



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 October 2017

What is Issue 2? The Ohio Drug Price Relief Act?

By Sheri Baker Local 211 UAW CAP Chairperson

There are a lot of questions concerning this issue, which will be on the ballot November 7, 2017. Issue 2 will start the process of getting the exorbitant drug prices in Ohio under control. By getting the drug prices under control, it will save the Ohio tax payers millions of dollars. Not only will it save tax payers money on their own medications it will save Medicare and Medicaid millions. It is estimated that if the Drug Relief Act passes, the state of Ohio will save around \$750 million a year.

If the issue passes, the state of Ohio would pay the same amount for prescriptions drug that the U.S. Department VA (Veterans Affairs) pays for theirs. It will also make sure that if the price is below the price for the VA, the price can be negotiated for the state. Why is the Department of Veterans Affairs being used as a standard for drug pricing? In 1992, President George H. W Bush signed into law the Veterans Healthcare Act of 1992. This law places common sense limits on how much drug companies can increase prices on their drugs each year. The Department of Veterans Affairs pays 20-24% less for drugs than what the drug companies charges customers.

Millions of Ohioans will benefit from this relief act. Ohio could save hundreds of millions of dollars on drug purchases. This will provide more money to be used on other healthcare items. Ultimately this

proposal could force drug companies to moderate their prices for other consumers. Once insurance companies and the public see the drug plan working, the insurance companies will put pressure on the drug companies to lower the cost for the public.

3.7 million Ohio Medicaid recipients would be affected by lower prices, Ohio workers on workers compensation (225,000) would also benefit, Ohio state employees (134,000), Ohio children receiving vaccinations (67,000), and Ohio inpatients at OSU Wexner Medical Center (41,000) would all benefit from this issue passing.

194,375 Ohio voters signed the petitions to get the Ohio Drug Price Relief Act on the ballot. The drug industry, who does not want this to pass, has friends in Washington D.C. and have been able to squash any sign of reform. Ohio voters can send a powerful message to Washington and the drug industry by passing this proposal.

Three dozen pharmaceutical companies spent about \$125 million to defeat a bill in California like this one. For a company to have that much money to spend on defeating a proposal should tell us something.





President's Report

By Keith Boecker

The GM unit had two retirements from GM as of September 1st, Georgia Williamson and Patrick Lineback. There was one from Powers and Sons unit, Russell Luke.

I want to wish you all a very happy and healthy retirement. Thank you for your years of service to the UAW.

Third Shift Committeeperson Election for Aramark Unit was held, Josh Morris won the election and I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate him. I know he will do a great job serving our Local Union.

The next CAP meeting will be on Tuesday November 14th. Dinner is served at 5:00 pm and the meeting begins at 5:30.

On October 19th there will be a Right to Work meeting here at the hall at 5:00 p.m. If you are interested in attending please contact Lisa or someone from the CAP council to RSVP. There will be a dinner served before the meeting begins.

The Defiance Area UAW-CAP council has endorsed the following candidates;

For Defiance County: Dave McMasters for Defiance City Council President, Joe Eureste for Defiance City Council at Large, Jill Krutch for Defiance City Council at Large, John Hancock for Defiance City council at Large, David Plat for Defiance City Council 3rd Ward councilman, Cathy Davis for Defiance City School Board. For Putnam County, Charlie Zimmerman for Monroe Twp. Trustee. If you would like a list of these candidates you can pick up the list of candidates at the UAW Hall.

Our Local's Recreation Committee has set a calendar for the rest of 2017, on October 15th there will be a Kids Fishing Derby starting at 11:00 A.M. until 1:00 P.M, this is for all Local 211 members children and grandchildren ages 16 years and under. This is a free event.

The kid's Christmas Party will be held on Sunday December 10th here at the UAW Hall. There will be more information on this event to come in the near future.

The UAW Park will be closing for the winter on October 27th. I would like to thank Ground Keepers Gary Brown and Keith Kindle for their hard work in keeping our park and grounds looking good.

The Charlie Chatham Scholarship applications

are now available; you can get an application from the Hall, unit Chairpersons or Workcenter at the GM plant. There will be six awards totaling \$500 each, five from Local 211, UAW active members and one from the Local 211, UAW Retirees. Deadline to get these applications in are Friday November 17, 2017 by 4:00 p.m. To be eligible the child must be a dependent of an active or retired UAW member. The drawing will be held on Wednesday December 6th at the 3rd Shift GM unit meeting.

