive a \$150 deposit when they open a new checking account and set up a direct deposit. Additionally, we are offering a \$1,000 loan at 0% APR* to our UAW members with no required payments for the first 60 days. For our current members with loans, we offer the possibility of loan extensions** to help keep your loan payments on track.

Contact: 913-599-1010



We Stand Up Because They Sat Down

12 hour days. Overloaded jobs. 7 days a week. No recourse. No options. No rights. This was the reality for factory workers, especially auto workers, in the 1930's. Sounds eerily similar to conditions that we have been experiencing on the line for the past several years across our company and Union. There are several parallels to be drawn from these two vastly different yet so similar times in our history. In the mid 1930's we were, as a nation, recovering from the Great Depression (barely). Union membership, having faced a major decline in the previous decades, was on the rise again. The Wagner Act was passed by Congress in 1935 creating the NLRB and federal protections for Unions. The conditions were ripe; for a revolution. The UAW was officially founded on Aug. 26, 1935. In 1935, the US government determined that an annual income of one thousand six hundred dollars (\$1,600) was the minimum on which a family of four could live; the average auto worker took home around nine hundred dollars (\$900) annually. In July of 1936, there were hundreds of deaths in auto plants in Michigan that were thought to be a result of a heat wave combined with working conditions. Following a smaller sit down strike in November, the General Motors workers at Flint started their strike, legally, and took control of Body Plant Number One on December 30th. They sat down on the job,

walked out management and did not leave. By the end of the strike, the workers controlled three of the General Motors Flint factories. The workers never left their sites, their families and friends would bring food to them and walk the picket line. 44 days after that first factory sat down, GM announced a twenty-five million dollar (\$25,000,000) wage increase and recognized the UAW as the sole bargaining unit for General Motors. Today we find our economy in a similar condition, having been weakened due to the economic stressors of the past few years, we find ourselves fighting rising inflation and a cost of living that has far outpaced our wages. We have many more rights and privileges in the workplace than those workers in the thirties had, but only because they fought hard for those self-same rights. We also find ourselves at a point where the concessions this membership gave to save the company from failing in 2007/8 are no longer even looked at as such by the companies as they would offer contracts that would further reduce our wages, benefits, and rights. The membership has faced down all out corruption at the highest levels of our organization in recent times and is understandably concerned about contract negotiations occurring immediately following such high profile scandals by past negotiators.

We also find ourselves with conditions ripe for change. In the past three years there have been many Unions fighting for just conditions of employment and winning. Our fellow UAW members at John-Deere, Case-New Holland, and many others have gone on strike and won record contracts. The Teamsters members at many of their Locals have done the same; notably UPS. The international

leadership for the UAW, having been elected as such with a newly established direct election by the membership, have worked out a new strategy to honor those workers in the thirties. This time, instead of sitting down, they are asking the members to stand up. Stand up to management, stand ready to strike if necessary, stand strong in solidarity with all the big three workers in this fight to win back what we are owed. In order for this new strategy to work, there are some hurdles that we are having to cross. Expired contracts, no arbitration, some striking locals while others work, "no work available" situations, etc. These are all new issues for all of us and while the situation has been very fluid on our end and feels chaotic. Leadership across the UAW, from our Local up to the national parties, is working tirelessly and passionately to make sure that there are no members being disadvantaged and are fighting to protect the membership every step of the way. They need our support, though. In order to be effective in negotiations, we need to let international leadership implement their plan and trust that we are all fighting together for the betterment of not just our personal wages, but working conditions for the working class. Just as we have vastly improved conditions compared to the thirties, we too can have a vision for the future that guarantees the future auto workers look back and see that we are fighting to ensure that workers in this country can support their families and live with dignity with conditions we can only imagine today.

In Solidarity,
Luke Godwin and Stacy Ponds
Local 31 Education Committee

Organizing: Showing Support



Victor Pereira, Shand DeWolf, Jason Addie, Nick Livick and Dustin Werner

At 2250 Wentzville to show support (Photo N. Livick)

A Trip To Wentzville

I think that for Fairfax this strike has been different. The plants that are striking have a purpose. The plants that are working have a purpose. We are sort of in this limbo of layoff and I think it takes away some of the pride that we felt four years ago when we were walking the picket line. We were all a little tired of it so we decided that getting out to help was our best way to feel connected. The plan was to go out Wednesday and return the same day but I was called in to negotiate the grievances for my district. I really wanted to go and so we decided Saturday was the best bet. It was myself, Shana DeWolf, Jason Addie, Dustin Werner and Nick Livick (and family) who made the trip. It was so totally worth the three-hour drive. I recommend that anyone who can, should get out and do it. We arrived in Wentzville and it was the changing of the picket lines so we hung back while the vans took the

