



September 14, 2009

# AutoKnow



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*General Motors Vision Statement:* GM's vision is to be the world leader in transportation products and related services. We will earn our customers' enthusiasm through continuous improvement driven by the integrity, teamwork and innovation of GM people.

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## FINAL EDITION

This will be the last issue of the AutoKnow for the Grand Rapids Metal Plant. As our workforce numbers continue to decline, we do not have the manpower to continue all of the services we used to provide. The AutoKnow will be discontinued, as well as AutoView and CNN on the TV's in the plant. Plant communications to our workforce going forward will be through supervisors, Lotus Notes and the various websites that are still in operation (eg: Transition Self Help Center, UAW Local 730, Socrates, etc.). Thanks to the former AutoKnow editors for keeping Grand Rapids Metal Plant employees informed and entertained over the years: **Gary Evey, Kris Bergh, Larry Melville, Jerry Sobczak, Ham McCallum** and photographer **Rick O'Rourke**.

### Nick Kassanos Transferring to Lansing Grand River

Assistant Plant Manager **Nick Kassanos** will be transferring to the Lansing Grand River Assembly Plant effective 10/1/09 as Assistant Plant Manager. His last day in Grand Rapids will be Thursday, September 17, so take a minute to congratulate Nick and wish him well on his new assignment.

#### Farewell Message from Nick Kassanos



Let me take a moment to express my appreciation to all of you for the professional work ethic you have continued to practice during these unprecedented times. You have continued to perform your work tasks in a safe manner by maintaining your focus, and I am grateful to see that we have not had any of our employees seriously injured. I have been proud to be a part of this great team and have enjoyed working with each of you and wish you all the best in the future.

*Nick Kassanos* – Assistant Plant Manager

### What's New in the Grand Rapids Self Help Transition Center

- **Resume and Interview Skills Workshop**

*Where:* Grand Rapids Metal Plant, Conf. Rm. #2/2A

*When:* September 22, 2009 (12:00 – 2:00 p.m.)

*Who:* All Grand Rapids Metal Plant employees (hourly & salary)

Sign-up sheets are posted on the board outside the Transitional Center.

Check out the Transition Center website for current information:

[www.transitionselfhelpcenter.com](http://www.transitionselfhelpcenter.com)

## Locker Room Update South Closed/North Open



Over the past month we have been working to close down the men's and women's south locker rooms. The Aramark uniforms have now been moved completely into the north locker rooms. As of Friday, 9/18/09, the south men's and women's locker rooms will be closed and locked so everyone must move their personal belongings into an empty locker in the north locker room (both men and women). Any questions, please contact **Kathy Coslow**.

## 36th Street North Parking Lot Changes

Beginning on Monday, September 21, the 36th Street north parking lot will be split into three sections (see attached layout for details). One section will be closed and used for a snow dump area this winter. There will be a section between the 36th Street main entrance and the gate that will be designated for GM-UAW employees. East of the gate will be designated parking for the contractors, which includes those working on press removal and the Premier housekeeping and skilled trades teams. NOTE: The handicapped parking area will be turned into regular parking. Anyone in need of a handicapped space can park in the salary parking lot on the south side of 36th Street.



## Suggestion Update

At this point in time, Suggestion award payments are still suspended at least through the month of September. For those who retire and have a pending suggestion payment in the system, the Corporation's position is that you signed a waiver releasing GM from any obligation; however, GM has always paid suggestion awards to retirees in the past. We are in uncharted territory with the bankruptcy and government involvement, so GM cannot make any commitment at this time. If you have any questions about the status of your Suggestion, contact **Vicki Yowell**, QN Suggestions Supervisor, at 313-324-5046.

## Grand Rapids Tribute Books

The Grand Rapids Metal Plant tribute books are still available in the Self-Help Transition Center and at the UAW Local 730 Union Hall. If you haven't picked one up yet, stop in at one of those two locations and get yours today.



## 2009 GM Charitable Giving Campaign

The GM 2009 Charitable Giving Campaign runs Sept. 1-30. You can make or change your contribution by accessing the on-line enrollment site:

- First, [login to mySocrates](#) through the mySocrates tab on the Socrates home page.
- Then, select the myServices tab. The link to the online enrollment site is under the Announcements section of myServices.

Please consider making an investment in your community by accessing the site today