



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

August 2021

9/11 - We Will Never Forget



September 11th, 2001, was the biggest disaster in American history. Those who were old enough can easily recount exactly where they were when the news hit.

The infamous phrase “Never Forget” will forever be tied to the catastrophe, while the names of the victims remain eternally engraved on the elegant memorials that are in place of where the World Trade Center’s once stood.

The anniversary of 9/11 is always a respectful memory of what happened, and a solemn reminder that even the strongest countries are not invincible.

To truly be able to commemorate that day, first, we have to understand what happened.

So take in these 50 facts about that regretful day, to not only learn about the history, but also the aftermath of the heroes who participated.

- The 9/11 attacks killed 2,996 people, 400 of which were emergency personnel such as firefighters and policemen. The number of people injured was over 6,000.
- Aside from the two planes that were flown into both Trade Center buildings, a third plane hit the Pentagon, and a fourth plane was crashed into a field in Pennsylvania.
- The plan included 19 men who were part of the

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10 fascinating facts about the Labor Day holiday...

The first Monday in September is celebrated nationally as Labor Day. So how did we get the holiday and why is no one quite sure who created it?



The Labor Day holiday grew out of the late 19th century organized labor movement, and it quickly became a national holiday as the labor movement assumed a prominent role in American society. Here’s how it all started, with the facts, as we know them, supplied by the Labor Department, the Library Of Congress, and other sources.

1. The idea first became public in 1882. In September 1882, the unions of New York City decided to have a parade to celebrate their members being in unions, and to show support for all unions. At least 20,000 people were there, and the workers had to give up a day’s pay to attend. There was also a lot of beer involved in the event.

2. The New York parade inspired other unions. Other regions started having parades, and by 1887, Oregon, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, and Colorado made Labor Day a state holiday.

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President's Report

By Keith Boecker

The GM unit had five retirements as of August 1st GM; Philip Bauer, Craig Blosser, Juan Cruz, Eric Glaab and Marcia Wakeham. I would like to thank you for all your years of service and I hope you have a very happy and healthy retirement.

In recent weeks the Defiance GM plant has brought in some temporary workers to fill voids in our plant and for summer vacation relief. Please make these workers feel comfortable and help keep them safe. Remember all of our first few weeks when we all started working here at the GM Foundry that it can be a bit intimidating. We are hoping in the near future we can be adding new Social Security numbers to our rolls at the plant. The Defiance team is still looking for Production workers to join them on a temporary full-time basis. To apply go to the following website: https://generalmotors.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/Careers_GM/job/Defiance-Ohio-United-States-of-America/Production-Worker--Defiance--OH_JR-000035029

The Region 2B Annual Entertainment outing in September has been cancelled this year.

Richard T. Gosser Scholarships are available now, the information is posted at the plant and applications are available at the UAW Hall.

The Local 211, UAW Recreation committee is holding their annual Fishing Derby on Sunday September 12 starting at 12:00 Noon until 2:00 P.M. Please bring your own fishing pole, bait will be provided. This is for all Local 211 Member's Children and Grandchildren ages 12 years and under.

October 17th the Recreation Committee will be holding "Trunk or Treat" back in the Park. If anyone would like to help or decorate your vehicle and hand out candy to our children and grandchildren we would appreciate it. The kids really enjoyed this event and we had a wonderful turnout of decorated vehicles in the park a couple of years ago.

Kids Christmas party will also be held on December 5th, this event will be held a bit differently than in the past because of Covid, it will be a cruise through and Santa will be here to hand out candy; there will be door prizes still available.

Then of course Lights Before Christmas at the Toledo Zoo tickets will be available in the near future. The dates will be November 20-December 31st, we will have discounted tickets available.

As we all know there has been a spike in Covid cases so please check for future updates or cancellations on our website at uawlocal211.com

We are in need of walkers to help with the Lima Labor Day Parade on Monday September 6th. The walkers can help hand out candy and show support for all the working people; if you are interested contact Lisa at the UAW Hall at 419-784-5399.

