

# THE MILITANT

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Rallies to demand end to US embargo of Cuba  
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A SOCIALIST NEWSWEEKLY PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF WORKING PEOPLE

VOL. 87/NO. 40 OCTOBER 30, 2023

## UAW expands strike at Big Three, 34,000 on picket lines

BY BETSY FARLEY

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Workers at the Ford Kentucky Truck Plant here, members of United Auto Workers Local 862, walked off the job Oct. 11, bringing the number of UAW workers on strike against the Big Three to over 34,000. They enthusiastically responded to the call by UAW International President Shawn Fain to go out. Drivers in a steady stream of cars passing by the lively picket lines honked and waved in support.

“Ford has not gotten the message,” Fain said. “It’s time for a fair contract at Ford and the rest of the Big Three. If they can’t understand that after four weeks, the 8,700 workers shutting down this extremely profitable plant will help them understand it.”

“This plant makes \$48,000 a minute in pure profits for Ford,” UAW Local 862 President Todd Dunn told the *Militant*. “Bill Ford told the press  
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## From jobs to wages, workers face effects of capitalist crisis

BY BRIAN WILLIAMS

Facts and figures put a lie to the claims being made by the Joseph Biden administration and his boosters in the liberal capitalist media that aim to puff up his reelection bid by saying job opportunities are expanding and prospects look bright for the U.S. economy under his stewardship. But the small print shows what working people already know: We face a growing social crisis today.

“Since I’ve taken office, we’ve created 13.9 million new jobs,” boasted Biden Oct. 6. “We have the highest share of working-age Americans in the workforce in 20 years.”

The president was touting a report by the Bureau of Labor Statistics that 336,000 jobs were created in September. But if you look behind that number, *full-time* employees actually fell 22,000 that month. Bosses instead hired 151,000 part-time workers, with less pay, benefits and no job security. This made up  
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## Support Memphis bakery workers strike over wages, safety and respect



Cedric Wilson, right, president of BCTGM Local 390G on strike at International Flavors and Fragrances in Memphis, Tennessee, speaks at Oct. 18 rally outside IFF headquarters in New York. “We have union members with cancer, people with kids, some are losing their homes. But they’re all still in the fight,” he said. “There’s no other way, you have to fight.”

BY AMY HUSK

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — On the picket line at the International Flavors and Fragrances plant Oct. 11, strikers Darold Brooks, a mechanic, and Thad Beckman, a lead man, told this *Militant* worker-correspondent about the horrendous safety record of the bosses here. They are two of the nearly 200 members of Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers Local 390G who have been walking the picket line since June 4.

“There are a lot of accidents in the

plant because the equipment is so old and they don’t upgrade it,” said Brooks, describing how he fractured his back in a fall from a ladder a year ago. “They’re still using centrifuges from the 1920s and sometimes they fly off.”

“One of the units known as Phase 1 has been shut down since January,” said Beckman. “There was a fire in the unit in November 2020. They didn’t get it cleaned out well enough and when they tried to run product it  
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## Defend Israel’s right to exist! Fighting Jew-hatred is a union issue



Militant/Deborah Liatos

Laura Garza, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Senate from California, spoke to participants at Oct. 15 Los Angeles protest over Hamas massacre of Jews in Israel the week before.

BY SETH GALINSKY

Hamas’ Oct. 7 pogrom in Israel had one objective — kill or take hostage as many Jews as possible, a step on the way to their overall goal of implementing a “final solution,” eliminating Jews from the Middle East. It marks a turning point in world politics. The slaughter horrified

**EDITORIAL:**  
Fight for workers power and socialism to end Jew-hatred  
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working people worldwide.

Hamas leaders knew their murderous assault would lead to Israeli retaliation, including striking military targets in Gaza, which Hamas deliberately places in residential neighborhoods to maximize civilian casualties. They calculate  
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## Gag orders against Trump target free speech protections that workers need

BY TERRY EVANS

The relentless drive by the Democrats and politically motivated prosecutors and judges to bar Donald Trump from running for president includes a growing number of court-imposed gag orders aimed at shutting him up. Whoever they target today, it is workers and the struggles of our class that will be in the dock tomorrow.

It is in the class interests of all working people to oppose government assaults on free speech, assembly and other constitutional freedoms. That’s true whether the target is the Republican’s presidential nominee; striking New Jer  
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## SWP says Hamas pogrom in Israel is threat to all workers

BY TERRY EVANS

Workers and our unions have a critical stake in taking on and fighting to defeat every form of Jew-hatred wherever it appears. That’s what candidates and members of the Socialist Workers Party and the Communist Leagues in Australia, Canada and the U.K. are explaining in response to Hamas’ murderous assault in Israel Oct. 7, the largest pogrom since the Holocaust.

They find that most workers they meet are shocked and outraged by the slaughter.

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## Working people in Mexico look for way forward

BY RÓGER CALERO

For decades working people in Mexico have faced governments defending capitalist exploitation, widespread corruption, drug cartels and police repression. Five years ago, many voted for and looked to new President Andrés Manuel López Obrador, hoping his promises would reverse previous administrations’  
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Unifor strikers vote up new contract at GM in Canada

Sky Chef catering workers rally for pay raise at Miami airport

# Mexico workers seek way forward

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policies that devastated working people and bring back the “rule of law.”

With eight months to go until he has to step down after Mexico’s presidential elections next year, López Obrador still commands relatively high approval ratings. At the same time, there is deepening social and political polarization amid a slow-growing economy and unabated violent crime.

AMLO, as López Obrador is commonly known, argues his government stands in continuity with the great national milestones in Mexico’s development, including the 1810-21 war of independence from Spain and the Mexican Revolution of 1910-20. But far from representing a change, the measures he has advanced defend the rule of capital.

His administration has taken steps he claims will benefit working people. Some of these have won support, including an increase in the minimum wage.

It rose last January to 207 pesos a day (\$11.45). In southern Mexico coconut seller Carmelo Morrugares told the *Los Angeles Times* his wage doubled as a result of minimum-wage hikes. In Salina Cruz, salt miner Carlos Estrada says his family now eats meat once every two weeks instead of every two months.

For workers in the “free northern border zone” — where massive foreign export manufacturing operations have set up shop — wages will rise to 312 pesos.

But that minimum wage far from covers necessities for working-class families and does not apply to the immense majority of the population employed in the so-called informal economy.

Also popular are cash transfer programs for elderly workers who aren’t covered under the national security system, as well as scholarships for students

and payments for small farmers through reforestation programs.

Many of these programs have been set up by redirecting funds from previous social measures, or by simply changing their names.