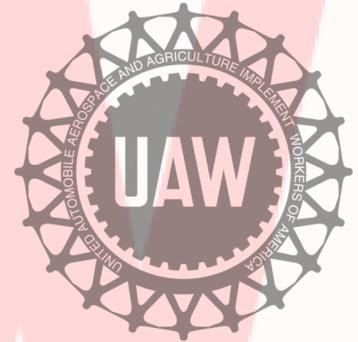
picketing brothers and sisters to their gates. We met some old friends and some people we all knew from online interactions for the first time in real life. No one was griping. It was cold, a little overcast and drizzling at times, but no one really complained. We talked about the strike and most of the people I talked to were proud of the way that President Fain was strategically implementing the progression of the plants who were to stand up. The van that drove us was driven by Gina Turner a former Fairfax employee who got us out to the gate. After dropping off Nick Livick, his wife, and their little boy at the safest gate for the child's safety. We of course wanted the gate with the most action, but it was Saturday so none of them had much action. The day was cold but they had fires going so we would walk and when it got too much we'd warm up our hands and bodies. They cooked delicious wings over a propane flame on the other side of the road. The people in Wentzville we talked to were hopeful. They were optimistic about the chances for a good contract and kept making note of how much we had already gotten negotiated using this new method of striking. I think everyone is ready to get back to work, ourselves included, but the peo-

ple in Wentzville knew that "They took too much from us in 07, and now it's us who has to fight them everyday so we can have quality cars. We work hard and have to literally fight them just to do our jobs right," Tracy (2250) told me." We need to continue until we are made whole from what was taken in 2007", was the consensus opinion from everyone we met. We all walked the line holding our signs that were being blown back and crumpling from some heavy winds. But the honks from passing cars and thumbs up from fathers, daughters and sons that passed by the busy intersection in front of the plant got us all hooting and hollering. It brought me back when we walked the line in 2015. We only picketed for a few hours but do plan on returning in a few weeks. The people picketing are the main reason. They were so thoughtful and genuinely nice. They offered us hand warmers and kept thanking us. We kept telling them it was us who owed them thanks but they wouldn't hear it. They just appreciated us making the trip down there. The people we met really were great brothers and sisters. The folks there, a woman named Shawna who was a captain, said that they



Continued on pg. 14

Red Shirt Rally: We Are All In This Together!



September 28th, 2023

Local 31 held a rally in support of the Stand Up Strike where community and political allies came out in support. There were many community groups in attendance: Stand Up KC, KCDSA, KC Tenants, Happy Bottoms many of these organizations joined us on the picketlines in 2019 and Local 31 is grateful for their continued support. We also had several notable politicians from both sides of the state line including: Kansas Governor Laura Kelley, KCMO Mayor Quinton Lucas and KCK Mayor Tyrone Garner as well as many local and state reps Local 31&249 fought hard to get elected. It was a day full of speeches condemning the greed of the Big 3, camaraderie and food. We are incredibly thankful to all of the members who came out, the volunteers who made it possible and the solidarity shown to us as we continue to fight for a contract that acknowledges our sacrifices.



Red Shirt Rally: We Are All In This Together!



KCK Mayor—Tyrone Garner



Kansas Governor—Laura Kelly



KCMO Mayor—Quinton Lucas



UAW Local 31 President Dontay Wilson speaks with KCK Mayor Tyrone Garner (Staff Photo)



A Message From the Chaplaincy Committee

Psalm 89:14

“Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; Mercy and truth go before Your face.”

“Holy Father, protect them by the power of Your name, the name You gave Me, so that they may be one as we are One.”