On October 27th there will be pre-retirement meetings held at the UAW hall for GM employees. There will be three meetings that day, the first one will begin at 7:30 A.M., then again at 11:00 A.M. and the last meeting will start at 5:30 P.M. If you are interested please RSVP one of the Benefit Representatives, Joe Eureste or Darla Rickenberg.

GM is removing DDI as the hiring agent, they are moving to Select International.

On September 19-21st myself and the GM Chairman and the GM Committeeman all attended the UAW GM Subcouncil meetings in Detroit. We have a total of 51,244 members at GM at this point. In Skilled Trades there are 8232 Active members, 249 apprentices, 223 JIT's, 30 indefinite layoffs, six temporary layoffs, 391 on leave of absence such as Sick Leave, FMLA etc.

Dennis Williams spoke about the budget and at the UAW Convention we will have \$700 million in the Strike fund. He also informed us to begin thinking about resolutions for the 2019 National Contract.

Dave Shoemaker spoke; he informed us from 2015-2019 it will cost GM around \$70,000 per family for health care. In 2027 figures projected that it will go up to a cost of \$90,000 per family over a four year period.

In 2016 GM spent \$847 million on UAW health care.

The Big 3 has 45% of the market share. GM is at 17%. All US production 53% is UAW made.

Less than 25% of US parts workers are unionized. Total compensation at GMCH is \$18 to \$25 higher than the average US production worker. Most of our competitors are non-union and can change wages, benefits and working condition at will. In Mexico the average rate of pay is \$2.93 in the 18 auto plants. This information was provided by the UAW Research Department.

Remember when purchasing a new vehicle look for the VIN numbers for American Made 1,4,5, and 2 is Canada.



Chairmans Report

By Rob Egnor

Greetings, once again the summer has come and gone. With that come the fall chores like placing the glass back in the doors, raking leaves, chopping and stacking the fire wood. I could go on but you know with fall comes numerous items to do before winter gets here. Many of the tasks require us to do some strenuous things so please use caution when attacking these tasks. Taking the time to stretch a little or to ask for help on tasks that require it would be the wise thing to do. If you are like me, I know that time is always a factor and that it seems I am always in a rush. This is the prime time to get injured. We always talk about being safe at work and sometimes forget to take that home also. It is proven that 90% or better of injuries happen away from the workplace. Please be safe not only here at work but also at home.

Recently Jeff Bantam and I made a video talking to the upcoming recertification of BIQ4. Letting everyone know the importance of the upcoming assessment is a must. I know there is a lot of skepticism of the value of being a BIQ4 plant. I have heard the comments that I should have received an Emmy for my acting job on the video. This is no act, in fact at the recent UAW sub council it was a topic that was talked about on how GM wants all of the plants to be BIQ4 certified by the end of this year. We are way ahead of most plants and still the only foundry to be there. I know there have not been any instant results like more work for example but I want to stress one thing for sure, this is no game, it is a real thing. There are plants out there that have a future and ones that do not have much of one. Our Vice President talked to the fact of the struggles with the small cars not selling and the layoffs that are currently taking place in those facilities. The Cruze for example may be in real trouble, talk is that they are not sure they can even save it at this point. Due to the hard work we have done here, I believe we do have a future here.

I get told frequently by certain people that if we hit BIQ5 the lights are the next thing to go out here. I know there is a great deal of frustration watching our friends leave or being one who will have to leave at the end of the year. I do not have illusions of convincing everyone that continuing to be the best at putting a quality product out and delivering it to our customer on time is in our best interest. What I do believe is that there are enough of us that

do and will overcome those that do not. With this I hope we can all become one team that will help Defiance stick around for a long time. You are the only one that can make sure this happens. Please keep up the hard work you do. Defiance is making some loud positive noise in Detroit right now, so I ask you to keep the good work up. I will never make false promises of getting new work but what I will promise is that if we continue on the path we are on, that we will give Detroit NO reason to forget about Defiance when it does come to handing work out.

Please be safe at what you do here at work and at home. Remember to lock out your equipment when necessary. The plant pays you to lock out, so please do not take the risk. You are a valuable asset to our plant and not one injury is worth a casting.

Pre-Retirement/Financial Meeting By Darla Rickenberg/Benefit Representative

This meeting is open to anyone who might be thinking about retiring in the immediate future."

Why is this meeting important?

