



# Working News

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## American Rights at Work Launches Website - UAW LUPA

You might assume, judging by the name, that the U.S. Department of Labor is concerned with people who labor for a living. But you would be wrong.

Under Anti-Labor Secretary Elaine Chao, the government agency has rolled back critical mine safety programs, diluted ergonomics safety laws, advised big business on how to avoid paying workers overtime, supported suspension of prevailing wage laws in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and has taken many other actions against America's workers.

In response, American Rights at Work has launched ShameOnElaine.org, a Web site detailing the anti-worker actions of President Bush's longest-serving Cabinet member.

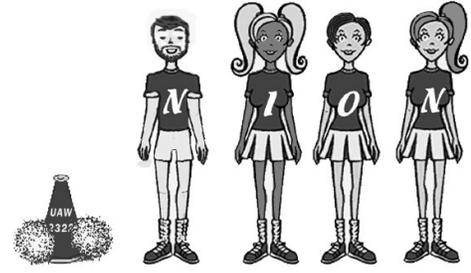
American Rights at Work, created in 2003 to advance democracy in the workplace, said it wants to give people the opportunity to weigh in on Chao's legacy.

*(continued on page 6)*

## Methadone Clinicians Join UAW 2322 - Ron Patenaude

Methadone Maintenance Clinicians at the Sisters of Providence voted overwhelmingly to join UAW 2322 in two separate elections conducted by the National Labor Relations Board March 20<sup>th</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup>. Clinician level ones voted 5 to 1 to join in the first election on March 20<sup>th</sup> and Clinician level twos voted 4 to 1 on Mayday to also join.

The clinicians voted for the union even though they faced a very aggressive antiunion campaign in which the employer attacked UAW 2322 as a "non-professional" union and went so far as to send out letters claiming members had complained about the behavior of President Ron Patenaude. All their efforts were to no avail as the workers recognized the advantage of belonging to a Union. As new member Kathy LaBombard put it, "Now we have a voice". Bargaining begins June 3<sup>rd</sup>.



**Without "you", there is no union!**

## Can't wait for '08 - UAW LUPA Advisory Council Chair John Davis

### Gearing Up for the 2008 White House Run

Soon, we'll know who the candidates will be on the 2008 Presidential ballot. While much jockeying remains between now and then, the importance of this election can't be emphasized enough. America's working families have been squeezed for the past seven years, as health care, good wages, secure pension plans and a promise of the American dream have been eroding by a White House that sits hand in hand with big business.

In a time while working families have suffered, the big boys at the board tables have been *(continued on page 5)*

*Dear Brothers and Sisters,*

We have had many victories in the Local recently, some are covered in this edition of our newsletter, but here I would like to take the opportunity to address a more urgent issue.

As I'm sure you are aware the Presidential election this November will (*at the risk of sounding dramatic*) probably be the most important election of our lifetime. We are faced, along with our allies in the Union movement and other socially progressive groups, with the task of helping put this country back on track this fall.

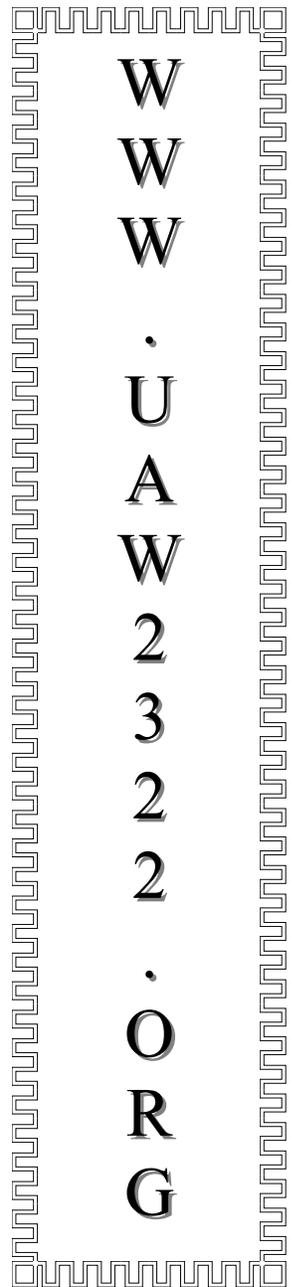
We will be faced with a choice between another Republican recycling the same failed policies and "ideas" that benefit the rich and ignore the needs of the rest of society and one of two Democratic candidates who many may view as less than perfect, but are certainly better than the alternative. We can not let the "perfect" interfere with the "good".

