



UTU News

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The Official Publication of the United Transportation Union

Vote your job, paycheck, safety and future

Imagine reading the following news stories in 2011:

WASHINGTON – Congress has voted to repeal the Federal Employers' Liability Act (FELA), saying the law is too costly for the railroad industry.

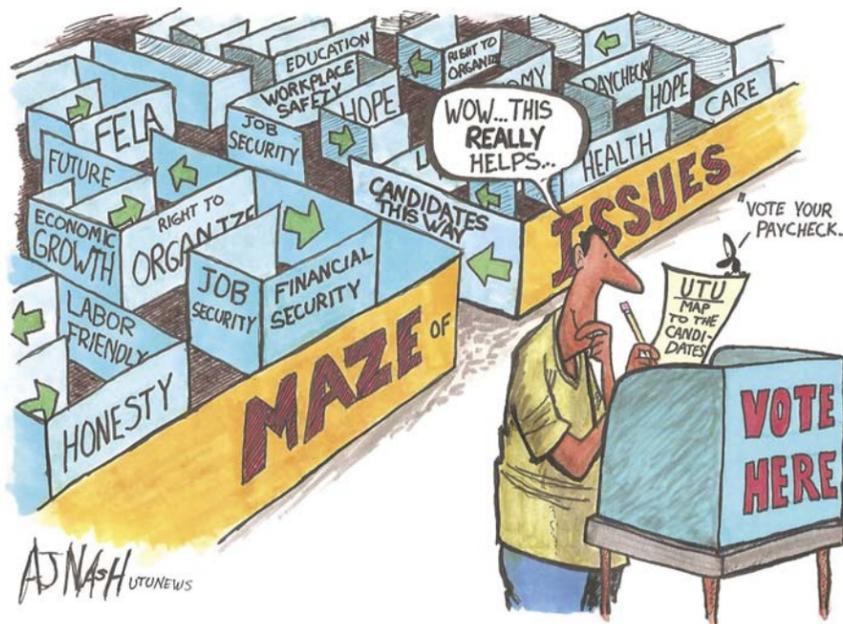
WASHINGTON – Concluding union-advocated safety laws and regulations are draining corporate profits, Congress has ordered a freeze on new workplace safety initiatives.

WASHINGTON – Saying union organizing makes U.S. manufacturing less competitive, Congress has voted to repeal the right of labor unions to negotiate wages and benefits on behalf of workers.

WASHINGTON – Congress has voted to end federal support for Amtrak and high-speed rail projects, saying the nation can no longer afford the cost; and that automobiles and airplanes provide sufficient transportation mobility.

WASHINGTON – Lawmakers in Congress have voted to privatize Social Security.

Far fetched? Many employers and their favored hard-core conservative and anti-labor candidates don't think so, and those results could well occur if working families ignore their ability to determine the outcome of political races.



protect job security, workplace safety, paychecks, access to affordable health care and pensions.

The endorsements follow months of research and interviews with the candidates by UTU state legislative boards, the national legislative office and the AFL-CIO.

Also in this issue are columns by UTU International President Mike Futhey, National Legislative Director James Stem and Bus Department Alternate Vice President Bonnie Morr explaining the risks we take by allowing anti-labor, conservative forces to determine election outcomes.

As President Futhey says in his column, "By voting our paychecks and retaining a labor-friendly Congress, we help elect lawmakers who understand the needs of working families – and who open their doors and ears to labor leaders."

We can be sure that carrier executives and their families and friends will be going to the polls – and it won't be to fulfill the vision of founding father Thomas Jefferson, who said in his second inaugural address in 1801: "A wise and frugal government shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned."

If working families are to walk a common path to a brighter future, we must exercise our power at the ballot box and elect a labor-friendly majority to Congress and state legislatures.

In these very difficult economic times, supporting those who support working families is the most effective means of protecting our job security, workplace safety, paychecks, access to affordable health care and pensions.

News and Notes

"Thanks Anthem, UTU"

UTUIA Field Supervisor Dan McElley recently received a telephone call from **Thomas A. Wilson**, a member of Local 1252 in Fresno, Calif. Wilson had received bad news from his doctor: He could no longer work on BNSF.