A program started in 2008 provided 3.6 million students with extended after-school programs and hot meals. It was put on the chopping block in early 2022. Tens of thousands of working-class families were affected, especially those headed by single mothers who had to give up working to look after their children. Instead, cash payments are now being given directly to individual families and to parents associations.

Vowing to do away with corruption — which has been the source of much of the hatred by working people in Mexico toward the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) and other traditional capitalist parties — AMLO has strengthened the powers of the presidency and the control of his party, the National Regeneration Movement (Morena), over government institutions.

Corruption is endemic to capitalism and flourishes under AMLO’s watch. Only its beneficiaries have shifted.

Keeping with a practice of past administrations, multi-million-dollar infrastructure projects and funding for public institutions have been initiated. For a new national airport on the outskirts of Mexico City and a high-speed train in the Yucatán Peninsula, there were virtually no rival bids for the contracts and details of the outlays were kept hidden under the pretext of “national security.”

López Obrador has defended the army brass as “incorruptible,” an assertion that flies in the face of what most Mexicans know. In the name of stamping out corruption, he replaced the fed-



Reuters/Henry Romero

July 26 Mexico City march for justice for 43 disappeared Ayotzinapa students. Banner reads: “The army knows.” President López Obrador increasingly relies on “incorruptible” military.

eral police in September 2022 with a 115,000-strong National Guard, headed by army commanders.

His administration has continued protecting high-ranking army and police officers connected to the 2014 killing and disappearance of 43 students from the Ayotzinapa teachers college. But relatives of the slain remain determined to uncover what happened.

## Containing workers’ struggles

Behind radical-sounding statements, López Obrador hides his commitment to uphold capitalist exploitation, which is to blame for the conditions affecting tens of millions in city and countryside. He seeks to contain struggles by working people by fostering dependence on state patronage through his political party.

As part of efforts to increase Mexico’s energy production, his government has revived small-scale coal operations, known as “pocitos” (little wells), in the northern border state of Coahuila.

There are hundreds of these small mines operating with dangerous conditions and no unions. Under a plan “to give more income to the poorest Mexicans,” they sell their coal to the Federal Electricity Commission, headed by Manuel Bartlett, an old-guard politician, who like AMLO was formerly a member of the PRI, and the Party of the Democratic Revolution.

“It’s the same model from 30 years ago under the PRI. ... It’s the same

names, some of them now belong to Morena,” said Cristina Auerbach, director of Pasta de Conchos Families, on the program “Sin Embargo al Aire” on Aug. 4, 2022. The group is fighting for compensation for the families of 65 miners killed in a mine disaster in 2006, and for their bodies to be recovered. “How can you have ‘energy sovereignty’ at the cost of people’s lives?” she said.

AMLO’s administration harks back to the heyday of the PRI, which held power uninterruptedly for most of the 20th century, rather than the “profound and radical” change he claims to offer.

That PRI-dominated period was marked by the party’s near absolute control of the political system, and the co-opting of labor unions and peasant organizations. PRI governments used a combination of reforms and repression to maintain capitalist stability.

In the meantime, Mexican and foreign capitalists continue to syphon off billions of dollars in profits from the labor of Mexican workers.

These conditions are pushing some to look for ways to fight. Earlier this year VW and Audi workers won wage raises after threatening labor actions. In May last year workers at the GM Silao plant in the state of Guanajuato also won a wage increase.

These actions point toward workers relying on their own power and that of their unions, not continuing dependence on government patronage handed out by the country’s capitalist parties.

# THE MILITANT

**Iran oil workers protest over safety, pay, conditions**

*Protests by oil-drilling and refinery workers in five Iranian provinces are demanding higher pay, pensions and safe working conditions. The reactionary bourgeois clerical regime in Tehran is facing working-class anger, including over efforts to expand its reach in the Middle East.*



radiozamaneh.com  
Contract oil workers protest in Abadan, Iran, in early October, demanding higher pay..

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# Pogrom is threat to all workers

Continued from front page

They're getting a statement by Rachele Fruit, the SWP's candidate for U.S. Senate from Florida, into the hands of working people at union picket lines and on their doorsteps in cities, small towns and rural areas. The statement was printed in last week's *Militant* and is available on the paper's website. It explains that building parties that can fight for workers power and socialism is the road to ending Jew-hatred once and for all.

"Hamas' attack was outrageous," insurance worker Anthony Coleman told Lea Sherman, SWP candidate for New Jersey General Assembly, when she knocked on his door in Orange, New Jersey, Oct. 15. Sherman said all workers had a stake in defending Israel's right to exist as a refuge for Jews after the horrors of the Holocaust, and Washington and London's refusal to admit Jews before, during and after the Second World War.

Coleman pointed to the sharp conflicts between the Democratic and Republican parties today. "When one party gets elected here, the other says the election was illegitimate," Coleman said. "That's a problem."

"Neither of them defend workers' interests," Sherman replied. "Both of them backed Biden when he banned rail workers from striking last year for better wages and safer conditions."

"Without safety you end up with derailments like the one in East Palestine, Ohio," Coleman said, "and it's always the working class that's affected." He got a subscription to the *Militant*.

Later that afternoon Sherman marched alongside several thousand in Livingston, New Jersey, to protest Hamas' slaughter. The action was organized by the ad-hoc MetroWest Israel Action Committee and the Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ. It included participants from synagogues, Presbyterian and Lutheran churches and

Chinese and Indian community groups. Among the placards carried by marchers was a sign that pointed to the danger of Jew-hatred everywhere. It read "USA is not immune."

In Pittsburgh, Tony Lane, SWP candidate for Allegheny County Executive, and campaign supporters visited *Militant* subscribers to discuss how workers can take on and eradicate antisemitism and why this is a life-and-death question for the labor movement. They visited Francis Graham, who told Lane that the Israeli government had a long record oppressing the Palestinian people.

"Israel exists because of the Holocaust," Lane said. "Fighting Jew-hatred and defending Israel's right to exist is crucial." He showed Graham *The Jewish Question: A Marxist Interpretation* by Abram Leon, a leader of the revolutionary working-class movement in Nazi-occupied Belgium in the 1940s. Leon was captured and killed in the gas chambers in Auschwitz, Poland.

The book describes how antisemitism rises at times of deep going capitalist crisis, as insecure layers of the middle class look for someone to blame. The capitalist rulers turn to Jew-hating fascist forces to try to crush mounting working-class battles.

"I can see the point you're making," Graham said. He decided to get the book.