DFM reached an agreement for their contract and voted on it Tuesday, August 3rd. The vote passed and I want to thank everyone who worked so hard to get this contract ratified.

The UAW Strike fund is currently \$790 Million.

Tuesday, August 17th the Retirees held Grandparents day back in our park for the grandchildren to enjoy with their grandparents. I would personally like to thank the Retiree board for all their hard work to make this a special day for the kids.

I realize it has been a long hard year with Covid and I want to thank the membership for helping to keep everyone safe. Our Union Hall and Memorial Hall is getting rented again as events are starting back up. Our Secretary has contacted the health department as to the capacity of people allowed in our facility and they have said that we are now able to hold full capacity. As with this pandemic we do not know what the future holds for any of us with large gatherings. Please stay safe and if anything changes in the future with the rental of our facilities we will let the membership know.

We have recently raised the damage deposit for both of our halls due to damage that has happened in the past and the Trustee's have decided that we need to do this so that we can keep our buildings and the property in good order. Please if renting the facilities keep them in good order and follow the house rules.

Our current numbers of active workers are as follows; GM - 421, Powers and Sons - 270, Credit Union - 39, Johns Manville - 63, DFM - 29, Herbert Orr - 59, Metal Management - 1 and CSP - 68

Now more than ever if you are looking to purchase a new GM vehicle you must look at the VIN number to make sure it starts with a 1, 4 or 5 to know it is produced in the USA by hard working UAW members.

A special thank you to John Hagerty and Walt Cooper for maintaining the Local 211 property in Gary Brown's (Brownie) absence! Job well done!



Chairman's Report

By Rob Egnor

As we head toward the end of summer please take the time to look out for the young ones on the side of the road waiting on their bus. It is that time again for the local schools starting back up so be aware of the flashing lights and frequent stops. Many people these days seem to be in a hurry, so please be patient when setting behind a bus while loading and unloading.

We are currently experiencing more COVID cases so please report any symptoms to the plant as soon as you notice them. If you work with symptoms and then report to the plant that you have been working with the symptoms, you will not like the results. General Motors has and will discharge employees working with symptoms, especially those who end up testing positive. So please report as soon as you have the symptoms and never say, for example, the symptoms started yesterday while you worked the whole day.

Here at the plant we currently have 421 members on the rolls. We recently had several people transfer to Defiance through the Appendix A process. Some of the people who transferred have been here before and are returning while we did have one who had never worked here before, so please take the time to make all of them welcome.

Another issue everyone in the auto industry is dealing with is the semi-conductor shortage. All of the plants have a 12:15 pm call every week to see where we are and what the plan is for scheduling run time for the following week. This seems to be an ongoing issue so we will continue to plan according and keep everyone informed on what and when we will be running.

This October 17 you will see the 4% lump sum paid out for wages earned September 20, 2021 backwards 52 consecutive weeks. This is once again a benefit from our UAW negotiations with GM. This is not a gift from the company, it sours my stomach when I see or hear our members thanking the company for giving them this type of bonus. Remember, this is one of the reasons we stood out in the cold for 40 days straight. This was not a gift, it was earned by you.

Thank you once again for being the hard working brothers and sister you have always been. Be safe at what you do and remember to lock out your equipment. You are more important than any casting.



Retirees Report

By Ivan Burgei, Recording Sec

Grandparent's Day in the Park

We had wonderful weather for the Annual UAW Grandparents/Grandkids day on August 17th. We are sorry for the date change, the rain and the hot weather caused us to reschedule.

All the kids had a blast eating hot dogs and snow cones, having their faces painted and jumping in the blow up rides. We also had balloon twisters making balloon hats, animals and swords. The pony rides were a big hit too.

There is nothing more comforting than to watch your grandkids running outside having a blast playing with other kids. Makes you feel young again remembering how it was when we were young. No cell phones, game boys, just fun and playing at the park.

The vendors could not believe how polite the children were when getting snow cones, balloons and their faces painted.