We can not withstand another 4 years of polices that brought us an illegal and devastating war with no end in sight, one which has crippled the economy. To see just how much this "war" has adversely affected our ability to provide funding for other gravely needed projects and causes I urge you to check out the National Priorities Project website ([www.nationalpriorities.org](http://www.nationalpriorities.org)). NPP has the research to show what the financial costs have been for each community in the Commonwealth. Although the financial costs pale in comparison to the human devastation and loss, NPP data demonstrates what we could have afforded were it not for this ill-conceived and executed war.

Many of the things that we as progressive Union members value could have been achieved such as universal health care, expanded educational opportunities and desperately needed infrastructure maintenance and improvements.

Who you campaign for or how you vote is your business and no one is "telling" you who to support, but I urge you all to get involved. Help bring a long overdue change to the White House. We can help change the future, but we have to get out and do the work to make it happen. Thank you.

*In Solidarity,*  
*Ronald Patenaude*  
*President, UAW Local 2322*



**Goddard Gains** - Jim Sparrell

I am pleased to report that the Goddard College Faculty Union Negotiating Team completed a successful round of negotiations for a compensation re-opener with the Goddard College administration.

We owe great thanks to the Goddard Faculty Union Negotiating Team: Francis X. Charet (chair), Henry Fijalkowski (UAW), Richard Herrmann, Muriel Shockley, Tim Scott (UAW), and Jane Wohl, for their dedication to this process and tireless work on our behalf.

While it is good to have the compensation reopener negotiations behind us for the last year of the contract, we know that we have much work ahead in terms of planning for a more comprehensive renegotiation of the contract which expires in 2009. The college union leadership team is working on assembling the next negotiating team and collecting information to develop proposals regarding key issues to change or clarify in the contract such as sick leave, service hours, length of work day during residencies, prorated benefits for greater than 50% employees, and

(continued on page 3)

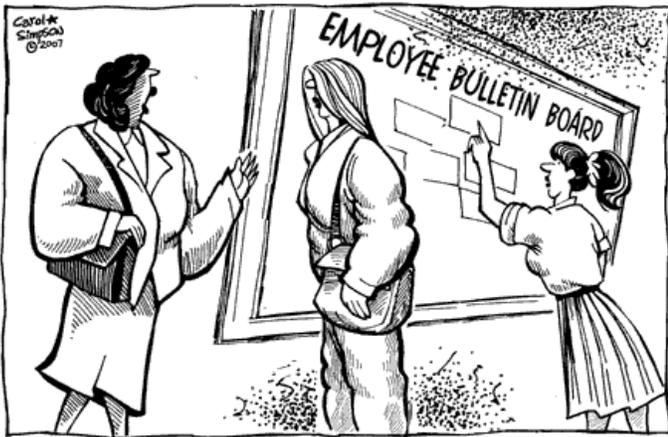
# Goddard Gains (continued from page 2)

compensation. In addition, we are looking at ways to revise the chapter bylaws to best reflect democratic principles for the membership and to make leadership positions more manageable  
Compensation Re-opener Agreement Details: Increase in the College's health insurance contribution, from the current 50% of the single rate for faculty at 50% Full Time Employee (FTE) or greater – to 65% of the single rate for faculty at 50% FTE or greater.

Increase in the College's dental insurance contribution, from the current 50% of single rate for faculty at 50% FTE or greater – to 65% of the single rate for faculty at 50% FTE or greater

An across the board increase of 6.0% in the following rates for faculty in their first three years of service to the College: Per student rate, Residency rate, Second reader rate, Service stipend. An across the board increase of 6.0% for salaried faculty who are in or beyond their fourth year of service to the College. An across the board increase of 6.0% in the following rates for faculty in or beyond their fourth year of service to the College, and who choose to be paid by task: Per student rate, Residency rate, Second reader rate, Service stipend. An increase of 6.0% in the hourly rate paid for additional service work. An increase of \$124 (from \$276 to \$400) per year for computer expenditures, pursuant to disbursement guidelines detailed in current contract.

