



R4: ACTION NOW

ISSUE 5

MAY 2025



MAY DAY PICKET LINE: UAW LOCAL 766 STRIKE IN DENVER, CO

THIS ISSUE

HOLDING THE LINE IN WI AND CO
MAY DAY IS A DAY FOR STRIKES
REGION 4 AT THE WORKERS' MIC
EVERYONE IS WELCOME
WE REMEMBER OUR BROTHERS
WORKERS' MEMORIAL DAY PRAYER
NO QUORUM AT THE NLRB
VCAP SMOKER GRILL RAFFLE

JOIN THE OSHKOSH PICKET LINE



OUR WI BROTHERS AND SISTERS ARE HOLDING THE LINE AT THE CUMMINS FACILITY, WHERE LOCAL 291 MEMBERS WALKED OUT ON MARCH 18TH. COLLECTIVE BARGAINING IS THREATENED WHEN EMPLOYERS REFUSE TO COME TO THE TABLE. PICKETING RUNS FROM 7AM - 5PM M-F. THANK YOU TO ALL WHO CONTINUE TO STAND UP IN SOLIDARITY, INCLUDING WI LOCALS 1102 AND 722 & WI STATE CAP!

UAW LOCAL 291 STRIKE FUND

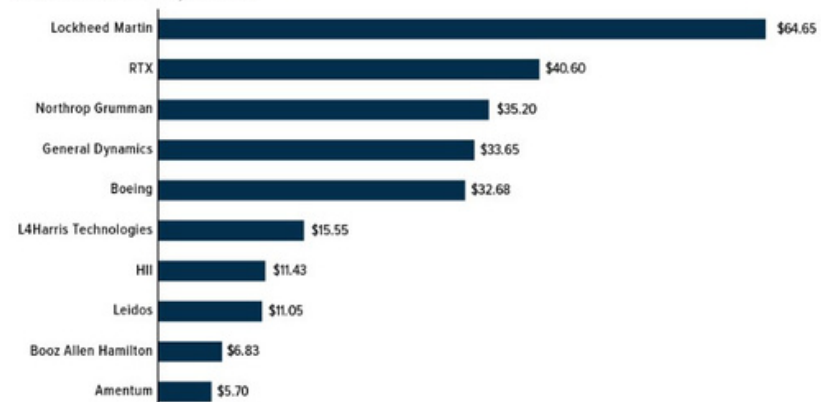
R4 & R8 LOCALS TAKE ON THE WEAPONS GIANT

Our Union brothers and sisters at Lockheed Martin work sites in Denver, CO, and Orlando, FL, have soundly rejected their first contract offer, walking out to the picket line on May Day.

Lockheed is the largest U.S. defense contractor, generating a whopping \$64.7 billion in revenue in 2024. While profits remain up in the first quarter of 2025, workers are demanding a starting wage higher than \$15/hr and a wage progression that is fitting to the high cost of living associated with their worksites.

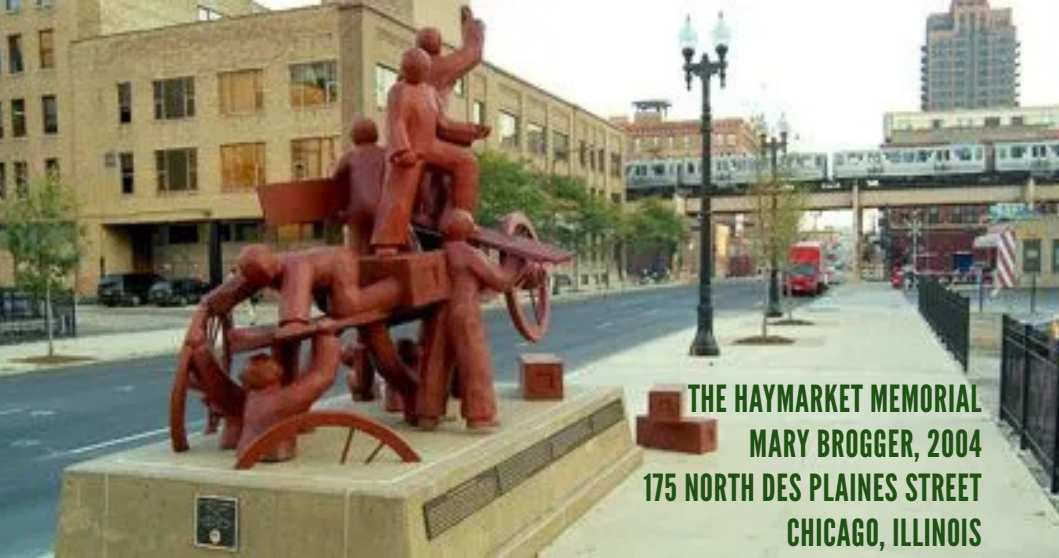
We are united in solidarity with our UAW brothers and sisters in standing up to this giant! Please watch the Region 4 Facebook page for updates and potential opportunities to support our striking siblings.