Since Covid-19 we had to wait until August to have the most enjoyable event. We understand that some of the schools have already started so the attendance was down, but still everyone enjoyed the day.

Hopefully by next year this pandemic will be over and we can have a better turnout next June.

For only a three week okay notice, we moved fast to make grandkids day as pleasing as possible.

We would like to give a big thank you to the Defiance Police Dept and patrolman Mark Janowiecki for socializing with the children. The Defiance Fire Department gave demonstrations and past out fire hats and coloring books to all the children. Thank you all for your participation.

We had volunteers who helped with the food line, cooking hot dogs and transporting people around the park. Denny Harr was our barbeque cook. Mike Bennett transported people, Sara Bennett, Cindy and Bob Suffell, Fransico and Delinda Chaves, Nylice Thomas, Lisa, Cody and Kay Burgei and Sherry Fleming were the food servers and clean up helpers. Bill Thomas, Ted Fleming and I were relief operators. Everything ran smoothly. Thank you all so much.

The International Trust has cancelled the Benefits carriers from coming to our September Retiree

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meeting because of the Covid-Delta outbreak. Hopefully October will be better.

At our August meeting, Defiance GM Plant Director was present to inform us that the outlook for Defiance Plant looks promising.

The attendance was light because of the state Route 127 garage sale. We still had plenty to eat with Fat Pig Smokehouse from Hicksville serving loaded Nacho salad with salsa.

The Defiance County nurses were present and offered free blood pressure checks and covid vaccinations.

Please be safe and stay healthy, see you at our next meeting on Thursday September 2nd.





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:

Donelda Royal – Retired 6/76

Robert McCabe (Sims Metal Management)

Retired – 9/15

Ruben Gomez – Retired 8/2000

Tanny Hollaway – Retired 7/02

Carl Searfoss – Retired 6/93

Ronald Stark – Retired 1/91

Roger McCabe – 7/2000

Anthony Carozza – Retired 1/2000

David Laker – Retired 6/06

Lewis Palmer – Retired 3/20

Ronald Bonner – Retired 9/98

Ardith Karnes – Retired 3/93

Franklin Yarnell – Retired 6/92

Denis Grothause – Retired 5/2000

Richard Casarez – Retired 9/06

Rodney Kietzman – Retired 4/17

Ray Mullins Jr. – Retired 4/92

Labor Day continued from page 1

3. How did the Haymarket Affair influence Labor Day? On May 4, 1886, a bomb exploded at a union rally in Chicago's Haymarket Square, which led to violence that killed seven police officers and four others. The incident also led to May 1 being celebrated in most nations as Workers Day. The U.S. government chose Labor Day instead to avoid a celebration on May 1 and New York's unions had already picked the first Monday in September for their holiday.

4. Two people with similar names are credited with that first New York City event. Matthew Maguire, a machinist, and Peter McGuire, a carpenter, have been linked to the 1882 parade. The men were from rival unions; in 2011, Linda Stinson, a former U.S. Department of Labor's historian, said she didn't know which man should be credited - partially because people over the years confused them because of their similar-sounding names.

5. Grover Cleveland helped make Labor Day

a national holiday. After violence related to the Pullman railroad strike, President Cleveland and lawmakers in Washington wanted a federal holiday to celebrate labor - and not a holiday celebrated on May 1. Cleveland signed an act in 1894 establishing the federal holiday; most states had already passed laws establishing a Labor Day holiday by that point. Sen. James Henderson Kyle of South Dakota introduced S. 730 to make Labor Day a federal legal holiday on the first Monday of September. It was approved on June 28, 1894.

6. The holiday has evolved over the years. In the late 19th century, celebrations focused on parades in urban areas. Now the holiday is a celebration that honors organized labor with fewer parades, and more activities. It also marks the perceived end of the summer season.