"I think what's happening in Israel is horrible," student Kate Baker told SWP campaigners Lisa Rottach and Miguel Zarate when they knocked on her door in Louisville, Kentucky, not far from the picket lines of striking United Auto Workers at the Ford Truck Plant there.

"The only way to end violence and pogroms against Jews once and for all is for working people to overturn capitalism," Rottach said. Workers gain confidence we can change the conditions we face through fights like the UAW strike, Zarate said. Baker arranged a follow-up visit so she can subscribe to the *Militant*.

The SWP campaigners also met a worker who recently arrived from Cuba, who described the severe hardships working people confront there. He told Rot-



Militant/Terry Evans

Joanne Kuniansky, left, SWP candidate for New Jersey State Senate, joined Oct. 15 Livingston protest against the Hamas massacre in Israel. Sign shows Jew-hatred is a threat everywhere.

tach that neither the Cuban government, nor former President Fidel Castro were to blame. He said Castro was "a leader for the whole world."

"The SWP demands an unconditional end to the U.S. economic war against Cuba. Washington should remove Cuba from its list of state sponsors of terrorism," Rottach said. The man purchased a copy of the Spanish edition of *The Low Point of Labor Resistance Is Behind Us: The Socialist Workers Party Looks Forward* by SWP leaders Jack Barnes, Mary-Alice Waters and Steve Clark, along with a *Militant* subscription.

In Minneapolis, SWP campaigners Mary Martin and Kevin Dwire met a retiree who was pet sitting at a friend's house.

"Why don't you both come in," she said after they showed her the paper's headline, "Condemn Jew-hating pogrom! Defend Israel's right to exist!" As the dogs and cats came to greet the SWP campaigners, she told them she had been unable to find anything objective in news coverage about Hamas' assault. She readily subscribed to the *Militant*.

Supporters of the *Militant* are hosting Militant Labor Forums where working people can address this turning point in world politics and discuss how workers can build the party we need.

SWP and Communist League members are campaigning to expand the readership of the *Militant* and books by SWP leaders and other revolutionaries.

At the end of the third week, the fall campaign to win 1,350 subscribers to the paper and sell the same number of books is just ahead of schedule, with 689 subscriptions and 974 books sold.

SWP members are also winning contributions to the party's annual Party-Building Fund of \$140,000. They're extending the SWP's reach, attracting workers and winning new fund contributors by clearly addressing the class roots of antisemitism and boldly presenting a course to combat and overcome it, on the road to workers taking political power.

To join SWP members campaigning or to contribute to the fund contact the nearest branch listed on page 8.



## Campaign to expand reach of *Militant*, books, SWP fund Sept. 23 - November 21 (week three)

Country	Sub quota	Subs sold	Books quota	Books sold	Fund quota	Fund received
UNITED STATES						
Atlanta	50	34	50	33	\$9,500	\$1,462
Chicago	100	53	100	53	\$14,000	\$3,466
Cincinnati	70	45	70	31	\$6,000	
Dallas-Ft. Worth	60	22	60	25	\$5,250	
Lincoln	15	7	15	6	\$500	\$250
Los Angeles	110	46	110	63	\$15,000	\$710
Miami	45	18	45	11	\$5,500	\$205
Minneapolis	70	37	70	52	\$5,500	
N. New Jersey	75	32	75	25	\$7,500	\$780
New York	100	43	125	57	\$20,500	\$2,190
Oakland	90	55	90	59	\$15,500	\$3,700
Philadelphia	55	23	55	19	\$6,000	
Pittsburgh	50	29	50	14	\$6,250	\$1,005
Seattle	75	34	75	16	\$14,500	
Washington	50	26	50	13	\$4,500	
Other		40		366		
Total U.S.	1015	544	1040	843	\$136,000	\$13,768
Prisoners		50				
UNITED KINGDOM						
London	45	15	45	23		
Manchester	30	14	30	19		
Total U.K.	75	29	75	42		
Canada	95	54	120	80		
Australia	30	12	30	9		
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,215</b>	<b>689</b>	<b>1,265</b>	<b>974</b>	<b>\$136,000</b>	<b>\$13,768</b>
<b>SHOULD BE</b>	<b>1,350</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>1,350</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>\$140,000</b>	<b>\$52,500</b>

## Rallies to demand end to US embargo of Cuba

BY JANET POST

NEW YORK — Opponents of Washington's six-decade-long economic war against Cuba will march and rally here Oct. 28 and in other cities worldwide that week.

The actions are being organized to draw attention to the Nov. 2-3 U.N. General Assembly vote on a resolution presented by Cuba's revolutionary government that calls for an end to "the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States against Cuba." The U.N. has voted 30 times in a row to condemn the blockade.

The march and rally in New York is sponsored by the International U.S.-Cuba Normalization Confer-

ence Coalition and the New York-New Jersey Cuba Sí Coalition. Organizers are demanding an "end to the blockade against Cuba," to "take Cuba off Washington's list of state sponsors of terrorism" and an "end to all U.S. anti-Cuba economic and travel sanctions." Demonstrators will gather at noon at 47th Street and Broadway.

"Despite the fact that the U.S. government's bipartisan anti-Cuba campaign isn't very popular, even in U.S. public opinion, it continues and deepens under the Biden administration, leading to a deepening impact upon the lives of Cuban working people," Ike Nahem, a leader of the Cuba Sí Coalition, told the *Militant*.

During a weeklong visit for meetings at the U.N. in September, Cuban President Miguel Díaz-Canel told the General Assembly, "For more than 60 years Cuba has suffered from a suffocating economic blockade, conceived to depress its income and standard of living, to make it endure continued

shortages of food, medicine and other basic goods and restrict its possibilities of development."

It's "a cruel, silent, extraterritorial economic war," he said. "It's accompanied by a powerful machine of political destabilization, with multi-million-dollar funds approved by the U.S. Congress with the aim of capitalizing on the shortages caused by the blockade to undermine the constitutional order of the country."

The U.S. rulers have never forgiven the Cuban people for overthrowing the Fulgencio Batista dictatorship and, under the leadership of Fidel Castro, carrying out the first socialist revolution in the Americas. Since then, every U.S. president — Democrat and Republican alike — has tried to overturn the revolution.

For more information on the actions, contact: US-CubaNormalization.org or CubaSiNYNJCoalition.org. Or email: u.n.voteoncuba@uscubanormalization.org

# UAW expands strike at Big Three

**Continued from front page**  
this morning that we're all part of the 'Ford family,' but we feel like the part of the family that gets wrapped up in plastic, thrown in the back of the truck and treated like dirt.