This prayer draws us to You in humility to ask Your Help to be united in Your Spirit as ONE. Help us to join together and move forward in the spirit of love, kindness, empathy, and unity. We thank You for our Nation and the support of President Joe Biden as he and his administration walk in global solidarity for all labor unions. So with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence we pray for UAW International President Shawn Fain, every Vice President, and the entire I.E.B. and negotiating team...as they endeavor to facilitate labor agreements and negotiations for a strong contract. They are carrying an enormous burden which affects our Union as well as the entire Nation. Grant them the desire to seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, praying for the knowledge of Your will, and the power to carry it out. We ask for guidance knowledge, wisdom and discernment as they advance and progress forward into the next dimension of this historic movement. SO FROM THE LEADERSHIP OF UAW LOCAL 31...President Dontay Wilson, Shop Chairman Doug Bias Jr., Acting Shop Chairman Cameron Crandall, and the entire Executive Board. And YOU...yes YOU...the highest authority of this membership who has selflessly given charge to grab hold of the UAW wheel to STAND UP to corporate greed, STAND UP for economic Justice, And to STAND UP for our families and communities. Brothers and Sisters I encourage you to be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the LORD knowing that your labor in the LORD is not in vain. So let us not grow weary or become discouraged in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap what we have sown in prayer if we do not give up. So be aware as a **Labor Union** that the weapons are being formed against us, but the **Bible** says they will not prosper. There is no power in the world that can stop the forward march of this historic labor movement because what God has united together no one can divide. For we are created in the image of God and are designed to experience success and fulfillment through our labor. So we declare this as our command—be strong and courageous, do not be afraid or discouraged, for the LORD our God is with us wherever we go. Your WILL be done in us is our battle cry...now let the Kingdom of God rise and come forth, in the name of Jesus! Let us stand firm in our faith, stable in our biblical convictions to hold up our **strike lines** with this unshakable truth, WE ARE. . .One Nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for ALL People. SOLIDARITY FOREVER IS OUR PRAYER!

Amen my brothers and sisters. - UAW Chaplaincy Committee

In Memoriam:

Omar Coates'

Joined: 6/17/2013

Retired: N/A

Dept: 11

Passed: 9/29/2023

Billy Joe Buckley

Joined: 11/27/1976

Retired: 8/1/2006

Dept: 87

Passed: 9/6/2023

Benjamin Ortega

Joined: 11/19/1964

Retired: 2/1/1999

Dept: 19

Passed: 10/18/2023

Larry Engleman

Joined: 12/12/1983

Retired: 5/1/2018

Dept: 43

Passed: 9/30/2023

Larry Logan

Joined: 6/7/1982

Retired: 9/1/2006

Dept: 17

Passed: 10/7/2023

Chad Weaver

Joined: 6/24/1999

Retired: N/A

Dept: 17

Passed: 9/22/2023

James L. Mountjoy

Joined: 6/27/1949

Retired: 4/1/1991

Dept: 70

Passed: 9/18/2023



William Bledsoe

Joined: 6/26/1949

Retired: 4/1/1979

Dept: 87

Passed: 9/11/2023

A Message From Our Retirees

Hello Sisters and Brothers,

Happy October! Looks like autumn is finally here. Who doesn't love the beautiful colors of fall?! We had such a fun day in Warsaw recently. From the relaxing bus rides, the union meeting and seeing friends from the lake area, to the always entertaining auction and the delicious food, we had a day to remember! If you haven't gone on this FREE and FUN trip, you are missing out! Sign up next year - it's always on the 4th Thursday in September. Our next retiree meetings will be ones you won't want to miss. **Tuesday, November 21st** is our Thanksgiving dinner meeting, and **Tuesday, December 19th** is our Christmas dinner meeting. Mark your calendars, people! These are the meetings when we have the most turnout. It's so enjoyable to see and visit with our friends and coworkers. Please plan to come out! We won't have another show at the New Theatre until **Saturday, February 10, 2024** - "Elvis, Aloha from Vegas" \$35 each. Then on **Saturday, April 27, 2024**, we are scheduled to see "Squabbles" \$35 each. There will be more information on these shows in the upcoming articles. Also, the UAW Local 31



Retiree Members pictured at the Day of Caring Event at the Hall

Bowling League always needs more bowlers. It's a fun league that meets every Tuesday afternoon. If you're interested or have questions, please call league president, Al Hensley, at 816-674-1286. For any of the shows or events - questions or to sign up - please call Susan at 816-522-4111, or Kelli 816-200-4953, or Mikayla at the union hall 913-342-7330. Let's stay active and have some fun! See you at the next retiree meeting in November!

Retiree Recreation Committee - Libby Dantzler, Kelli Saucerman, Susan Simmons

UAW Local 31 Active Benefits

ACTIVE BENEFITS

New Insurance Cards were sent out the end of July from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, due to the change of Mental Health Care Coverage. If you have not received your new card, please contact BCBS of Michigan 1-800-482-2210. **Please check make sure your address is updated in Socrates.**

FMLA-Please make sure you have received official documentation from Sedgwick stating you have been approved for FMLA leave. Contact Sedgwick 1-800-489-4646 for new claims or questions concerning your claim status.