"Brother Wilson applied for a disability from Anthem, which UTU provided to its members on Jan. 1, 2010," McElley said. "He said that it was a lifesaver to receive these benefits and the checks have been coming in weekly and the people from Anthem have been so helpful! He said thanks to President Futhey and his administration for their work at getting this done."

Anthem Life Insurance Co. provides a national group voluntary short-term disability plan for all rail members. (Lincoln National Life Insurance provides coverage for bus members.) Coverage is automatic unless the member opts out.

The Anthem rail disability insurance plan provides a basic "safety net" of coverage for UTU members, and was designed to work in combination with Railroad Retirement sickness benefits.

The Anthem plan pays up to \$346 per week for up to 52 weeks a year, and provides 24/7 coverage for accidents and sickness. The 24/7 means on- and off-duty coverage for accidents and sickness. The cost is \$31 per month, and is collected through payroll deduction.

For more information see the UTU website, www.utu.org.

This Election Day, Nov. 2, the entire U.S. House of Representatives, one-third of the U.S. Senate, 37 governorships and the balance of power in many state legislatures will be decided. For sure, corporate interests will be voting for candidates who put profits before worker safety and working-family economic security.

Only when working families make their voices heard on Election Day – voting their paychecks – are we able to counter the anti-union efforts of employers to turn back decades of worker-friendly legislation and regulation.

In the centerfold of this issue is a listing of labor-friendly congressional candidates – Democrats and Republicans – pledged to listen to the concerns of working families and pro-

Two members killed; another loses arm

Two UTU members died in separate on-duty rail accidents in September and a third suffered an arm amputation in a train collision.

These two on-duty deaths brought rail-employee on-duty fatalities for 2010 to 13, which is three more than the 10 reported on-duty fatalities for all of 2009; and brought UTU-member on-duty rail fatalities to eight for 2010, which is equal the 12-month total in 2009.

Near Paulsboro, N.J., Sept. 2, a Conrail Shared Assets conductor – **John M. McCabe**, age 52, of Ridley Park, Pa., and member of Local 1390, Trenton, N.J. – died during what FRA investigators report was a two-man conventional switching move into an industrial facility. The FRA said the move was observed by a surveillance camera "seconds before impact."

In Mobile, Ala., conductor **Josh Roper**, 27, died Sept. 4 while working a conventional switching job on Alabama State Docks Terminal Railroad. He had been furloughed by CSX before hiring on with the state-owned railroad. Roper was a member of Local 598, Mobile. He is survived by his wife, Cassie, and two-year-old daughter.



McCabe



Roper

In Fontana, Calif., Sept. 10, a surgical team amputated the arm of Union Pacific conductor **Al Moncada** – a member of Local 1846, West Colton, Calif. – to free him from the wreckage of a locomotive that reportedly struck a slower-moving freight train 50 miles east of

Los Angeles.

The UTU participates in the Switching Operations Fatalities Analysis (SOFA) working group, a coordinated effort with the FRA, carriers and labor organizations to develop safe practices that reduce fatalities and career ending injuries in yard switching operations.

To learn more about SOFA safe practices, go to www.utu.org and click on the "Transportation Safety Link" in the blue box on the left.

That link also provides information on the UTU Rail Safety Task Force, which works with general chairpersons, state legislative directors, local officers and members to develop safe practices and techniques to improve – and keep at its highest level – situational awareness in railroad yard and road operations.

Around the UTU

Local 240, Los Angeles, Calif.

Local Chairperson **Harry Garvin Jr.** reports that the 8th annual rail reunion and retirement dinner for employees of UP, SP, Pacific Electric, Metrolink, Amtrak and AT&SF (Locals 240, 32, 1422, 1770, 1813 and 1846) will be held Nov. 6, from 3-9 p.m., at the El Rancho Verde Golf Club, 335 E. Country Club Dr., in Rialto. The cost is \$35 per person or \$65 per couple, with a reservation deadline of Nov. 1. The cost will be \$40 per person at the door. For more information, call Garvin at (909) 261-8878 or (909) 481-7261. Send checks or money orders to Garvin at P.O. Box 8396, Alta Loma, CA 91701-0395, and include names, address, telephone number, railroad and years of service. In other news, Garvin noted the retirement of conductor **Jesse O. Dearo Jr.** Aug. 19 after 40 years of service. "All the members and officers of Local 240 wish him many long and happy years of retirement," Garvin said.