"Our priority is to protect jobs and workers' livelihoods. With the move to electric vehicles we know the companies will need fewer workers. That's one reason the shorter workweek is so important," Dunn said. The union is demanding a 32-hour workweek for 40 hours pay.

UAW Local 862 members Amber Sieg and her husband Jamie Sieg are both on strike at the truck plant, with three kids at home. "When you're only bringing home around \$17 an hour, as many entry-level employees do, you have to prioritize how you spend your money," Amber Sieg told the *Louisville Courier Journal*.

"We grind and grind, just to get by," Jamie Sieg said. With prices for gas and groceries climbing, things like taking the family on a vacation to the beach or the mountains seem unattainable. "You can't sustain a life even making what people consider decent pay," Amber Sieg said.

"I've been helping out on the picket line and whatever else I can do to organize strike activities," Tim Slonaker, a UAW skilled trades representative at Ford's Louisville Assembly Plant, which is currently not on strike, told the *Militant*. Workers there are facing layoffs soon because of the shutdown of the truck plant. Both plants are organized by Local 862, which has 12,000 members.

"We are living in historic times," Slonaker said. "We are finally getting a fighting chance for all working-class people."

## Rail workers join Pennsylvania auto parts strikers on picket line

LANGHORNE, Pa. — Striking GM workers at the parts distribution center here got a boost from eight rail workers, members of SMART-Transportation Division Local 1373, who joined their picket line Oct. 6.

The Philadelphia-area rail workers brought hot dogs, hamburgers, sandwiches and refreshments for the strikers and provided well-appreciated reinforcements for the picket line that afternoon.

The rail and auto workers spent several hours sharing experiences and getting to know each other. We described the fight rail workers mounted last year battling for a new contract that would address the miserable conditions workers face from the rail bosses. We explained how the Joseph Biden administration and Congress barred us from striking and imposed a

contract on us that we had voted down.

"In our local we tend to support other struggles, we have been there ourselves," Dan Zingaro, local chairman of SMART-TD Local 1373, told the media. "The issues that autoworkers are fighting is a fight we all are fighting, and the autoworkers will stand with us next time."

"It would take me 400 years to make what the CEO of GM makes," said Charmian Leslie-Hughes, acting president of striking UAW Local 2177. "I make \$18 an hour picking parts and have to provide for my family, while others make \$30 doing the same job." She was describing the divisive two-tier wage system the auto bosses have imposed on them.

Jeremy Ferguson, national president of SMART-TD, has urged rail union members to do all they can to back the UAW strike. "Any reinforcement our union can provide them will go a long way toward their fight and the labor movement throughout this country," he wrote on the union website.

"The support from other workers has been unbelievable," Leslie-Hughes said. "This is what it's going to take."

— *Ved Dookhun*

## Rail unionist helps win solidarity for UAW strikers at Toledo plant

I am a railroad conductor and union member of SMART-TD Local 1418, out of Conway, Pennsylvania. As a supporter and regular reader of your newspaper, I have been following your coverage on the UAW strike against the

# Support Memphis bakery workers strike over wages, safety

**Continued from front page**  
was contaminated. They just shut the whole unit down."

Beckman was seriously injured while trying to clear out standing liquid in the plant, after bosses refused to buy new sump pumps to do the job. He thought he was standing in water and it turned out to be caustic chemicals that burned his feet so badly he almost lost them.

"The company insisted I come right back to work," said Beckman. "They put me in front of a computer with my feet propped up. They don't want anyone to file worker's comp claims."

There is an International Flavors and Fragrances plant that is non-union in Pryor, Oklahoma. It is almost identical to the Memphis plant "down to the floor plan," Brooks said. That plant did a big round of hiring in late May, just before the Memphis strike began.

There is one process that is unique to Memphis, called Phase 3, they said, which produces protein powder that goes into baby food sold by Abbott Industries. IFF is trying to keep this part of the plant running, using supervisors, replacement workers and some 20 union members, the only ones who've crossed the line.

Pickets pointed to that unit, the only one with smoke coming out of it. If the plant was running at full capacity, "you would see smoke way down the road."

Cedric Wilson, president of Local 390G, was on the picket line when I came back the next day. "We're not going back in without a decent contract," he said. The company has refused to negotiate since their "last,



Militant/Amy Husk

UAW Local 862 members on strike at Ford Kentucky Truck Plant in Louisville Oct. 14. "Our priority is to protect jobs and workers' livelihoods," Local President Todd Dunn told the *Militant*.

Big Three and the solidarity they've received. I have been talking about their fight with co-workers and in my union, and some of us have been organizing to go to their picket line at the Stellantis Jeep plant in Toledo, Ohio, near the hotel where we lay over.

I drove to Toledo Sept. 29 to meet up with an engineer who is my local chairperson. We took our SMART gear, a handmade sign, a jug of coffee and couple dozen donuts and went to show solidarity with the strikers. I also brought a couple copies of the Sept. 14 statement by the national president of our union, Jeremy Ferguson, urging union members to show our support to the UAW. We received a warm welcome.

We learned a lot about their fight and the conditions workers at the plant face. We also had the chance to explain to them some of the conditions railroad workers face on the job, and about some of the demands we pushed for in our last contract fight. It was a great experience and we plan on going back with a bigger delegation. I would encourage other readers of the *Militant* to go to the picket lines and support the UAW strikers.

Also, I was happy to recently learn about a SMART union leadership delegation, including President Ferguson, that went to walk those same picket lines this past week.

In solidarity,  
Sergio Zambrana

best, and final offer" in June. "We're willing to move on our demands," added Beckman, a trustee in the local, "but they aren't even willing to talk."

"The bottom line is it's a matter of respect and they don't respect us. We worked through COVID, through holidays," said Beckman. "I had COVID three times and it almost killed me. And now they want to take back from us."

## Strikers win support

The strikers are getting support from fellow unionists. "We send our Support and Respect to our Sisters and Brothers of BCTGM Local 390G in your effort for a new collective bargaining agreement," said a letter signed by five BCTGM international representatives and the presidents of seven union locals in the Midwest. It said the strikers' demands are "simple: dignity and respect on the job that comes from a union contract negotiated in good faith and without take-aways."

This letter was delivered by Darren Hortor, a member of Local 167G in Grand Forks, North Dakota. He also brought a check for \$760 from a collection taken at a stewards' training session in Grand Forks.

Hortor works at the North Dakota Mill, a state-owned wheat mill. A long-time union activist, he helped organize solidarity with 1,300 BCTGM members locked out by American Crystal Sugar Company in North Dakota, Minnesota and Iowa in 2011-12.