7. Can you wear white after Labor Day? This old tradition goes back to the late Victorian era, where it was a fashion faux pas to wear any white clothing after the summer officially ended on Labor Day. The tradition isn't really followed anymore. EmilyPost.com explains the logic behind the fashion trend - white indicated you were still in vacation mode at your summer cottage.

8. Labor Day is the unofficial end of Hot Dog season. The National Hot Dog and Sausage Council says that between Memorial Day and Labor Day, Americans will eat 7 billion hot dogs.

9. How many people are union members today? According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there were 14.8 million union members in the workforce in 2017. There were 17.7 million in 1983.

10. What is the biggest union today? The National Education Association has about 3 million people who are members, including inactive and lifetime members. *By NCC Staff*





9/11- Continued from page 1

- The plan included 19 men who were part of the radical group al-Qaeda lead and founded by Osama Bin Laden. The entire plot was organized by Bin Laden himself.
- Bin Laden originally denied having a part in the invasion, but later released a video in which he admitted to having orchestrated the assault.
- It is estimated that the attack caused a minimum of \$10 billion in infrastructure and property damage. The cost of the cleanup was \$750 million dollars.
- Cleanup for the 1.8 million tons of debris took 3.1 million hours. It was finally finished on May 30, 2002.
- The ages of the victims ranged from two to 85 years old. About 75-80% of the victims were men.
- The collapse of the second tower only took around 10 seconds.
- After September 11th, The Department of Homeland Security was created to prevent further terrorist attacks.
- 184 people were killed from the planes hitting the Pentagon, including the passengers and hijackers.
- As of August 2017, only 60% of the WTC victims' remains have been positively identified. This leaves 1,113 of the 2,753 who have no biological confirmation of death.
- It is estimated that it cost \$500,000 dollars to carry out the 9/11 tragedy.
- After the first attack, it took 102 minutes for both of the Twin Towers to collapse.
- It's assumed that the destruction was a protest against America's support of Israel, its participation in the Persian Gulf War, and ongoing military occupation in the Middle East.
- Surprisingly enough, some of the terrorists that participated in executing the plot, had lived in the United States for over a year, and took flying lessons within the country. Others entered the country just a few months before the attack. These participants acted at the muscle in the plan.
- Only 12 survivors were pulled from the rubble after the collapse of the towers.
- Afterward, 18 people were rescued from the rubble of the towers. The last survivor was pulled out of the rubble after being stuck for 23 hours.
- Ages of the 19 hijackers ranged from 20 to 33. Most of them were from Saudi Arabia.
- In order to take over the planes, the hijackers were able to easily smuggle box-cutters and knives through security.
- Out of all four planes, three hit their targets. However, the fourth plane, Flight 93, was reclaimed by the passengers before being crashed into a field.
- It is theorized that the passengers of Flight 93 attacked the cockpit with a fire extinguisher. When the plane crashed, all 44 people aboard were killed.
- The target of Flight 93 isn't known for sure but was believed to be on the way to attack the White House, the U.S. Capitol, the Camp David presidential retreat, or one of several nuclear power plants on the East coast.
- It took almost 10 years to locate and take out Osama Bin Laden, but he was finally killed by U.S. Forces in 2011. Up until his death, there was a \$25 million bounty on his head.
- There were numerous occasions to capture Osama Bin Laden from 1998, but for various reasons, such as probable civilian casualties, none of the plans were ever fully executed.
- 9/11 was not the first attack on the World Trade Centers – in 1993, there was a bombing that killed 6 people and injured over 1,000.
- One of the men who were behind 9/11, also was played a major part in the 1993 bombing. Both attacks were carried out by Al-Qaeda.
- This plan was carried out by detonating a 1,200-pound bomb in the parking garage beneath the World Trade Center.
- Originally, the intention of the '93 bombing was to ruin the foundation of Tower 1 enough to force it to topple into the Second tower.
- Luckily, the plan failed because of overcrowded parking and the truck that carried the bomb was not able to get close enough to its target location. Had their plan worked, it would have brought the towers down faster than the 9/11 attack and resulted in a higher death toll.
- The week after 9/11, alcohol consumption in Manhattan increased by 25%, tobacco intake rose by 10%, and church attendance rose by 20%.
- After the attacks, it took firefighters 100 days to

extinguish all the fires around Ground Zero.