Local 256, Watervliet, N.Y.

The New York State Legislative Board recently held a fund-raiser for Rep. Scott Murphy (D-20th Dist.) at the home of legislative board Vice Chairperson **Bill Neary** in Glens Falls, N.Y., State Legislative Director **Sam Nasca** reports. "Congressman Murphy won a special election two years ago to fill the unexpired seat of Kirsten Gillibrand, who was appointed to the U.S. Senate by Gov. Paterson," Nasca said. "The fund-raiser was well attended and Murphy enjoyed an afternoon of discussion with UTU membership on UTU's issues. He thanked UTU and President Mike Futhey for the vital support UTU is providing so that he can retain this seat in a very difficult year."

Local 298, Garrett, Ind.

Local President **Rick Mitchener** has acknowledged the efforts of the "brew crew" for keeping the beverages flowing at the AFL-CIO's Northeast Central Labor Council Labor Day picnic Sept. 6 in Fort Wayne, Ind. Thanks were offered to **Scott Chapman, Paul Patton, Robert Wheeler**, Local Chairperson **Thomas Porter**, Secretary & Treasurer **Kevin DeCoursey** and Sister **Anna Schaefer**.

Local 586, Willard, Ohio

Members of this CSX local are wishing **Vincent M. Novak** a long and healthy retirement. Novak, 71, retired Aug. 28 after 54 years and 20 days of service. He lied about his age and got hired on the Pennsylvania Railroad in 1957 and subsequently worked for Penn Central, Conrail, Amtrak and finally CSX. "It took me 52 years to get a regular, assigned job," Novak said. "I never got hurt, and nobody on any of my crews ever got hurt," he said. "This work is serious, and I took it seriously."

Local 464, Arkansas City, Kan.

Charline Hicks, 79, the wife of former Local Chairperson **Merlyn Hicks**, died Sept. 16 at the South Central Kansas Medical Center of Arkansas City, General Chairperson **Jim Huston** reported. A memorial has been established with the American Kidney Foundation and contributions may be made through the Rindt-Erdman Funeral Home Web site at www.rindt-erdman.com.

Locals 756, 857, San Antonio, Texas



UTU members attending the four-day barbecue of Locals 756 and 857 in front of a locomotive-shaped barbecue grill, which was constructed by Local 756 Chairperson John Dunn.

A four-day barbecue serving approximately 450 San Antonio Service Unit employees was held by

Classroom pizza parties push parents to the polls

Local Chairperson **Dale Barnett** wants students to become life-long voters when they grow up, and he is using free pizza pies to teach this civics lesson.

At the July meeting of Local 762 at Montgomery, Ala., Barnett was awarded the state's "Democracy Medallion Award," an honor only four other Alabama residents have ever received, for his efforts in getting students involved in our nation's electoral process.

The award was presented to Barnett by former Alabama Secretary of State **Nancy Worley**, and is given to Alabamans who strive to promote democratic principles.

"At the suggestion of State Legislative Director **Ronnie Clements**, I attended a work group to discuss ways to increase voter turnout. Ms. Worley was there and made a reference to the fact that children exposed to voting at an early age tend to be life-long voters. I knew this was where I wanted to make an impact," Barnett said.

During the 2004, 2006 and 2008 elections, Barnett approached the boards of education in the Montgomery tri-county area and suggested offering pizza parties to classes that produced the most "I Voted" stickers from parents, relatives and friends. He asked the area Pizza Hut Corp. to assist in sponsorship by giving a discount on pizzas to anyone that sponsored a grade level at a school.

"No individual candidates or political parties were endorsed. We simply wanted people to go to the polls and get kids more interested in voting."