BCTGM Local 390G members at IFF make soy protein products that are used by Nestle, Nestle Purina, Kind Bars, Abbott Nutrition and other

companies to manufacture baby formula, pet foods, soy-based nutritional powders and other goods.

The IFF bosses are demanding an end to paid lunch breaks, to stop paying overtime after eight hours, and to cut contributions to workers' 401(k) retirement plans. This comes on top of health care costs going up dramatically since the company changed insurers two years ago after merging with Dupont.

IFF is an international conglomerate, with 158 plants and 51 laboratories worldwide. Bosses raked in \$11.7 billion in profits in 2021.

Sweetrica Baker, from the Memphis Communications Workers of America and the Central Labor Council, came to the picket line to invite workers to come to the Teamsters hall next week to get financial aid from the United Way if they need it. Strikers get \$205 a week from the union strike fund, supplemented by fundraising for those who need extra help.

The Central Labor Council is helping to organize a joint rally to support the 390G strikers and strikers at the ACDelco parts plant in Memphis, part of the national United Auto Workers fight with the Big Three automakers. The rally will be at Overton Park in Memphis Oct. 22 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Another support rally was held in New York City Oct. 18, outside IFF headquarters at 521 W. 57th Street in Manhattan at 1 p.m.

IFF strikers need support! Join the rallies! Walk the picket line at 4272 S. Mendenhall Road. It's up 24/7.

Contributions are needed. Go to [www.gofundme.com/f/bctgm-local-390g-iff-memphis-workers-on-strike](http://www.gofundme.com/f/bctgm-local-390g-iff-memphis-workers-on-strike).

Read about the battles that forged the US labor movement



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# —ON THE PICKET LINE—

## Unifor strikers vote up new contract at GM in Canada

OSHAWA, Ontario — The 4,300 Unifor-organized workers at General Motors in Canada voted up a new contract Oct. 15 by 80%. This followed Ford's union members, who approved their contract by a much closer 54% margin Sept. 24. The union is now looking for a new contract with Stellantis.

The over 2,600 members of Unifor at the GM assembly plant here set up picket lines at all the giant complex's gates Oct. 10, along with some 1,300 workers at a St. Catharines plant and GM Parts Distribution Centre in Woodstock.

"I work full time now, but don't know when I'll be permanent. We're trying to make sure all workers become permanent," Samantha Boeher told this *Militant* worker-correspondent when the strike was on. She has worked for a little more than a year in chassis pre-turnover and is a temporary part-time worker. About half the production workers hired at Oshawa since 2021 are women.

Fifteen years ago the union gave GM, Ford and Stellantis bosses a series of deep concessions when the Big Three faced bankruptcy in the 2008 capitalist economic crisis.

Strikers appreciated the solidarity that they got from many passing motorists, who honked in support or visited their picket lines. "Solidarity is very important. We have to stick together no matter what industry we're in," striker A.J. Small said. Rob Wiersma, a millwright at GM for three years, agreed: "We need to stand with our union brothers and sisters in auto in the United States."

The St. Catharines GM factory makes engines and transmissions essential to running GM plants in the U.S.

— Beverly Bernardo

## Sky Chef catering workers rally for pay raise at Miami airport

MIAMI — Nearly 200 members of UNITE HERE Local 355 marched in the rain and rallied outside the LSG Sky Chef catering facility near Miami International Airport to back workers' demand for an immediate raise to \$20 an hour. Union members came from work

sites throughout the area.

Union members spoke in English, Spanish and Haitian Creole about fights they've waged over the past year that won higher wages.

Airline catering workers here prepare, pack and deliver food and beverages served aboard flights for American Airlines and other major U.S. airlines. Two-thirds of the food and drink on board flights departing from Miami International are prepared by workers at Sky Chef. They are fighting for an immediate raise from \$16 an hour.

UNITE HERE Local 355 says the fight they are waging is part of the series of strikes taking place across the country today, from the UAW strike against the Big Three to the battle at International Flavors and Fragrances in Tennessee.

Sky Chef workers voted by 99% to authorize a strike at any time over their demand.

"It's disgusting that the hospitality industry makes the profits it does and doesn't pay its workers enough to live on," Nick Lenzi, a maintenance worker and union shop steward at the St. Regis Hotel, told Rachele Fruit, a member of Local 355 and Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Senate from Florida. "We're not the only low-wage industry," he said, "but we're in the spotlight because we're union. The unions are under attack here in the state of Florida and we have to grow our rights and our wages."

— Mary Martin

## British Columbia sugar workers fight bosses' concession demands

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — Some 135 members of Public and Private Workers of Canada Local 8 set up strike picket lines Sept. 28 outside Lantic's Rogers Sugar refinery. The previous contract had expired in February.

Pickets also set up on street corners to get out the word about their fight.

Tyson Costa, Local 8's plant chair at Rogers Sugar, told *Militant* reporters that the company wants to chop away at seniority rights and benefits and to contract out some jobs.

"They want to impose a continuous 24/7 operation and make weekend work

## BNSF coal train derailed in Colorado, kills truck driver



Colorado State Patrol

On Oct. 15, 30 cars on a loaded Burlington Northern coal train passing near Pueblo, Colorado, derailed and brought a bridge crashing down onto Interstate Highway 25. It crushed a semitruck, killing the driver. This was the 177th derailment reported on the BNSF so far this year.

Former National Transportation Safety Board accident investigator Russell Quimby said the most likely cause of the bridge collapse was that the derailed cars slammed into the side of the bridge, causing it to fall. Nine miles of Interstate I-25 — the main north-south route in Colorado — had to be shut down.

The name of the game since has been passing the buck. The rail bosses say the state owns the 65-year-old bridge. The Colorado Transportation Department says BNSF was responsible for inspecting it.

A week earlier eight Union Pacific rail cars derailed in downtown Colorado Springs, spilling military vehicles and equipment. "All of a sudden we just heard 'bang, bang, bang,'" eyewitness Steven Watkins told KKTU. "The cars were just spinning everywhere."

The most devastating rail disaster this year was the Feb. 3 Norfolk Southern derailment in East Palestine, Ohio, dumping 50 cars on the ground, including 11 carrying hazardous chemicals, five of which were loaded with toxic vinyl chloride. Company and government officials decided to drain the vinyl chloride on the ground and set it on fire, spreading the toxic chemical throughout the region, with long-term effects.

Rail workers need to use their unions to set up committees of themselves, as well as area workers, farmers and small-business people to force open the business secrets and profit gouging of the rail bosses. The rail unions need to fight for larger train crew size, shorter trains and to take control over and enforce safe working conditions.