Top 10 U.S. Defense Contractors
2024 Defense Revenue, in Billions



Source: Bloomberg, U.S. Global Investors





THE HAYMARKET MEMORIAL
MARY BROGGER, 2004
175 NORTH DES PLAINES STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

MAY DAY IS A DAY FOR STRIKES

May Day has long been known as a day for strikes, demonstrations, and celebrations of worker power. Celebrated as International Worker Day across the globe, the first of May commemorates the 1886 nationwide strike of US industrial workers, demanding an eight-hour work day. A 10-12 hour work day was standard at the time and many workers had been working shifts twice as long.

In the Chicago strikes at McCormick Reaper Works, demonstrators clashed with police, and several of the strikers were wounded or killed. This initial clash extended over the next few days into what we know historically as the Haymarket Affair: a meeting of labor activists in Haymarket Square is broken up by police, a bomb is detonated in the crowd, and both police officers and strikers die or are wounded in the ensuing violence. Men are indicted, 7 sentenced to death, and 4 executed by public hanging, in a trial that is now widely considered a travesty of justice. The identity of the person who threw the bomb in the crowd has still never been determined.

Since 1889, labor advocates have declared May 1st International Workers Day, memorializing the tragic losses of the Haymarket Affair in the battle for the 8 hour work day, and uniting the struggle for worker's rights across the globe.

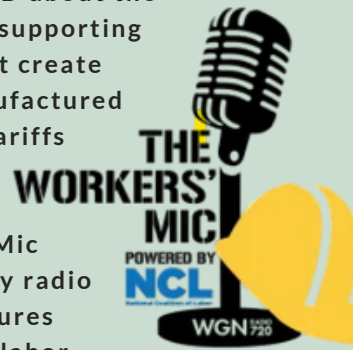
May 1st, 2025 brought forward one of the largest set of pro-worker May Day demonstrations seen in decades across the United States. Thousands gathered and marched in Chicago and cities across our 50 states to defend their labor rights, civil liberties, and public services, amidst the sweeping actions of the Trump Administration in its first 100 days. As UAW President, Shawn Fain, reminded us in his piece for [The Nation: MAY DAY IS A DAY FOR STRIKES!](#)

The Haymarket Memorial, a bronze rendition of the freight wagon union leaders used as a speaking platform back in 1886, was commissioned in 2004 by the City of Chicago, the IL Fed of Labor History, and the Chicago Fraternal Order of Police. This public art marks the precise location of the fateful Haymarket events in Chicago and symbolizes the emerging voice for Labor.

REGION 4 LABOR PODCAST GUESTS



Tune in to the April 27th episode of [The Worker's Mic](#) to hear from our Director and AD about the importance of supporting businesses that create American manufactured items amidst tariffs and flawed trade policies. The Workers' Mic is a live, weekly radio show that features union leaders, labor partners, and workers looking at news and topics through the Labor lens. The radio show airs live on WGN (720AM) Sundays from 8 am - 9 am CST and streams as a weekly podcast.