The college union leadership team is working on assembling the next negotiating team and collecting information to develop proposals regarding changes and clarification of articles in the contract such as sick leave, service hours, length of work day during residencies, prorated benefits for, and compensation. If you want to be part of this team please let Jim Sparrell, Goddard unit President, or Tim Scott, Servicing Representative, know right away.



*"I signed up for a self defense class... the one called How to Win Your Union Grievance."*

## V-CAP Drive

The UAW Region 9A V-CAP drive is underway and UAW Local 2322 will be contacting members to sign them up.

V-CAP is the Voluntary Community Action Program and it is the vehicle by which the UAW raises funds to support the political work we do for the benefit of our members and their issues.

Unions are prohibited from using members' dues for most political purposes so the money that members contribute to the V-CAP fund is vital to getting us access to the political process and getting our message to our elected officials.

Please be advised UAW leadership, stewards or staff will be contacting members to encourage them to participate in both the upcoming V-CAP raffle sale and to sign up members who have V-CAP check-off in their contracts for contribution.

For more info please contact UAW 2322 President Ron Patenaude at 413-534-7600 or Boone Shear at the GEO office at 413-545-0705.

*Happy 4th of July*

It's getting to be that time of the year and everyone here at the Local 2322 office wants to wish all our members and their families a happy and safe summer!



## GEO Ratifies! - Tim Scott

After two days of voting, on Thursday April 17th and Friday April 18th, the GEO membership ratified the tentative agreement reached by the Bargaining Committee on April 10th. This, GEO's 7th contract, will be in effect from July 1st, 2007, until August 30th, 2008, and will cover all UMass graduate students who are employed as Teaching Associates (TO), Teaching Assistants (TA), Research Assistants (RA), Project Assistants (PA), Assistant Residence Directors (ARD), and Graduate Interns.

### 2007-2008 Contract Highlights

- ◆ A 2.5% wage increase across the board, with an additional 1.3% going to raise the minimum wages. This means that members in the Social Sciences and Humanities, who make the lowest wages on campus, will receive a wage increase of 3.8%. These wage increases will go into effect April 13th.
- ◆ A signing bonus of \$400 for eligible graduate employees who had full time equivalent positions during Fall semester 2007 (\$200 for those who had full time positions in Spring 2008 only and prorated for other non-fulltime positions). Members who graduate after April 13th will be eligible for this signing bonus, but members who have actively withdrawn will not be.
- ◆ A side letter that states that the existence of any graduate student fee and the amount of such fee are not subjects of bargaining, but the issues of waivers, exemptions, or credits of mandatory graduate student fees for graduate student employees are subjects of bargaining.
- ◆ MOU6 transparency language, though reports only cover doctoral students at this moment and information regarding high school zip code is not included.
- ◆ Duration runs from July 2007 to August 30th, 2008. This means that our contract now expires at the time that the semester begins, meaning that more members will be able to be involved with the contract negotiating and campaigning process.

Thanks to all members who came out to vote, thanks to all who came out to the rallies, marches, pickets, and other actions, and thanks to those who put in countless hours organizing this successful contract campaign.

## Discount for 2322 Members

Noho Bodyworks is inviting members of the UAW Local 2322 to come in and see how they can help you feel better. As our newest member discount, Noho Bodyworks is offering our members 10% off any of their services.

Noho Bodyworks' mission is to support each person in their own unique healing process. Their goal is to provide a holistic experience and to create a space unwind mentally, emotionally and physically. Rachel Hannah's work is eclectic. She incorporates Deep Tissue Massage, Neuromuscular Therapy, Cranial-Sacral Therapy and other systems to allow restrictions in the body to release and unwind.



"Why do you need Bodywork?" Through everyday living, accidents, trauma or daily tension the soft tissue structures of your body become tight, pulling bones and organs slightly out of alignment and forming "knots" in the muscles. This can result in any number of conditions. TMJ Disorder Syndrome, headaches, migraines, neck, shoulder and back pain, sciatica and nerve impingement are just a few. These are problems that you don't have to live with, problems that can be addressed through bodywork.

You can find out more about the types of therapy, massage and personal training Noho Bodyworks does by visiting [www.nohobodyworks.com](http://www.nohobodyworks.com).

To see who else is rewarding Local 2322 union members check your union bulletin board or visit our website at: [www.uaw2322.org/member\\_discounts.htm](http://www.uaw2322.org/member_discounts.htm).