Attending this meeting will not obligate you to retire, but it will give you an idea on how your pension is calculated and provide financial information on how much money is needed in retirement income planning.

Date: *Friday, October 27, 2017*

Where: UAW Local 211 Hall, 2120 Baltimore St, Defiance

Time: *7:30am, 11:00am, 5:30pm.*

Presenters: Benefit Representatives and Fidelity Financial Representative-Jeff Clothier.

Meeting: We are planning to serve food at these meetings. Also, your spouse, friend or significant other are welcome to attend.

Pre-Registration requested

To help us plan for materials and food, please call the Benefit Office at 419-784-7285 or 419-784-7750 to register; or stop at the Benefit Office to sign-up.

Your cooperation is appreciated.





Vice President's Report
By Larry Cooper

Welcome to fall! The fall season is upon us whether we like it or not. We here at Local 211 have been busy as usual, especially with our meetings being every other month. Our retirees had a benefit trust meeting in the month of September with Representatives from the Medical Benefit trust, Blue Cross/Blue Shield Davis Vision, Delta Dental. There was a packed house here at the UAW hall. It sure was a busy day with setting up the monitors, screens, wires and getting it all to work out. I would like to thank J.M. and Metal Management committees who helped us setting up the day prior to the benefit trust meeting.

Our next active GM unit meeting will be on December 6th. Please bring a non perishable food item for the neighbors in need food drive. The neighbors in need helps out the 3 county areas of, Defiance, Henry and Williams. We will collect them throughout our December meeting and present them at a local live drive. Items can be dropped at the Local 211 union hall during business hours.

Safety is priority anytime we are on the job. Please take the time to be safe and always lock out, when in doubt about any lockout procedures please ask and get informed before you do it on your own.

Speaking of safety, here in our plant we have a great team of PERT members always accessible to help with any need that may arise. Anyone on the floor can stop a PERT team member and ask for help or call 7911 in case of emergency. The pert team recently had a all day training on Sept. 29. They had class time for CE's (Continuous Education) for the first part of the day then hands on training later part of the day. They trained with the SCBA (self contained breathing apparatus), different scenarios, and hands on patient care.

Recently, 3 of the PERT team members went to Black Lake in Onaway Michigan, and Detroit for the International Health and Safety Conference. They represented Defiance very well and were spoken of very highly.

The Defiance PERT team has become a benchmark for rescue and patient care within the Corporation.

Recently they have been asked to teach/train other facilities, plants in rescue teams to our standard of care. Even Cindy Estrada Vice President of the UAW knows the Defiance PERT team by name and has recognized the level of care with the aspects of

medical, high angle rescue, confined space, and all of the rescue aspects as well. If you see PERT team member congratulate them!

Reminder that on Dec. 10 the Kids Christmas Party will be at the Local 211 UAW Hall from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. This event is for all active and retiree children and grandchildren ages 12 and under.

ATTENTION:

NEWLYWED UAW/GM RETIREES

As of January 1, 2010, a retiree who marries or remarries and wishes to elect surviving spouse coverage, must contact the GM Benefits & Services Center directly within 18 months of such marriage or remarriage in order to elect such coverage. The applicable reductions in the retiree's benefit will commence effective with the one year anniversary of such marriage or remarriage, provided eligibility is met. The GM Benefits & Services Center phone number is: 1-800-489-4646.

Attention Retirees!

November 30th is approaching fast!

Reminder to **ALL MEDICARE ELIGIBLE MEMBERS**

The UAW Trust will auto-enroll Medicare eligible members into Aetna Medicare Advantage health insurance plan with an effective date of January 1, 2018 unless the member calls to opt out.

The choice is yours

Anyone not wanting to change insurance plans **MUST CALL** Retiree Health Care Connect to Opt. Out no later than November 30th.

Retiree Health Care Connect

866-637-7555 (8:00 a.m.- 8 p.m.)

*Enter the last four (4) of the social security number and confirm

*Enter your date of birth (2-digit month, 2-digit date, 4 digit year) and confirm

*Select/say "enrollment and coverage"

*Select/say "enrollment opt out and communication"

*Speak with a representative at Retiree Health Care Connect



Retirees Report

By Ivan Burgei, Recording Sec

Greetings, at the September Retiree meeting the UAW TRUST Benefit Representatives were in attendance to give all the updates on our health care for 2018. They gave us information on staying with Blue Cross or

switching over to Aetna for Medicare Advantage. If you need further information please contact Dan Perez at the UAW Hall, and he will assist you with your questions.