"Ms. Worley and the state even produced a children's voting workbook that explained the voting process in simple terms for the kids. I delivered the workbooks to the teachers," Barnett said. "We encouraged the kids to get their parents, relatives and friends to vote and give them the stickers afterward. There were record turnouts at the polls and the record number of kids attending even made mention in the local news. It was a huge success and seemed to really make an impact with the children."

Barnett, a 14-year CSX employee, has worked as a conductor and RCO foreman and is currently in service as an engineer. Before coming to CSX, he worked 10 years on various railroads throughout the U.S. and Canada.

He currently serves as local president, chairperson, secretary and legislative representative, and, as a graduate of the National Labor College, has participated in hazmat training instruction at UTU regional meetings for the last several years.

Barnett and his wife, Kim, have three daughters and a son.

He also assists the Montgomery Police Department in their "Cops for Christmas" charity and has been officiating high school football and basketball games for 25 years.

"I have tremendous pride in our union, my local and my general committee and believe we make a vital impact for our members at all levels of the union," Barnett said.



Barnett

event and these concerns are going to be organized and forwarded to the legislative representatives for resolution," Araujo said.

Local 1175, Duluth, Minn.

Long-time Legislative Rep. **Richard Olson** retired Sept. 1 after 32 years of service and has moved with wife Sheila to join family in California. "Olson also served as a BNSF safety coordinator for eight years and leaves very big shoes to fill," State Legislative Director **Phil Qualy** said. "He really pushed the carrier for our members, put out a lot of fires, and took care of our members and their families when someone was hurt or killed."



State Legislative Director **Phil Qualy**, left, and Local 1000 Legislative Rep. **Wayne Newton** present retired Legislative Rep. **Richard Olson** with a UTU brass lantern on the evening Olson left for California.

Local 1200, Portola, Calif.

Retired UP conductor **Dennis "Darby" Dayton** of Reno, Nev., died Aug. 14 after a brave fight against cancer, according to Nevada State Legislative Director **Rod Nelms**. A memorial service was held Aug. 19 in Reno. "Dennis was a good friend of mine and he will be sorely missed by his friends and family," Nelms said.

Local 1252, Fresno, Calif.

Retired former Local Chairperson **Fred Uriarte**, 91, and member **Larry Prater**, 72, both died in August, retired former Secretary **D.L. Hefferman** reported. He also said that many of the local's members have become letter writers due to the importance of passing legislation pertaining to retirement issues, health care and Amtrak.

Local 1293, Altoona, Wis.

Members of this local held their first picnic at Lake Altoona Park's Altoona Beach, according to President **Ken Staves**. "We extended our invitation to the picnic to all crafts and retirees and had an excellent turnout. This gave active employees a chance to meet with brothers and sisters from the past and trade stories. We are already planning for next year and hope this will remain an annual event," Staves said.

Local 1344, Mandan, N.D.

The members of this BNSF Railway local presented a UTU pocket watch to recently retired member **Lenus Berger** at the local's August meeting, Local Chairperson **Phil Miller** reported. "Brother Berger has been a member for 40 years and, prior to accepting his watch, touted the enormous body of work done by the UTU and the importance of belonging to and supporting your union," Miller said.

Local 1440, Staten Island, N.Y.

Local 1440 is holding its second annual holiday and service-recognition awards dinner Dec. 10 at 7 p.m. at The Staaten, Secretary & Treasurer **Vincent LaBella** reported. Local officers will be honoring the local's 2010 retirement class, along with celebrating the holiday season. Tickets are \$60 each and include an appetizer, full main course meal and dessert, gift-basket raffles, giveaways and a DJ for entertainment. Those interested in attending should contact LaBella at (718) 662-3179 or by e-mail at utu1440treasurer@gmail.com.

Local 1545, Monroe, La.