## Can't wait for '08 (continued from page 1)

raking it in. In the past six years, CEO wages have climbed 209% according to a recent MSN report. Of course few are making out as good as the oil companies these days. Since January of this year a gallon of unleaded gas is up 43%, while hourly wages are up 2% - before the adjustment for inflation. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, families with incomes of around \$35,000 spend about 5% of their income on gas for the car, while those making \$250,000 spend about 1% of their income on gasoline. Shared sacrifice at the pump is a myth, for the working class is paying more in comparative terms of their income.

There are still those who bewail the fact that gasoline prices in Europe are still higher than ours. This is true, but when you factor in that gasoline prices in Europe help cover the cost of their universal health care and the cost of higher education, it isn't quite the same. In the United States, subsidies and tax breaks help secure these ridiculous profits the oil companies have tucked away. Recently a friend of mine pointed out that almost \$1.00 of the cost of gasoline is taxes, but you have to remember that President Bush's energy plan slashed taxes the oil companies pay. These taxes on gasoline are paid by the consumer – not the oil companies. So, they get tax breaks on their income while we see increases in taxes at the pump.

In the 1970s, 10% of lower income families shifted to a higher tax bracket. In the 1980s that statistic was cut to 5%, held steady in the 1990s and saw a reversal since 2000. While the percentage of higher income families have held steady, the percentage of lower income families have grown as the middle category has reduced. This is further proof that the trickles down policies of the Reagan and Bush administrations have been failures. When tax breaks are levied to those at the top, the extra cash doesn't trickle down. These reductions in federal income taxes have simply resulted in lower tax subsidies to state and local governments who are forced to raise sales tax to make up the difference. Sales tax is essentially a usage tax, so those who are forced to live off of their income end up shouldering a greater burden of the tax code, while those who sock their earnings away or invest in commercial enterprise once again benefit from capital gains tax cuts and see further reductions in their taxes.

This has helped to contribute to a 2.6% reduction in real income between the years of 2000 and 2005, adding up to a reduction of about \$1900 per year. This equates to a reduction of \$9500 over the course of time that comes out of grocery stores, clothing stores, car dealers and etc. When this happens the economy feels the impact through the reduction of expendable income and people lose their jobs. As real wages drop, the necessity of credit spending increases. Many working class families have resulted to credit card debt to simply make ends meet. During the Republicans time of control, legislation had passed raising the limit on the percentage rate that credit card companies can charge, along with a change to the bankruptcy code that eliminates a person's ability to get out of their credit card debt in a person bankruptcy. A final point on this issue must be made that the number one corporate sponsor to President Bush's 2004 reelection bid was credit card mogul MBNA America.

For the fifth year in a row, the number of Americans without health care continued to climb. From 2000 to 2005, the number of uninsured Americans grew by 1.7% or 7,000,000 individuals. The greatest surge in these numbers occurred where employer provided health care was lost. The stagnate labor market, complicated by the addition of these new short sighted trade deals, helped push more and more families to the rolls of the uninsured. Individuals in the lowest 20% income bracket were the most likely to be uninsured, and were probably those who needed it the most due to the fact they can least afford preventative health maintenance.

These are just a few of the issues that voters must consider when going to the polls. For far too long working class Americans have allowed misinformation and lies to distract them from the real issues they face. This election is vital to the survival of working class families and it should be approached from this perspective. Labor communicators are committed to educating our membership, and working class Americans in general, on the issues that will determine this election. The American Dream shouldn't be limited to the top 1% on the income bracket, but should stand true for every citizen. As the great Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. stated the time has come "for American to live up to the meaning of its creed that all men are created equal." Hopefully, the 2008 presidential race will be a step toward fulfilling the dream of Dr. King and countless working class Americans.

## Jobs with Justice National Conference 2008

- Brooks Ballenger

During the weekend of May 2 - 4, a group of Local 2322 members attended the National Jobs with Justice Conference in Providence, Rhode Island. We were joined by several dozen other folks from Western Mass and a large and very diverse group of around 1,000 labor, community, church and student activists from around the U.S. and around the world.