We would like to thank our Kitchen helpers for the month of September, Virginia Dillion, Joyce Plummer, Vern Martin and Marv Cobb.

This past July, five Local 211 Retiree couples got to attend meetings at the UAW Educational Center, Black Lake Michigan. This year's topic was Ethical Consumerism which are things that are not harmful to the environment, such as organic fertilizer, reusable energy and non pollutant factories. The retiree officers attended meetings in October and we discussed reasons to Build America, Buy American and union made products. We all had a very enjoyable time exchanging views and ideas with our active UAW brothers and sisters.

At the October Retiree meeting, Chairman Ted Fleming spoke about UAW retiree chapters closing across Ohio and Indiana. The reason for these closing is the lack of participation from the membership in most cases

President Keith Boecker reported that the Defiance Area UAW CAP meetings are always held the second Tuesday of every month. Refreshments are served at 5:00 p.m. and the meeting begins at 5:30. Everyone should attend these very important meetings

Keith Boecker also informed us that the UAW Park will be closing on October 27th for the winter months. He also reminded the membership that the local will only be printing and mailing out the newspaper every other month.

Keith spoke about the layoffs at the GM Plant and informed us that there are 731 active workers at this time.

On October 19th there will be a Right to Work meeting at the UAW Hall at 5:00 P.M. If you are interested in attending please contact Lisa at the UAW hall to RSVP.

Sara Laws spoke on Issue 2 we will be voting on

in November. The UAW is staying neutral on this issue.

Chairman Fleming also spoke on issue 2. He addressed his concerns of staying out of the fight. He believes that a NO vote assures that nothing will change and drug pricing will continue to increase. So please do your homework and vote your conscience.

Our Kitchen help for the October meetings was Bonnie Shock, Bob and Linda Wagner and Paul Kruse. Thank you for your help.

We would also like to thank the Defiance County nurses that come to our meetings every month and give blood pressure checks to our members

The next retiree meeting will be held on Thursday November 2nd. We hope to see everyone attend. In closing, I want to remind everyone the notice about the Retiree Christmas dinner will only appear in this month's paper, so if you plan on attending safe guard this copy of the newsletter.



Our sympathy for your loss...

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

Benjamin White – Retired 6/01

Paul McMillen – Retired 7/90

Richard Grimes – Retired 7/02

James Molnar – Retired 6/97

Frank Rovison – Retired 4/89

Simon Mendoza – Retired 1/95

Laurie Lucas – Retired 4/94

Kenneth Poineau – Retired 5/06

Robert Brinkman – Retired 6/90

William Wieland Jr. – Retired 7/06

Paul Copsey – Retired 9/74

Clemente Fuentes – Retired 1/06



We All Have Weeds

By Frank Belmares UAW Local 211 Retiree

He proposed to them another parable: "The Reign of God may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everyone was asleep, his enemy came and sowed weeds through his wheat, and then made off. When the crop began to mature and yield grain the weeds made their appearance as well...his slaves said to him, 'Do you want us to go out and pull them up? No; he replied, pull up the weeds and you might take the wheat along with them. Let them grow tighter until harvest.'" Matthew 13:24-30

When you are driving down the highway and suddenly another car passes you by at 80 miles an hour, you think "where are the police". When a coworker doesn't give 100 %, we tend to think, "why doesn't the foreman fire these lazy guys," When a criminal seems to get away with a crime, we ask ourselves, "why didn't or doesn't God do something." Our human minds can't capture the complete wisdom of God. But, in this Gospel, God gives us a Divine Declaration, why He doesn't do justice with the unjust.

In this parable Jesus gives us a farming example, about the weeds that sprouted and grew among and with the wheat. The workers wanted to weed them out. We have gardeners, flower growers etc., who would be in agreement. But, the farmer says to them, "let them grow together with the wheat, knowing that at Harvest time they would be separated. Jesus explains that the "weeds" are those that don't want to follow God, and the "wheat" are those who do. We sometimes have a tendency to say who is permanently "wheat" and who is "weed". But the truth is that we are both "wheat and weed." We have this "Divine Spark" within us, but also our own will to ignore this "Spark" and do what isn't pleasing to the Lord. We should not say who is and who isn't wheat or weed, because things and hearts change.