Disability-Please make sure your paperwork is complete and sent in a timely manner. All doctor's paperwork must have doctor's notes included with his portion. You must be out 8 days or more and be seen by a doctor within seven days.

Retirement-We asked that you make an appointment with one of the Benefit Reps to go over all your options and paperwork. This is a time and important procedure that we want to make sure a member understands their pension and benefit changes.

Physical Therapy is being serviced by BCBS of Michigan, please make sure you stay in network. Call BCBS for approval and providers.

LTD-Long Term Disability Insurance payments through Metlife reminder; will be processing this month. This is only applies for the In-Progression members that signed up.



Legal Services- Contact 1-800-482-7700.

CVS Caremark-1-800-364-6331 CVS Prescription Fax 1-800-294-5979. Any long-term prescriptions must go through the maintenance program. CVS only allows three 30 day refills for maintenance prescriptions.

Note: GM Insurance is certified through October 31st, 2023. The UAW Benefit Reps are checking the status daily due to our current situation.

Benefit Reps and EAP Reps have made themselves available at the Union Hall, please call the Hall to make an appointment

Benefits Representatives: 913-573-7421 / 913-573-7422

Bobbie Dunnell, 1st Shift

Shannon Roehl-Wickingson 2nd shift

Norma Raya and Alternate Dedire Hawkins

WORK FAMILY EAP

1ST Shift Carol Thompkins

2nd Shift Anthony Walker/ Roger Stark

Contact the Hall to make an appointment

Local 31 Retiree Recreations

Hello Sisters and Brothers,

Happy September! We imagine everyone is ready for cooler weather, it's been a long, hot summer. This article will be sort of a recap of last month, with one change. Our New Theatre show "Always A Bridesmaid" has been moved to **Saturday, November 18th**. This date is far more favorable for members with regard to planning and paying for a seat. Same great show, same great lunch, different date. Money for this show will be due by the **October 17th** retiree meeting. \$35 each. Sign up soon!

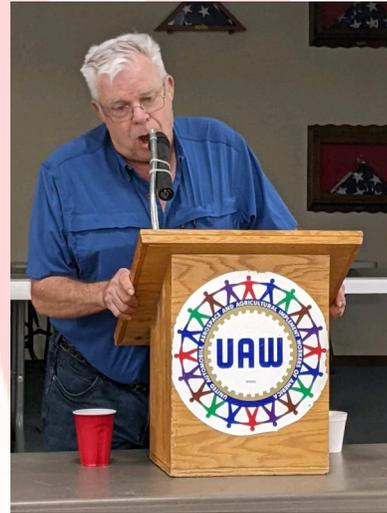
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Saturday, April 27, 2024 - "Squabbles" \$35 each.

Also, the UAW Local 31 Bowling League starts up on **Tuesday, September 12th**. They always need more bowlers. It's a fun league that meets every Tuesday afternoon. If you're interested or have questions, please call league president, Al Hensley, at 816-674-1286. Mark your calendars for these events and sign up, people!

For any of the shows or events - questions or to sign up - please call Susan at 816-522-4111, or Kelli 816-200-4953, or Mikayla at the union hall 913-342-7330. Let's stay active and have some fun! See you at the next retiree meeting on November 21st!

Retiree Recreation Committee - Libby Dantzler, Kelli Saucerman, Susan Simmons



September 28th, 2023 Local 31 Retirees enjoy the annual Fish Fry and take time out to show support for our cause! Remember the Retirees!



Photos courtesy: Local 31 Retiree Rec Committee



Halloween Word Search



O M A S K M T E S Z A N Q R B O N E E B
H A L L O W E E N H I R V Y D N A C O J
S E V A R G U G Q E G F Z H A T D B A T
B P A R J Q H I T K K C O S G O B L I N
I R I W E A N S O D R A Y E V A R G B M
G L W D U T N M W C O S U W W H W Q T V
E T W N E E S X X I C N L C J V L E A R
U R T B K R M N C K T O P U M P K I N S
R E A N U E O D O B I C S A D Z Q B X Y
D Q A C L N O A T M G T H T N E K R U T
A R V E S O N A D A Q A O Z U I K M F R
F H U R S T I L M P E C C Z H M G C T A
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P B S A K K X R B N M E W L X Y E T O G
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F C G R E M N U Z L A I O J C E D V T X
Q K Q N R E B O T C O T B K T Y W M J C

Word list:

- | | | | | |
|---------|--------------|---------|----------|----------|
| BAT | DRACULA | HAUNTED | PARTY | SPOOKY |
| BLACK | FRANKENSTEIN | HORROR | PUMPKINS | TREAT |
| BONE | GHOST | MASK | TRICK | VAMPIRE |
| BOO | GOBLIN | MONSTER | SCARE | WEREWOLF |
| CANDY | GRAVE | MOON | SCREAM | WICKED |
| CAT | GRAVEYARD | NIGHT | SKELETON | WITCH |
| COSTUME | HALLOWEEN | OCTOBER | SPIDER | ZOMBIE |



Continued from pg. 7



Teach them young!

