



DECATUR REGIONAL
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Hit the Brakes

Contract negotiations between the United Auto Workers (UAW) union and U.S. automakers General Motors, Ford and Chrysler (known as the “Big Three”) have been ongoing for months. As of midnight last night, the contract expired and the UAW is on strike. The union’s [demands](#) include a 46 percent wage increase, 32-hour work weeks, defined benefit pensions for all workers and other cost of living increases.

The [strike](#) marks the first time in history that the UAW strikes at all three Big Three. Targeted walkouts occurred at specific plants this morning, with experts expecting a more significant strike in the coming weeks if negotiations do not improve.

The United Auto Workers union represents approximately 146,000 employees. The strike will likely cut motor vehicle output by roughly 30 percent, negatively impacting the U.S. economic and jobs report data. Some economists note that vehicle prices will increase if fewer cars are manufactured, which would risk inflation overall. NBC is providing continuing [live updates](#) on the strike. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has issued a statement [here](#).

In Other News

The IRS will pause taking claims for the [Employee Retention Tax Credit](#) due to an influx of fraudulent claims.

The Writers Guild of America and the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers will resume [negotiations](#) next week.

The National Weather Service seeks [public feedback](#) to simplify alert language.

Illinois Department of Health’s “[Vax Verify](#)” system is in place to help those who have misplaced their COVID-19 vaccine card.

The Illinois Department of Health endorses the CDC COVID-19 vaccine [guidelines](#).

The Illinois Department of Employment Security announces that the [unemployment rate](#) was 4.1 percent in August.

[Cash bail](#) will end on Monday in Illinois.

Millikin University partners with the [Nick Project](#) to promote fire safety.

The Decatur Federation of Teachers hold a [rally](#) before the Decatur school board meeting.

Decatur school board discusses the future of [Dennis School](#).

Officials provide an [update](#) to Sunday’s explosion at Decatur’s ADM plant.

Michael Burkham announces [candidacy](#) for Macon County Coroner.

Bids and RFPs

Macon County: None at this time.

City of Decatur: [Current RFP list](#).

Village of Mt. Zion: None at this time.

Decatur Park District: None at this time.



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