— JOE SWANSON

mandatory without paying overtime. We want to choose when we work overtime or weekends," Costa said. "Over 50% of the workers are new and under 35 with young families.

"We want a three-year contract and 6% wage increases a year," he said. "The company is offering less than 3% yearly for five years. We've been falling behind

to inflation for a decade. Our base rate is just CA\$23 per hour."

"This company has made so much money from our labor yet they want to take things away," Collin Cameron, a young worker who was hired three years ago, said.

Lantic, the company that owns the sugar refinery, reports sales of 1 billion Canadian dollars (\$730 million) in 2022.

Strikers said the company wants to cut extended health benefits, while they want the company to pay for their long-term disability plan.

Striker Tom Cameron, a painter with 19 years at the refinery, said, "Support from other union workers is important as we are all trying to keep our heads above water." Striker Ed Nagy said, "Management is doing our work to keep things running. They are even bringing in sleeping bags."

Another issue is sick days. British Columbia law says workers are entitled to five paid sick days per year. Yet when they try to take one, the company forces them to call a company nurse, who has been known to say, "You don't sound sick to me." Consequently, many workers just work when they're sick.

International Longshore and Warehouse Union members have joined picket lines at the factory, which is located on the Vancouver waterfront. They brought a tent and multiple propane cylinders to keep the strikers warm and dry.

Messages of solidarity can be sent to PPWC Local 8 President Adrian Soldera, 596 Albert Street, Nanaimo, BC V9R 2W2; or to ppwc8@telus.net.

— Ned Dmytryshyn and Fred Nelson

## 25, 50, AND 75 YEARS AGO



### November 2, 1998

LONDON — In a flagrant abuse of the national sovereignty of Chile, British police arrested the country's former military dictator, Augusto Pinochet, Oct. 17 on a warrant issued by two Spanish judges.

The *London Times* pointed out that the arrest set a precedent by which other current or former heads of sovereign governments could be arrested when visiting Britain. Peruvian author Mario Vargas Llosa told the BBC he hoped it would be followed by the arrest of President Slobodan Milosevic of Yugoslavia and President Fidel Castro of Cuba. Speaking in Portugal, Castro said the "arrest was international meddling."

The Communist League in the United Kingdom issued a statement condemning the arrest and extradition proceedings. "Only the Chilean people have the right to bring this butcher to justice, not the British or Spanish imperialists," it read.



### November 2, 1973

In June 1972 three writers — Maria Velho da Costa, Maria Isabel Barreno and Maria Teresa Horta — were arrested under Portuguese censorship laws for committing "an outrage to public morals and good customs." Their crime: the publication of a 400-page book of essays, poetry and stories. The unifying theme of the now-banned book, *New Portuguese Letters*, is the oppression, degradation and isolation of contemporary women, and their cry for liberation.

The trial is scheduled to begin Oct. 25. They not only face two years' imprisonment and a fine but the possibility of not being able to publish anything further under Portugal's strict censorship regulations.

The three Marias also speak out against the Portuguese government's wars in Africa. The authors solidarize themselves with the Africans who are fighting for control of their own destinies.



### November 1, 1948

Over 300 people heard the presidential and vice presidential candidates of the Socialist Workers Party at an enthusiastic New York "Rally for a Socialist America" in the Hotel Diplomat on Oct. 27. James P. Cannon, national secretary of the SWP, struck the keynote for the evening with a short speech. In this one campaign of 1948, he said, more workers had heard our message than in the previous two decades.

The main speakers were Grace Carlson and Farrell Dobbs. Carlson, in a merciless attack on the capitalist parties, contrasted their record in favor of Big Business with the record of the SWP in fighting against reaction and for a better world.

SWP presidential candidate Dobbs said, "Not only will we have enduring peace, plenty and freedom under socialism, but for the first time, genuine civilization and the universal brotherhood of man will become possible."



# SWP in 1938: Open US doors to victims of Hitler's Nazi terror!

The deadly Oct. 7 Hamas pogrom against Jews in Israel highlighted the danger of Jew-hating violence worldwide as the crisis of capitalism grows. Below are excerpts from "Theses on the Jewish question" and "Open the doors to victims of Hitler's Nazi terror!" from The Founding of the Socialist Workers Party: Minutes and Resolutions 1938-39. They were adopted by the SWP as fascist rule consolidated in Germany, ultra-rightist, Jew-hating groups grew in the U.S. and the second imperialist world war loomed. The SWP brought a class-struggle course against Jew-hatred into the unions. It organized a demonstration of 50,000 outside New York City's Madison Square Garden in 1939 against the pro-Hitler German American Bund rallying inside. Copyright © 1982 by Pathfinder Press. Reprinted by permission.



Members of Socialist Workers Party helped initiate picket at German Consulate in New York in November 1938 demanding Washington open its doors to Jewish and other victims of Nazi terror. Party resolution said road to end Jew-hatred was fight for workers power, socialism.

## FEATURED BOOK

Our approach to the Jewish question can be none other than that of the international class struggle. In its death agony the capitalist class maintains itself in power by resorting to unmitigated brutality and violence aimed at the working class, particularly at its vanguard. It utilizes every element of hatred and prejudice which it can fan into flame to bring about division among the masses and to establish a social basis for its fascist, gangster rule. The Jews, by virtue of the fact that everywhere they form only a small minority of the population, and because anti-Semitism has always been fostered, sometimes openly, sometimes in masked form, constitute an easy scapegoat upon whom the big bourgeoisie can divert the pent-up, dangerous wrath of the backward elements among the masses, and particularly of the desperate middle classes. The fascist hirelings of the big bourgeoisie

use the most vicious, lying propaganda to inflame to pogrom temperature the dormant antagonism to the Jews. Precisely because the fomenting of anti-Semitism has become an inseparable part of the technique of fascist reaction, the revolutionary party has a double duty to perform in combating it. It has the duty of exposing the real aims of the capitalists, hidden behind the smokescreen of anti-Semitism and thereby inoculating the masses against the poison; it has also the special task of mobilizing the real defense of the persecuted Jews, a defense of necessity based on the might of the organized working class. ...

Many Jews — and not only Jews — delude themselves with the soothing thought that America is different, that these same phenomena cannot happen here. They continue to picture the United States as a great melting pot with a democracy far more securely founded than was European democracy. But the Jews and the entire working class must be forewarned — the same causes leading to decay are visibly at work here, and the same results are not merely possible but absolutely inevitable unless the working class learns, and learns quickly, to defend its hard-earned rights and to take the road to power. The second crisis piled on top of the first one leaves the capitalist ruling class in a serious predicament and in a quandary concerning the way out.