(Photo N. Livick)

couldn't take cash so if you go or want to send supplies, send or bring the supplies. They need diapers, food for the pantry, baby wipes, razors and basic grooming equipment. But I think seeing us down there showed them that they are supported by other brothers and sisters, and that is something I really do think they need. As I said in the beginning, I think the four of us had felt very disconnected and aimless because we aren't out on the frontlines the way we were in the past. But we did feel more connected on the drive home from there. I think the people out there appreciated our trip out to walk with them. I think we are all ready to get back to regular life but I really do think we need to get as much back as we can before we go back because the optimism is really high on this contract. And the people out there are feeling the same. No one likes to strike. But I think all of us feel unappreciated for the work we do that is making lots of people rich. I think we all just want them to get rich from production and not in gutting our livelihoods to do it. If you decide to make the trip to Wentzville get with 31 President Dontay Wilson and let him know so he can ask for any donations to bring. And I really do recommend getting out there and walking the line for a few hours it was good for our souls.

Organizing Committee Submitted by : Victor Pereira / Nick Livick , Chairperson

UAW Local 31 Endorsements

Wyandotte County Races:

UG Commissioner At Large

Dist 1 – Ricky Smith
Dist 3 – Tina Medina
Dist 4 – Tarence Maddox
Dist 6 – Steve Neal

BPU

Dist 1 – Stevie Wakes
Dist 3 – Bret Parker

USD202 School Board

Daniel Soptik

USD203 School Board

Ashley Biondi (incumbent)
Jeb Vader (incumbent)
Allison Armstrong

USD 500 School Board

Robert L. Milan, Jr
Angelynn Howell

KCKCC Board of Trustees

Jammie Johnson
Don Ash
Dachia T. Busch

Leavenworth County

City Council

Holly Pittman

Johnson County Municipal

Races:

Gardner

At Large – Heather Koelzer
At Large – Mark Wiehn (incumbent)

Shawnee

Ward One - Sierra Whitted
Ward Two - Jeanie Murphy
Ward Four - Laurel Burchfield

Lenexa

Mayor - Julie Sayers
Ward One - Courtney Eiterich (incumbent)
Ward Two - Jermaine Jamsion
Ward Four - Chris Herron

Leawood

Mayor - Steve Hentzen
Ward One – Bob Brettell (dual endorsement)
Ward One – Alan Sunkel (dual endorsement)

Merriam

Ward One – Jason Silvers (incumbent)
Ward Two – Whitney Yadrich

Mission

Ward One – Trent Boultinghouse (incumbent)

De Soto

At Large - Courtney Tripp

Gardner (

Mark Wiehn (incumbent)
Tory Roberts (incumbent)

Olathe School Board

Claire Reagan
Brad Boyd (incumbent)
Stacey Yurkovich(incumbent)
Will Babbit

Blue Valley School Board

Clay Norkey



Financial Secretary's Corner



Financial Secretary Leo Carrillo

Brothers and Sisters. I would like to thank all of the volunteers who had helped with registration for strike/layoff benefits. It was a great success. So much that the International Staff that was here commended this local on how we got the job done. There was a lot of work that went into this in the months leading up to the end of this current contract. Thank you to the staff at Local 31 and Benefits for the support to be able to get this done and the volunteers who have helped at the hall. And to you, the Membership. I know that this was a new process and we weren't particularly sure on how things were going to go. Some of our members did have some issues. I appreciate those who were patient and understanding as we worked through them.. We have had some members recalled to work in certain departments. I have been working with the Shop Committee to identify those individuals. But as a courtesy please call the hall or even better yet email me if you

will be reporting to work and or ending work and going back on layoff status. It's very important that there is no double dipping. You may be penalized by not receiving future strike/layoff benefits. Remember, these are our Dues Dollars being used to pay us! Money that we as members have invested in over the years. For members returning to work from sick leave please call the hall to make arrangements for registration.

In Solidarity,

Leo Carrillo

Financialsecretary@uawlocal31.org

Salute To ALL Those That Have Served Our Country!!