EVERYONE IS WELCOME!



The R4 LGBTQ+ Executive Board invites members from ALL Regions of the UAW to join us for the 2025 Conference at PGC on June 11 - 14th. The Pat Greathouse Education Center was brought into existence for the sole purpose of uniting UAW members in solidarity, regardless of race. Sex, gender, or sexuality discrimination is a threat to solidarity in the same way racism always has been. We look forward to hosting members across the entire UAW organization this Pride Month.



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WORKERS' MEMORIAL DAY PRAYER

FROM R4 CHAPLAINCY COORINATOR,
DAN KANDBINDER

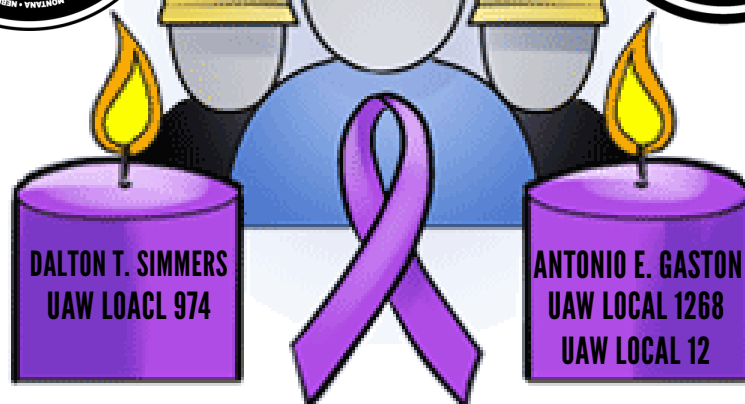
"Almighty God, we gather today to remember and honor the lives of workers, especially those who have lost their lives or suffered injuries while on the job. We pray for those who work in unsafe conditions, and we ask for your guidance and strength in advocating for safer workplaces. We remember that all humans are created equal, and we pray for those who do not honor workers with dignity and respect. We ask you to change the hearts of those who abuse workers, that they may treat our brothers and sisters as their own.

We also pray for a renewed sense of dignity in their lives and in their work. We pray that all workers may be provided with the means to live with dignity and fairness.

May we work together to bring about a world where the dignity of work is honored, where safety is prioritized, and where all workers are treated with respect and justice. We ask this in your holy name, through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen."



**UAW CHAPLAINCY
RESOURCE
PAGE**



WORKERS' MEMORIAL DAY, APRIL 28

UAW Region 4 suffered the loss of two Brothers in work-related deaths in 2024: Dalton T. Simmers of UAW Local 974 (Peoria, IL) and Antonio E. "Tone" Gaston originally of UAW 1268 (Belvidere, IL). We remember them this Workers' Memorial Day.

Dalton was only 28 years old, a young father and devoted Christian. He greatly enjoyed the outdoors and is remembered for his kindness and warm presence. Dalton is the second tragic death in recent years at the Mapleton, Illinois Caterpillar foundry, where he died instantly from molten metal thermal burns at his worksite.

Antonio, 53, was tragically crushed on the assembly line at Local 12 in the Stellantis Toledo, OH plant. Originally a member of Local 1268 at the Belvidere, IL Stellantis Assembly Plant, Gaston accepted a transfer to the Ohio plant after the company moved production of their Jeep Cherokee to Mexico, laying off thousands of workers and idling the Illinois facility. Gaston was a father and a husband who is remembered for always having a smile on his face, his positivity, and work ethic.

The loss of our Union Brothers to workplace fatalities is a reminder that our organizing for safe jobs has not ended. We serve our members best with strong contractual language demanding work site health and safety protections. Employers need held accountable for keeping our members safe before exposures and incidents occur and workers need empowered to report job safety hazards. These protections will only be ensured by the tireless efforts of Unions and allies of the labor movement.