That it is fearful of its continued domination and considers the advisability of strong measures — fascist measures — cannot be doubted. The symptoms of increased discrimination against the Jews, of anti-Semitism, are already present. We must immediately sound the alarm to put the working class on guard against all the reactionary conspiracies of the big bourgeoisie; more particularly we must awaken the Jewish masses to a sense of realization of the danger and above all we must propose the proper measures to be taken against the growing danger. ...

The solution of the Jewish question and that of the working class is a common one: the overthrow of capitalism. The Jews have reached an utter impasse because capitalism has reached an impasse. Only through the class struggle will the Jews find a road to the future.



The entire world has been shocked to the depths by the outburst of a new campaign of brutal violence against the Jews in Germany.

The hideous terror of Hitlerism has never struck with such cruel and merciless force.

Throughout Germany, bands of Nazi gangsters organized

and commanded by their leaders, have wrecked and looted stores owned by Jews. Jewish churches — synagogues — have been burned and destroyed by the instructed fascist mobs. The workers of Germany, who hate and despise Hitlerism with all their strength, were unable to come to the aid of the brutalized Jews because they are themselves still in the straitjacket of the Nazi terror.

The brown-shirted monsters do not even bother to conceal their aim: the physical extermination of every Jew in Great Germany. ...

They hope to take the minds of the German workers and peasants off the misery from which they suffer, to make them think that the Jews — traditional scapegoats for reaction — are responsible for all their ills.

They hope to blackmail the international protest movement against fascism into cowardly silence. ...

To let the fascist massacres go unanswered is only to prepare for our own defeat and enslavement at the hands of fascist reaction in this country. ...

The right of asylum is an old, a traditional, a respected right in this country.

Let us join in demanding that this right be extended now to those who are most urgently in need of it, to those for whom it makes the difference between life and death.

Workers!

Solidarity with those who suffer at the hands of fascism is one of the best ways of establishing, in this country, an unbreakable wall against the advance of American fascism.

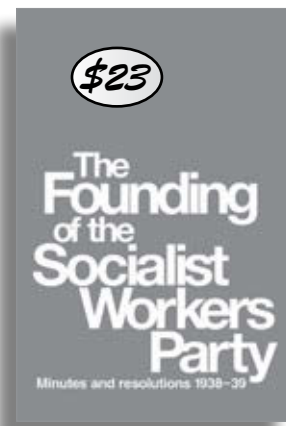
Unite! Join hands!

Show the Hitlerite assassins and pogromists the real position of American labor by your protest meetings!

Show them that the American working class means it seriously when it says that it detests anti-Semitism and

the anti-Semites like the plague!

Show the victims of the fascist terror that you mean it seriously, by stretching out to them the hand of fraternal solidarity, by demanding of the American government the free and unrestricted right of asylum for the Jewish scapegoats of fascist barbarism!



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# Fight for workers power to end Jew-hatred

It is in the interests of workers everywhere to speak out unequivocally against Tehran-backed Hamas' pogrom in Israel and against Jew-hatred wherever it raises its head. This is vital in defending our unions and advancing the class-against-class battles the working class faces, as we fight to defend our wages, conditions and constitutional rights from attack. This is the lesson of history.

The origins of virulent antisemitism lie in the impact of deepening capitalist crises on despairing layers of a crushed middle class. They become open to the anti-capitalist rhetoric of fascist forces that scapegoat Jews for the devastation wrought by the workings of capitalist exploitation. Growing sections of the rulers turn to fascist gangs to try to crush workers and the unions. They will do so in every capitalist country as the class struggle deepens in years to come.

The decisive question is building a revolutionary leadership capable of leading the working class to end capitalist oppression, take political power and make a socialist revolution. It was the refusal of the class-collaborationist Stalinist parties in the 1930s to follow this course that opened the door to the rise of Hitler, the second imperialist world war and the Holocaust.

Hamas' deadly Oct. 7 pogrom in Israel, and rising antisemitic attacks elsewhere, show that neither Israel, the U.S. nor any capitalist democracy is a safe haven for Jews. Under crisis-ridden capitalism there can be none.

Only the working class and its unions, acting decisively with class-conscious leadership, can rally to its side broader layers of the oppressed to take on and defeat the forces of reaction.

That was shown in practice in the 1917 Russian Revolution. V.I. Lenin and the Bolsheviks led workers to fight czarist pogroms, and built a party that led millions to conquer power and take the country's factories, banks and land into their own hands. They established a workers state and advanced the fight against Jew-hatred, for self-determination of oppressed nations like Ukraine and for women's emancipation.

Forging that kind of party is the road forward everywhere.

Washington and other imperialist powers are ratcheting up pressure on the Israeli government to stop short of taking decisive action to prevent Hamas from carrying out ever-more rounds of pogroms. Hamas and its backers in Tehran openly proclaim their goal is to destroy Israel, killing as many Jews as possible.

While the *Militant* offers no political support to the Israeli capitalist class, its parties or government, we say efforts to destroy Hamas' ability to carry out future massacres are an inevitable result of what has transpired. Without decisive blows being dealt to Hamas, rightist forces everywhere will be emboldened.

The banner of the working class everywhere must include an uncompromising fight against Jew-hatred and the defense of Israel's right to exist.

# Gag orders against Trump target free speech

Continued from front page

sey nurses facing court restrictions on picketing; or a Socialist Workers Party candidate facing discriminatory restrictions on ballot access.

Desperate to find any means to jail Trump, liberals hailed the ban imposed on Trump by New York Supreme Court Judge Arthur Engoron Oct. 3. That order was issued after Engoron ruled Trump was guilty on most charges without even a trial.

Trump had made comments about Allison Greenfield, Engoron's clerk. "The only one that hates Trump more is his [Engoron's] associate. ... She's screaming in his ear almost every time we ask a question," Trump had said. He posted and then withdrew some salacious gossip about Greenfield. The judge responded with the gag order, threatening 30 days in jail if Trump said anything more about any member of his staff.

Finding some comments distasteful is no grounds for an attack on free speech.

An appeals court has put a temporary halt on Engoron's order lifting Trump's license to sell real estate in New York State.

Trump is facing four court cases — federal cases in Florida and Washington, D.C., as well as state charges in New York and Georgia. Jack Smith, special counsel for the Biden administration's Justice Department, has charged Trump with "conspiracy" to "defraud the U.S.," based on his challenges to the 2020 election results.

Trump's lawyers requested the case be dismissed Oct. 5. Their motion charges the case violates constitutional protections against double jeopardy, indicting Trump a second time for the same charges arising from the Jan. 6 riot that a Senate impeachment proceeding had already thrown out.