- \$100 million dollars' worth of art was lost in the collapse of the towers, including a memorial piece for the victims of the '93 bombing, and paintings by Pablo Picasso.
- During the destruction, a guide dog named Roselle led her blind owner down 78 flights of stairs and to the home of a friend.
- On a normal day at the towers, up to 50,000 employees worked in the buildings, and an extra 40,000 passed through.
- While workers were going through the debris, they found 65,000 items including 437 watches and 144 wedding rings.
- Just 6 months before the towers were destroyed, a property developer bought a 99-year lease on the World Trade Centers for \$3.2 billion dollars.
- After the tragedy, there was a three-day flight ban over the United States. Scientists took advantage of this and organized experiments on the effect of jet planes on the atmosphere.
- When the National Guard went after Flight 93, the two pilots who took to the air didn't have time to properly arm their jets. The pilots knew that if they intercepted a hijacked plane, they would have to fly their jets into the aircraft, with no guarantee of their own ejection. In other words, the brave pilots went on a suicide mission.
- The 9/11 attack has been the largest loss of life in a foreign attack on American soil – higher than even Pearl Harbor.
- The New York Times wrote an article about every single 9/11 victim. They called the series, "Portraits of Grief."
- At least 200 people jumped from the towers during the blitz. The fall lasted less than 10 seconds. Rather than suicide, these deaths were ruled as homicides at the hands of the terrorists.
- There have been several memorials for 9/11 erected around the world made out of rubble from the towers. Some locations include Israel, Italy, and more impressively, a piece of the towers has ended up as a memorial on some space tools on Mars.
- More than 1,100 people who worked or lived near the World Trade Centers during 9/11 have been diagnosed with cancer due to exposure to toxins from the site. Some of these include asbestos, smoke from jet fuel, and carcinogens.
- The employee who gave the order to ground all

planes after the horrible attacks was Ben Sliney – and it was his first day on the job.

- While the planes were grounded, there was one exception made to this ruling.
- Tania Head, the former president of the World Trade Center Survivors' Network support group, had one of the most famous survival stories that were broadcasted in many interviews. It was later exposed that she was a fraud, and was not even in the country at the time of the disaster.
- Upon the first plane striking Tower 1, people in Tower 2 tried to evacuate but were urged to stay at their desks by an announcement. Some tried to leave anyway but were turned back by security.
- Canada took in 255 diverted flights from the United States on 9/11. Upon receiving them, the Canadians fed the stranded passengers.
- Over 100 Search and Rescue dogs were deployed

New UAW President, Ray Curry



Ray Curry was elected President of the UAW on June 28, 2021 by the International Executive Board upon the retirement of UAW President Rory L. Gamble.

Great Job to the Women's Committee

The Women's Committee generously donated to the Hometown Hero Park in downtown Defiance.



ABOVE L to R: Brandy Valle (Park Member), Melissa Noriega, Sheri Baker, Deb Lambert (Park Member), Pamela Sue (Park Member) and Lisa Crossland

United Auto Workers
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UAW Local 211 Unit Meetings
Please confirm exact dates and times.

General Motors

Active, Wednesday, October 6 (UAW Hall)
Retiree, Thursday, September 2 (UAW Hall)

Herbert E. Orr

Tuesday, September 7 (Paulding Fire House)

Midwest Community FCU

Wednesday, October 6 (UAW Hall)

Sims Metal Management

No Meetings Scheduled (UAW Hall)

Johns Manville

Tuesday, September 7 (UAW Hall)

Powers & Sons Wednesday, October 13 (Drop Time
Winery & Tap House)

DFM Monday, September 13 (UAW Hall)

CSP Monday, October 11 (USW Hall, Van Wert)

CAP Tuesday, September 14 (UAW Hall)

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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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