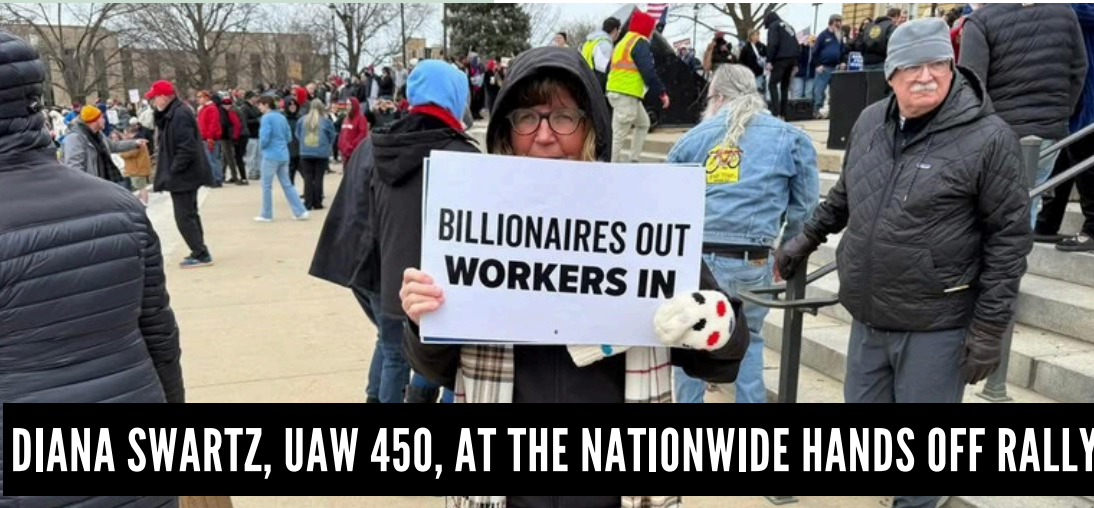
This year marks the 54th anniversary of the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA). Since its passage, OSHA has saved the lives of more than 712,000 workers and reduced jobsite deaths by almost two-thirds, even as the size of the U.S. workforce has more than doubled. By executive order, the Trump Administration is now eliminating existing protections, closing 11 OSHA offices in states with the highest workplace fatality rates, and effectively ending all research efforts which inform OSHA policy-making. Workplace safety is not a partisan issue. The UAW will continue to demand more from politicians on both sides of the aisle as we fight for the resources and actions needed for safety enforcement.



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UAW REGION 4 VCAP RAFFLE

At Region 4 PGC Conferences this year, we will have \$20 raffle tickets available to support the VCAP Program. Grand Prize offers the winner a choice between the Blazin Smoker/Grill or \$2,000 cash. Blazin is American-made in Nebraska.



FOLLOW REGION 4 FACEBOOK



NLRB REMAINS WITHOUT QUORUM 100 DAYS INTO TRUMP 2ND TERM

Our National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) remains without quorum after President Trump terminated the employment of NLRB Board Member, Gwynne Wilcox, in January. With only two active board members, the NLRB cannot achieve quorum, issue decisions and make rulings. Trump is the first President to attempt to remove an NLRB Member since the board's establishment in 1935. His claim is that the NLRB's leadership structure is unconstitutional because it allows the president to remove the agency's board members only for good cause, not at will. *Wilcox v. Trump* has seen a flurry of court activity following her termination and is currently pending a final decision from the U.S. Supreme Court as to whether Wilcox's removal was lawful.

The NLRB is an independent federal agency that protects the rights of private sector employees to join together, with or without a union, to improve their wages and working conditions. It also investigates and prosecutes unfair labor practices by employers and unions, and oversees elections. Essentially, the NLRB ensures a fair and democratic workplace environment for employees.

Ongoing cases at the NLRB involve SpaceX, Tesla, the personal actions of Elon Musk, and Amazon, bringing into question the motivations behind the crippling of the federal agency. Jeff Bezos and Elon Musk have waged war on the NLRB in what many believe is their long aim at dismantling collective bargaining all together. For the time being, they appear to have the ear of the U.S. President.