

# **The United Voice**

"USW Local 310's Information Resource"

October 2025

Quite a bit is happening at Local 310 now and in the coming months. Read the newsletter to stay in the loop.

#### **Open Enrollment**

Open Enrollment for 2025 benefits is underway now through October 17. If you need to make changes to your health benefits, like adding or removing coverage or dependents, now is the time to do so. If you do not make changes during Open Enrollment, you will not be able to do so later unless you have a Qualifying Life Event, like marriage or birth of a child. OE is done through Workday on My Bridgestone, so if you have not been on there in a while, don't wait until the last minute. You may need to reset a password or other technical assistance to access the site. If you need to do so, call them at 1-855-873-6947. Once in Workday, you should be able to find Open Enrollment under your Tasks.

A couple of important points- If you are adding dependents, be sure to also provide the required documentation, such as birth certificates, before the OE window ends. If you have Flex Spending, you must make that election each year, even if you do not have any other changes to make. Also, make sure that you complete the full process and submit all changes. Save or print the Benefits Statement offered at the end of the process for documentation of your elections in case there is a problem later.

#### **Women of Steel**

The Women of Steel would like to thank everyone who contributed to our annual gate collection last month. While we don't yet have our official total, we know that through your generosity, we raised over \$700 to provide Thanksgiving meals to families from Families Forward and Christmas gifts to children from Orchard Place. We understand that with short work weeks and weeks out this year for most, it's a lot to ask, but your donation, no matter how big or small, makes a big difference to these families in need in our community. Our sisters and brothers really came through in a big way, as we are very close to our total from last year even with substantially fewer people in the plant. Thank you all so much!

Next up we have our Bake Sale for Breast Cancer Awareness Month, next week, October 14 and 15. Proceeds will benefit Broadlawns Mammography Department. We'll be in the Main Hallway in the morning before shift, both days. Come get a sweet treat! If you are able and would like to donate baked goods, you can bring those to the Union Hall on Monday, the 13<sup>th</sup>.

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USW Local 310L

125 NW Broadway Ave, Des Moines, IA 50313

515-288-9547

#### **Trunk or Treat**

On October 24, from 6-8 PM, the COPE Committee is hosting a Trunk or Treat at the Union Hall. Bring your kooky kids in creepy costumes and deck your trunks out in dreadful décor for this fun, family event. Bring your own candy to hand out, and please arrive early so that we can have vehicles staged and ready to go for the kids at 6:00. Also, to reduce the flow of traffic in and out, for the safety of all the kids, we ask that you plan to stay for the entire event, until 8:00.

#### **Next Gen**

This year's Solidarity for Soldiers campaign came to a successful close last month. With partnership from the surrounding labor community, we were able to donate 6 boxes of clothing items, 11 cases of water, 9 cases of chips, 2 cases of pop, and a box of hygiene items to the Des Moines Homeless Veterans Stand Down. We also organized to have volunteers from labor there each day of the event. Local 310 had volunteers there on Friday and Saturday. Thanks to all who supported SFS this year! We're looking forward to continuing to grow this even more next year!

Along with the SFS drive, over the past couple of years we have had drawings for large items to raise money to buy coats for homeless veterans. This year we have purchased a Segway electric scooter, with help from our friends at Affinity Credit Union. We will sell tickets to win the scooter in the Main Hallway, tentatively October 28 and 29. Be on the lookout for more details, coming soon!

#### Save the Date for Local 310 Children's Christmas Party

Our annual Christmas Parties will be here before you know it! This event has a long tradition here at Local 310. Dates are December 7 and 14. Mark it on your calendars and plan to bring the kids! We always need volunteers to make the parties a success. If you would like to help out this year, please contact us at the Union Hall.

#### **Address Updates**

Make sure your contact info is up to date with the Union Hall anytime you have a change in address or phone number. We occasionally send out mailings, and each time we do, we get dozens of them back undeliverable. The postage is paid for with your union dues, so at 78 cents a stamp, that is a lot of your money going into the trash. Please contact Tony at the Union Hall with any changes.

### Sign Up for Texts from Local 310

If you would like to be subscribed to text alerts from Local 310, please scan the QR code and fill out the form to be added. Please include your name and CC#. We won't spam you, but we will send out occasional updates, reminders, or information important to our members. This service is for Local 310 members, only.