A retirement party was held Oct. 6 at the UP's yard office in Monroe, La., for **Larry Griffin**, who retired after 32 years of service, according to Local President **Floyd Bonner**.

these two Union Pacific locals in cooperation with the BLET, Secretary & Treasurer **Mike Araujo** reported. About 250 people were served at Sosan Yard Aug. 10-11, followed by 200 people at Kirby Yard Aug. 12-13. The event was organized by Local 857 Chairperson **Bill Jones**. "Safety concerns were collected throughout the four-day

UTU to EPA: Burying coal kills railroad jobs

WASHINGTON – If you are a train and engine worker, you've almost certainly worked a coal train. No commodity hauled by rail even approaches coal's more than 45 percent of all tons originated; and coal also represents 25 percent of rail-freight carloads.

Indeed, UTU Alternate National Legislative Director John Risch says coal is so important to UTU-member job security – responsible for some one of every five freight railroad jobs – that he puts coal in the Christmas stockings of his children.

It is from this understanding of the important link between American coal, railroad prosperity and railroad jobs that Risch told the Environmental Protection Agency last month, which is considering new regulations on coal, to be “very careful how you regulate coal because of its tremendous economic impact.

“In addition to coal's railroad-job creating importance,” said Risch, “coal provides almost 60 percent of America's energy – energy that

might otherwise have to be imported from nation's not friendly to the United States and our way of life.

“Much of our nation's rail infrastructure has been upgraded and maintained from coal revenue,” Risch told the EPA panel, “benefitting shippers of other commodities as well as Amtrak intercity trains that travel over freight railroad track.”

Coal is important to UTU railroad member job security

Additionally, Risch told the EPA, “If opponents of coal succeed in pricing coal out of the market through extensive and expensive new regulations on coal burning, emissions and ash disposal:

- Tens of thousands of rail jobs will be lost.
- Thousands of miles of the intercity rail network will be abandoned or downgraded.

• Hundreds of communities will be adversely impacted.

- Shippers will lose rail access.
- Untold numbers of more heavy and dangerous big trucks will be added to our already overburdened and deteriorating highway system.”

Also testifying before the EPA panel was an official of Unions for Jobs And the Environment (UJAE), whose 12 members include unions representing more than 3.2 million transportation, mining and utility workers.

The UJAE testified against an EPA proposal to federalize regulation of so-called coal combustion residuals – such as ash from the burning of coal – that are now regulated by state agencies.

The UJAE cautioned the EPA against a “one-size-fits-all approach” that would remove the “flexibility and discretion” of states to “tailor standards based on the type of ash generated, the characteristics of that ash, land disposal methods used, and the geology and groundwater conditions of the disposal site.”

DM&IR, I&M members reach agreements

UTU members on two different railroads – Duluth, Missabe & Iron Range, and Illinois & Midland – have reached agreement over wages, working conditions and other issues.

Duluth, Missabe & Iron Range conductors and trainmen represented by the UTU have ratified a new seven-year agreement covering wages, benefits and working conditions. DM&IR is part of CN North America.

The new agreement, retroactive with back pay to 2005, increases job security by restricting future furloughs.

It replaces a standard mileage/rule-based labor contract with one based on hourly wages and job guarantees.

Most of CN's U.S. train and engine employees work under hourly-rate contracts.

The new agreement also increases wages, provides for retroactive pay, maintains weekly

board markups, improves vacation and personal leave benefits, and offers a 401(k) plan with employer contributions.

UTU General Chairpersons **Tom Jackson** (GO 321) and **Ken Larson** (GO 315) led negotiations on behalf of the UTU.

They thanked UTU International Vice President Robert Kerley for his assistance, as well as National Mediation Board mediators Marvin Sandrin (now retired) and Pat Simms for their efforts.

DM&IR operates in northern Minnesota and Wisconsin. Its principal commodities are iron ore and taconite.

CN purchased DM&IR as part of its May 2004 acquisition of the rail and marine holdings of Great Lakes Transportation LLC.

Meanwhile, UTU members working on Illinois & Midland Railroad (IMR) have reached a

tentative five-year contract with the carrier covering wages, benefits and working conditions for signal maintainers, mechanical forces and maintenance-of-way employees.

The carrier is a subsidiary of Genesee & Wyoming.

The new agreement will be explained to members prior to a ratification vote by all crafts under the UTU Constitution's craft autonomy provisions.

UTU International Vice President Delbert Strunk has already held meetings in the Springfield, Ill., area to explain the agreement.