Jobs with Justice is a national organization dedicated to building links between Unions and supporting working people in the U.S. and around the world. In Western Mass, we are fortunate to have an active local chapter. In recent years, **Western Mass Jobs with Justice** has supported local Union contract campaigns and organizing drives, held Worker Rights' Board hearings and many other actions.

The conference was an amazing, inspiring flurry of activities, speeches, workshops, testimony, a march, a banquet and more. Some of the highlights for me were:

Marching to the Rhode Island Statehouse to demand a budget that puts people first; Speeches, talks and testimony by an Iraq War veteran, Indian workers being victimized in the re-building of New Orleans, the organizers for domestic workers in New York, hearing Stuart Acuff, Organizing Director for the AFL-CIO, talk about his vision of what we could achieve in the next few years.

I learned about the struggles of mobile home owners in Miami, the Public Transportation workers and consumers in Atlanta, the university security guards in Philadelphia, the Providence janitors, the hospital workers in Boston and even the union members who work in the hotels where we were staying.

One of the commitments I made at this conference was to try to collect signatures for a bill in Congress called the **Employee Free Choice Act**. This bill would allow workers to organize Unions without the employer intimidation, stalling and Union-busting that currently goes on. We will be asking members and supporters to fill out a post card in support of this initiative. You can read about it at: <http://www.jwj.org/campaigns/workers/efca.html>.

I found it truly exciting and amazing to be part of this group. It gave me a renewed sense of the labor **movement**. Events like this remind me that our seemingly minor struggles around contracts, grievances, petitions, meetings, rallies and the like; all fit in to something much bigger. The little actions we take to stand up for ourselves and our co-workers mean more than we realize. Jobs with Justice is at the forefront of forging the links between all these different struggles for the rights of working people. I would encourage everyone to find a way to attend this conference next time. You learn more about the conference or Jobs with Justice by visiting their website at [www.jwj.org](http://www.jwj.org).

## ARW Website - (continued from page 1)

"Americans deserve a secretary of labor who can provide a well-balanced approach to the interests of both business and labor," says executive director Mary Beth Maxwell, "not an ideologue with a blatant political agenda."

Chao is steeped in conservative ideology. She was a Distinguished Fellow with the Heritage Foundation, considered one of the world's most influential right-wing think tanks, and is married to Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell, who has voted against workers 89 percent of the time he's held office, according to the AFL-CIO.

ShameOnElaine is a campaign that builds on American Rights at Work's role in monitoring the National Labor Relations Board and the agenda of business-funded groups that attack worker rights at every opportunity.

In Chao's case, there's plenty to monitor. Go see for yourself at [ShameOnElaine.org](http://ShameOnElaine.org).

### Make your voice heard! Become involved.

**Executive Board/Joint Council** - Meetings are held throughout the year to discuss and decide on issues important to the Local and it's members. This includes but is not limited to such items as; the yearly budget, which grievances will go to arbitration, which events and people the Union should endorse, various internal policy issues and so much more.

- ◆ *E-Board openings: Guide & Sgt. at Arms*
- ◆ *JC seat openings are listed online*

**Worksite steward** - help your coworkers and be an active part of protecting workers' rights.

**Worksite contact** - post flyers on union boards and spread word about events.

*Please contact your Servicing Representative if you have an interest in any of the above positions.*

## RA's Settle with UMass - Neil Alper

The RA Union Bargaining Committee is pleased to announce that on Wednesday, May 21, fellow RA's voted overwhelmingly in favor of ratifying the committees' tentative agreement with the university. The new contract which will go into effect on July 1 contains a number of key advances for UMass RA's. First and foremost, both new and current RA's will receive significant increases in their stipend in each of the three years of the new contract.

RA's in the Fall of this year, will receive a 5% increase on the last stipend. Beginning in the Fall of 2009, RA's will receive nearly an 11% increase and the last year of the contract contains a further 4.5% increase in the stipend size. In sum, over the three years of the contract, RA's wages will increase by nearly 20%, the equivalent of hundreds of dollars a year.

For the first time, the RA Union contract cycle will be in line with all other UMass employees. When we bargain again in a few years with ResLife, our negotiating position will be stronger than it's ever been as the university will be forced to deal with RA's as part of a larger bargaining, rather than on our own.

While we clearly didn't achieve everything we would have hoped in these sessions, RA Union members continued to make significant gains in improving the wages and working conditions for both current and future RA's. Thanks to all who participated with their time and energy. We look forward to building on these successes in the fall.