Probably, this is why God hesitates to punish sinners. He gives us opportunities to separate from sin and ask for forgiveness. God is the "Sower". He comes to save, edify, love and forgive. He didn't come to destroy but to build up. So when we are tempted to point fingers at those who are in sin, let us recall the "weeds in my our own life" and be grateful for the generous mercy of God towards all of us.

Lights Before Christmas

By Local 211 Recreation Committee

Tickets are on sale now and good for the weeks of November 17th through December 31st



Adults ages 12-59: \$10.00

Children ages 2-11: \$7.00

Seniors ages 60 and over \$7.00

150 Adult admission tickets available

100 Children and Senior tickets available.

First come, first serve

Contact Lisa at the UAW Hall at 419-784-5399

For more information.

Defiance Area UAW-CAP Council

Endorsed Candidates:

Defiance City

Dave McMasters

Defiance City Council President

Joe Eureste Defiance City Council At Large

Jill Krutsch Defiance City Council At Large

John Hancock Defiance City Council At Large

David Plant Defiance City Council 3rd Ward
Councilman

Cathy Davis Defiance City School Board

Putnam County

Charlie Zimmerman Monroe Township



UAW Local 211 Retiree Christmas Luncheon/Mail in Registration
By Local 211 Retirees

UAW LOCAL 211 RETIREE CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

THURSDAY – DECEMBER 7, 2017

Come and enjoy a wonderful meal and fellowship with past co-workers, friends and our union families. There will be a cash 50/50 DRAWING, DOOR PRIZES, SEVERAL GIFT CARD AND FUN GIFT DRAWINGS
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE HALL BEGINNING THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2

MENU

Swiss Steak or Grilled Chicken Breast w/Alfredo Sauce, Whipped Potatoes w/Gravy, Buttered Noodles, Green beans w/almonds, Corn, Garden Salad w/Assorted Dressings, Spinach Salad w/strawberries & Mandarin Oranges, Dinner Rolls, Assorted Desserts

ONE GUEST PER RETIREE, SEATING IS LIMITED TO FIRST 350 REGISTRATIONS RECEIVED

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: 3 PM, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2017 COST of MEALS:

- Retirees who pay \$1 Monthly Union Dues ... \$15.00 per meal
- Retirees who pay \$2 Monthly Union Dues \$10.00 per meal
- Retirees who pay \$3/4 Monthly Union Dues ... \$5.00 per meal
- Retirees who pay \$5 or more Monthly Union Dues ... no charge
- Non dues paying members ... \$25.00 per meal

DETACH AND RETURN FORM BELOW

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: UAW LOCAL 211

NAME: _____

NUMBER OF MEALS _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

MAIL OR BRING FORM TO: UAW LOCAL 211

2120 BALTIMORE STREET

DEFIANCE, OHIO 43512

PH: 419-784-5399

DOOR OPEN AT 10 AM -- SERVE AT 12 NOON

SURVIVING SPOUSES WELCOME

Questions should be directed to retiree board members or call Lisa Beardsley at 419-784-5399. No tickets will be available at the door on December 7, 2017.

There will not be a November newsletter and this will be the only notification for this event.



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



Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Defiance, Ohio
Permit NO. 342



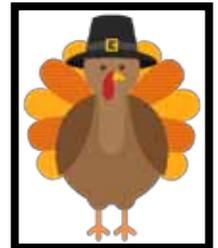
United Auto Workers,
Amalgamated Local 211
2120 Baltimore Road
Defiance, Ohio 43512



Telephone:
419.784.5399
Facsimile: 419.784.5838

Local 211 News

Official Publication of
United Auto Workers,
Amalgamated Local 211



Visit uawlocal211.com.

Web Editor: Mitch Chandler, Sheri Baker
News Editors: Larry Cooper, Amanda Rethmel

UAW Local 211 Unit Meetings

Please confirm exact dates and times.

General Motors

Active, December 6 (UAW Hall)
Retirees, November 2 (UAW Hall)

Herbert E. Orr

Tuesday, November 7 (Paulding Fire House)

Midwest Community FCU

Wednesday, December 6 (UAW Hall)

Sims Metal Management

Tuesday, November 7 (UAW Hall)

Johns Manville

Tuesday, Tuesday November 7 (UAW Hall)

Powers & Sons

Wednesday, December 13 (Quality Inn)

Aramark

Monday, November 13 (UAW Hall)

POLICY OF THE LOCAL 211 NEWSLETTER

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 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.



Local 211 News
is proudly printed
by Keystone Press,
Toledo, Ohio.