It provides a general wage increase, retroactive pay to April 1, 2010, a cap on health care insurance contributions, a new short-term disability plan, an enhanced 401(k) plan, and enhanced options for personal leave days.

Strunk, who assisted with the negotiations, thanked General Chairperson **Bo O'Leary** and Vice General Chairpersons **Donnie Maurer** and **Loren “John” Thomas** for their efforts during the negotiations.



Member aids crashed pilot

YUMA, Ariz. – **Steve Engstler**, a member of Local 807, Tucson, Ariz., would prefer simply to be called a Union Pacific conductor, but he is going to have to blush for a while as others take to calling him “a lifesaver” – even, “hero.”

The scene casting Engstler onto the public eye unfolded shortly after sunrise, Aug. 30, when Engstler and his engineer, Matt Wiggins, were some eight hours into their run west from Tucson to Yuma.

As their train rounded a curve in the Fortuna foothills, some 20 miles east of Yuma, Engstler spotted something odd ahead – something white, about 300 feet up a foothill in the distance. He was certain the object hadn't been there three days earlier when he passed on an eastbound run.

Engstler queried Wiggins, “Is that a plane?”

As the train followed the tracks closer to the object, Engstler realized the white object was a downed single-engine crop duster.

But what of the pilot?

This was one instance where no rules would be broken by Engstler turning on his cell phone and dialing 911 for help. He also alerted UP dispatchers.

“Stop the train,” ordered Engstler, who hopped down and sprinted up the hillside to the downed aircraft. Trapped inside was a pilot with two broken legs, facial injuries and multiple cuts on his hands and arms.

“I stayed with the pilot and gave him water and what little first aid I could,” recalled Engstler. The weakened pilot told Engstler he had crashed into the hillside about two hours earlier – around 4:30 a.m. – the victim of a ferocious foothills downdraft while banking the plane into a turn.

Upon the arrival of an emergency Marine Corps search and rescue helicopter and other local emergency responders, Engstler and Wiggins – again, just two regular rails – resumed their run to Yuma.

The crop duster's pilot, Eben Bratcher, 57, is recovering in a Yuma hospital.

Engstler celebrated his 61st birthday Sept. 7. Alas, there was no miniature crop duster readily available to mount atop his birthday cake.

Alaska Railroad has a new CEO

ANCHORAGE, Alaska – Christopher Aadnesen of Georgetown, Texas, is the new president and CEO of Alaska Railroad.

Most recently, Aadnesen was CEO of a 750-mile government-owned railroad in Estonia. Previously, he held executive positions with Union Pacific, Texas Mexican Railway, Transportacion Ferroviaria Mexicana, and Houston's Port Terminal Railroad.

Aadnesen succeeds interim president and CEO Bill O'Leary, who replaced Pat Gamble when Gamble departed in April to become president of the University of Alaska.



Engstler

Ray Cunningham retires



Photo courtesy of Doug Riddell

Miles “Ray” Cunningham, who has headed the UTU Human Rights Committee since its creation in 2001, retired Sept. 30, following more than 42 years of service with Seaboard Coast Line, CSX and Amtrak. He was Local 924 (Richmond, Va.) chairperson from 1982 to 1986, and has been chairperson and delegate for Local 1933 (Washington) since 1986. Shown with Cunningham is his daughter, Samantha Royster-Cunningham, an Amtrak conductor, acting president of Local 1933, and a member of the UTU Human Rights Committee.

Working families come first

The photo on this page of Vice President Joe Biden with my wife, April, and me is not about us – it is about the UTU and our union's access to the highest levels of government.

When we elected the labor-friendly Obama/Biden team in 2008, we voted our paychecks, putting into office an administration that understands the concerns of working families.

We elected a president who nominated the first rail-union officer in history to head the Federal Railroad Administration – former UTU Illinois State Legislative Director Joe Szabo.



International President's Column

By Mike Futhey, International President
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Board, we now have a labor-friendly majority that revised a procedure making it easier for rail and airline workers to gain union representation.