That trial is set to start just before the Super Tuesday primary elections in March.

Smith succeeded in getting federal Judge Tanya Chutkan to impose a gag order on Trump in this case Oct. 16. Chutkan claimed that Trump "does not have the right to say and do exactly what he pleases." Allowing him to speak freely would be "a danger to the administration of justice." Chutkan said Trump's complaining about Washington, D.C., and his remarks that Smith is "deranged" and a "thug" are examples of things he can no longer say.

Under the order almost everyone else, including Trump's opponent, President Joseph Biden, will be free to discuss the case. But Trump would be unable to make comments about Michael Pence, one of his opponents in the Republican primaries, because Pence is a potential witness. Chutkan has the power to throw the former president in prison if he says anything she finds violates her order.

Trump says he'll appeal Chutkan's ruling. He has also been slapped with a gag order in a New York trial over alleged hush money payments. This case is projected to run through the entire presidential campaign.

## Liberals lead assault on free speech

Politically motivated attacks on free speech are spreading today, especially by 'woke' guardians of political correctness.

One example was the decision by Colorado school officials to remove seventh grader Jaiden Rodriguez from class in August because he wore a backpack bearing a picture of a coiled snake with the slogan, "Don't Tread On Me." Vanguard Secondary School counselor Nicole Longhoffer insisted the symbol must not be "around other kids," falsely claiming it has its "origins in slavery." In fact the flag became a symbol of resistance during the Revolutionary War, which led to the United States winning its independence.

Rodriguez's parents fought the school ruling and got it overturned.

The revolutionary working-class movement stands in the forefront of all attempts to restrict constitutional rights. When New York City authorities banned a Nazi rally in 1960, Socialist Workers Party leader James P. Cannon said, "People who demand free speech and constitutional rights for themselves, but want to deny it for others do not get much public sympathy when their own rights are denied."

"Our line is free speech," Cannon said. "We have to fight for it and convince other people we mean it. With truth on our side we have the most to gain by freedom of discussion and most to lose by its suppression."

# Workers face crisis

Continued from front page

the bulk of the month's job "increase." Over 4 million workers wanting full-time jobs have had to accept part-time work.

In addition, there were 123,000 more people holding more than one job, in order to try and take in enough to get by. What's more, the biggest share of those added to the workforce were workers 65 and over, who are losing ground in Social Security income.

Hiring by big retail chains for the end-of-the-year holiday season is also slowing down. Bosses from Macy's to Walmart to Dick's Sporting Goods, for example, have said they will hire fewer workers for the rest of the year. In past years, retail spending over the holidays often accounts for over 25% of some bosses' entire year's take.

Walmart told the media that if its stores needed more labor, they should push their workers to put in more hours. Unlike in 2022, where Walmart projected hiring 40,000 seasonal workers, it hasn't announced any plans to hire this Christmas. Watch out Santa!

Meanwhile, bankruptcies by large corporations, including SVB Financial, Bed Bath & Beyond, Rite Aid and Yellow Corp., are on the rise. Tens of thousands of workers at these companies now face loss of their jobs, health care and other benefits. At Yellow, which was one of the largest trucking companies in the U.S., jobs of 30,000 Teamsters have been axed.

## Rising prices cut workers' wages

And workers' paychecks continue to buy fewer things, with prices rising on many items families need, from groceries to housing to cars to occasional restaurant meals. While the overall price increase has slowed over the past year, it still keeps going up, and the biggest increases continue in basic necessities. Grocery prices are up nearly 20% and gasoline is up 52% during the glory years of Bidenomics.

But never fear, if you're rolling in dough you can find good deals. Many of the ruling rich sink a hunk of their loot into buying fine art as an investment. And the prices of paintings and such fell 6% in the first half of 2023, to an average of \$42,172 per piece.

For you and I, however, prices have gone up much faster than our wages. For production workers in manufacturing, wages over the past 12 months rose 4.3%. But the average number of hours worked dropped almost 1%, so income only rose 3.7%, well below the rate of inflation.

It has become more difficult for many working people to cover rising credit card debts, auto payments and housing expenses. Thirty-year mortgages are now just short of 8%. They were near 2% three years ago. As a result, more young adults in their 20s and 30s live at home with their parents. They can't afford to get out on their own or form and maintain a family.

Credit card debt recently topped \$1 trillion for the first time. The average annual interest rate that working people are paying on credit card balances hit a record high of 22.8% at the end of August. This is up from 16.3% a year ago. This will bring as much as \$40 billion into the big banks, according to WalletHub, which tracks such things.

"Inflation is already racing past next year's Social Security COLA," headlined an Oct. 12 MarketWatch article. The government announced that cost-of-living adjustments for the 67 million Social Security recipients will rise a mere 3.2% in 2024. And a hunk of this will go to pay for higher monthly Medicare premiums, which are projected to go up by roughly \$10 a month.

And this 2024 raise is much lower than actual prices older workers will be paying to survive. Among recipients ages 65 and older, 40% rely on Social Security for half or more of their income, 14% for nearly all their income.

## MILITANT LABOR FORUMS

### NEW YORK CITY

**Maurice Bishop and the Grenada Revolution, 40 Years Later: An Example and Lessons for Workers Everywhere.** Speakers: Terry Marryshow, Maurice Bishop October 19 Martyrs Foundation, Grenada-Cuba Friendship Association; Steve Clark, Socialist Workers Party National Committee, editor, *Maurice Bishop Speaks: The Grenada Revolution and Its Overthrow, 1979-1983*. Sun., Oct. 29. Reception, 3 p.m.; program, 4 p.m. Donation: \$10. Sponsored by Militant Labor Forum in New York and in Northern New Jersey. 307 West 36th St., 13th floor. Tel.: (646) 434-8117.

## — CALENDAR —

### UNITED KINGDOM

#### Meetings in London and Manchester

**Maurice Bishop and the Grenadian Revolution. On the 40th Anniversary of the Coard Coup and U.S. Invasion.** Speakers: Bárbara Montalvo, Cuban ambassador to the U.K.; Matthew Lord, People's Militia during the Grenada Revolution; Jonathan Silberman, Communist League. Manchester: Sat., Oct. 28, 2 p.m. *Cross St. Chapel, 29 Cross St., M2 1NL*. Tel: 07931-571503. London: Sat., Nov. 18, 3 p.m. *Osmani Centre, 58 Underwood Road, E1 5AW*. Tel: 07930-570667. Both meetings organized by Pathfinder Books.