# What's the Union done for me?

W O I T H O U P T U N W O R K E R S C O M P I  
 O N S S W E L W R B E N V I R O N M E N T A L  
 O W O H U L D U R O H A V E N O N E O F T N H  
 V E A B A E N E N E T F I T S L I K S T E T A  
 E D U L N P A I O C N E D U E S A E R E T I N  
 R H E B E K R S E S H T C B A R G E A H Y M T  
 T I N Y S G O O N U W E I T L L E W V C T O I  
 I E R S E E A I T O F Y S O I U A R R E I N D  
 M E N O T A M W E E I M B E S O R U J E R O I  
 E O I N T O D A M T C T Y W I F N O Y P U P S  
 P O U A R E N O N U T T A A C T I H V S C O C  
 A E G E T A C E E T M L I C I V E Y A E E L R  
 Y S K U S H M R O W R I Y O A O U T C E S Y I  
 A N B E I E A N V O O L N V N V E R D R L L M  
 W I T H R C O U B T P A R I T I C O I F A A I  
 P A T I I I O A P N B Y A L M L T F H E I W N  
 M E T D M B L E E R S S I C K L E A V E C U A  
 N E E I O D N N S W I Y A P R I A F L L O W T  
 R M I T L S H E R A N A D D I E A T T E S N I  
 D M E I I E T I N G S V L O I C E Y O U R O O  
 P I H O N I O N S A N D V M O T E E V E R Y N  
 C C N E R A C H T L A E H H F A N C E Y O U G  
 E S T S T I F E N E B T N E M Y O L P M E N U

The list below answers the puzzle's title. Find those words in the puzzle to the left. When you are done the remaining letters will be a hidden message.

- Antidiscrimination
- Antimonopoly law
- Breaks
- Child Labor Laws
- Environmental Protection
- Fair Pay
- FMLA
- Forty Hour Week
- Free Speech
- Health Care
- Lunches
- Medicare
- Minimum Wage Law
- OSHA Protection
- Overtime Pay
- Pensions
- Retirement
- Sick Leave
- Social Security
- Unemployment Benefits
- Vacations
- Workers Comp

## At UAW CAP Conference, members lobby for economic justice - LUPA

UAW activists visited Capitol Hill [back in February] to meet with their representatives and senators and discuss issues confronting working people.

But before taking to the Hill, they heard from Sen. Claire McCaskill (D-Mo.), who said this year's elections are about economic justice.

She called the budget the president sent to Congress yesterday "a work of fiction," and said it doesn't include funding for the Iraq war. "He doesn't even want the American people to realize the economic problems that come from us being stuck in Iraq.

"He has made his priority extending the tax breaks to the top one percent of wealth in this country," she said, while cutting spending on domestic programs, including education. "It is the most cynical and inappropriate budget that this president has ever sent to us, and it will not pass."

McCaskill said most Americans don't realize that the United States is borrowing money from Mexico to help fund the war Iraq.

"Now let's just think about that. We are borrowing money every month, not just from Mexico, but from China, from Japan," she said. "This is bad, because, I don't know about you, but I don't want to negotiate trade with the guy who holds the mortgage on my house!

"We have to realize that the economic strength of this nation is more important, in the long run, to our ability to protect Americans from harm than any weapon systems we can buy. And that's why this election is so important."

Charlene Davis, president of Local 551 at Ford's Chicago Assembly Plant and a delegate to this year's CAP Conference, said universal health care is a key to achieving economic justice.

Her daughter and son-in-law both lost their jobs (she worked for a temporary medical staffing agency, he at a car dealership), so Davis and her husband, also a UAW member, are caring for the couple's three children. "My granddaughter, when she was two years old, was so sick she could barely breathe. And we would take her the hospital and they would treat her for a couple hours and kick her out because she didn't have insurance for her. Now with insurance she's doing 100 percent better," said Davis.

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Would you like to write an article for the *Working News*? Maybe you have an idea, photo, joke puzzle or suggestion you'd like to see in future issues? Drop us a line and share it with us. We are always interested in hearing from our members.



*"Thanks to the recovering economy.....  
we only have to cut your wages by 20% this year."*

# Union Busting is Big Business

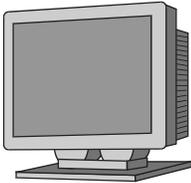
## ...but the Employee Free Choice Act would help counter act it!

It wasn't any surprise when George W. Bush's former National Labor Relations Board Chairman Robert Battista left his position and landed in a well paid antiunion consultant's job with the notorious firm of Littler Mendelson After all he was really doing the same thing as chairman of the NLRB. Under his direction the Bush NLRB set back Labor law decades. (for more on Battista and Littler/Mendelson go to: <http://anti-union.blogspot.com/2008/05/former-bush-nlr-chairman-robert.html>)

Union busting or "union avoidance" as it is so euphemistically put is a \$4 billion dollar a year industry which employees over 2,500 lawyers consultants including antiunion stalwarts Jackson/Lewis (who Sisters of Providence used to use) The Burke Group (also used by the Sisters of Providence) and local firms like Sullivan and Hayes and Skolar, Abbot and Presser. These "experts" are essentially hired guns employed to go to any lengths to keep their employers' workplaces "union free" and many will do whatever it takes to do that including breaking the law. Not that it matters Labor Law has been so weakened over the last 25 or 30 years that employers rarely are dealt any sanctions for illegal actions other then posting a notice stating they won't violate the law again ... until next time.

One thing we can do to help lessen the impact of these firms is to help pass the Employee Free Choice Act which would make it easier for workers who want to form and join Unions and put in place real penalties on employers who broke the law to try to avoid having their worker exercise their rights and join Unions. To find out more about how you can help pass EFCA please call us at the UAW 2322 office or for more information check out: [www.AmericanRightsatWork.org](http://www.AmericanRightsatWork.org) and [www.aflcio.org/joinaunion/voiceatwork/efca/](http://www.aflcio.org/joinaunion/voiceatwork/efca/)

**Visit us online at [www.uaw2322.org](http://www.uaw2322.org). There you can find...**

	Member discounts	Events	Member Bulletin Board
	Shop Contract	Newsletters	Steward & Rep contacts
	Local contact info	Blogs	Photo Galleries
	Labor News	UAW News	Updates from your Local

## At UAW CAP Conference (continued from page 8)

"I think anyone who doesn't think it's a big problem should try and walk in the shoes of someone who doesn't have health insurance."

CAP delegate Pete Miller of Local 12, who works at St. Vincent's Hospital in Toledo says the American Dream has been lost. "My parents came from middle-class backgrounds and they were able to go to college. But will their grandchildren be able to do that?"

He cited the sub-prime lending problem as one of many economic injustices that needs to be addressed. "We just had to refinance our house and the value went down because three houses on our street were foreclosed on," said Miller.

"There's a huge disconnect between what's going on in Washington and what's going on in the rest of America. That's why we're here this week. We're going to bring back the American Dream."

Local 1413 activist Leslie Hinshaw and other Region 8 CAP delegates called on Rep. Bud Cramer (D-5) during the afternoon's Hill visits. Hinshaw works at the an automotive electronics plant in Huntsville, Ala. She said the plant had 3,500 workers before NAFTA was enacted and now employs only 700 people. "We're in a fight to survive," said Hinshaw. "Bad trade agreements have decimated labor. And I think we need to put an end to bad trade agreements..."

Addressing our political leaders is one way in which the Local helps our members every day. These elected officials need to hear how their decision have or will affect the working class people. To find out how you can get involved with the CAP Council contact the Local 2322 office.



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Suite #406  
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Phone: 800-682-0269  
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Mail to:

## Stay in Touch!

Make sure we can get important news and information to you. Update your contact information with our office. Please don't forget to notify us anytime your name, phone number, address or email changes. For your convenience you can do this on our website [www.uaw2322.org](http://www.uaw2322.org), just click on the member contact update form.

*UAW Local 2322 welcome our members to stop by the office for a visit anytime. Regular office hours are Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Our staff is here to help you. If you want to see someone specific, please call first to make sure scheduling will permit time to meet with you (413.534.7600).*

*You can find directions online at [http://uaw2322.org/how\\_to\\_get\\_here.htm](http://uaw2322.org/how_to_get_here.htm) or visit [www.opensquare.com/map\\_directions.php](http://www.opensquare.com/map_directions.php)*

## UAW Local 2322 Newsletter

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