The NMB also made dramatic reductions in outstanding griev-

changes making it easier for bus industry workers to organize, and are pledged to protect Railroad Retirement, Social Security, Medicare and FELA.

safety affecting bus and transit members, has provided Amtrak with sufficient dollars to keep operating, and voted billions of dollars to fund high-speed rail projects.

On Election Day, the most important consideration for working families is job security, better wages, better benefits and improved working conditions.

By voting our paychecks and retaining a labor-friendly Congress, we help elect lawmakers who understand the needs of working families – and open their doors and ears to labor leaders.

Labor-friendly candidates understand and respond to the needs of working families

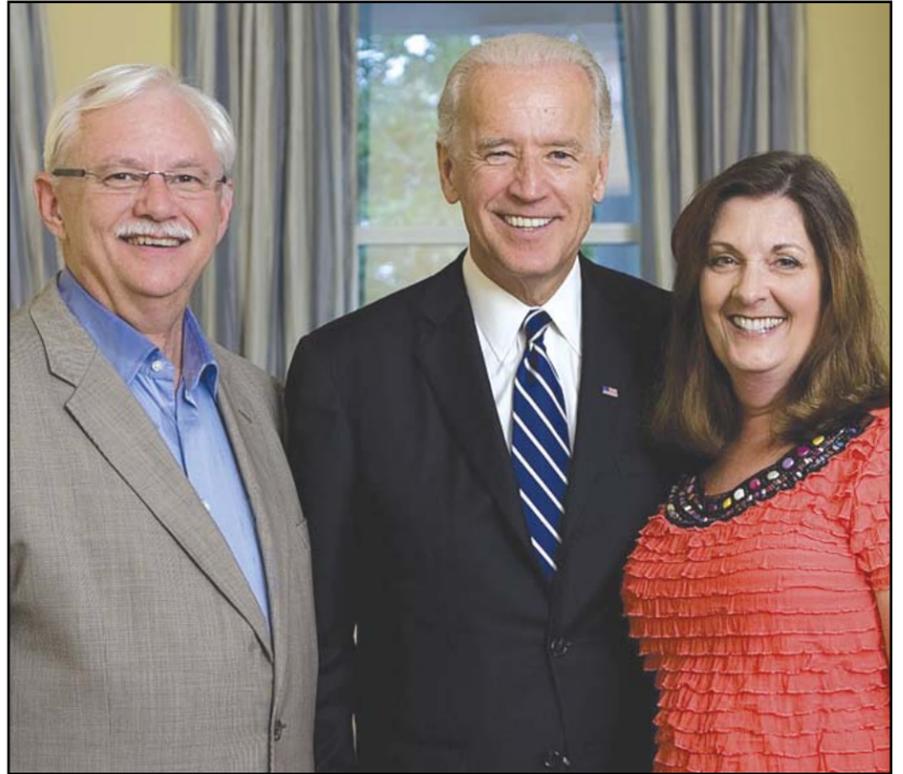
President Obama's choice to head the Surface Transportation Board (STB) was former UTU Associate General Counsel Dan Elliott. Among the responsibilities of the STB is to impose labor protection following rail mergers.

At the National Mediation

ances, and streamlined the process for bringing grievances and obtaining more timely awards.

A labor-friendly majority in Congress passed the most sweeping changes in rail workplace safety in generations.

Labor-friendly lawmakers support



Health care reform passed by a labor-friendly Congress allows children under age 26 to remain on their parents' health care insurance plan without regard to student, marital, residence or financial dependent status.

Our labor-friendly Congress supports improvements in workplace

The UTU endorsements on pages 6 and 7 are based on commitments from those candidates to listen carefully to labor and put working families first.

In these difficult economic times, I urge you to join with me and cast a ballot for candidates who will put working families first.



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For the latest news, visit www.utu.org; also, sign up on the UTU Web site to receive news alerts via e-mail.

Your vote is your voice. Say it loud and proud

Alfred E. Newman, the not-very-bright Mad magazine character, had an expression shared today by too many Americans: "I am not sure who is running, and my vote won't make a difference anyway."

It is doubtful those harboring that opinion would give up their right to vote.

Our war for independence from Britain was about self-government. More recent struggles among

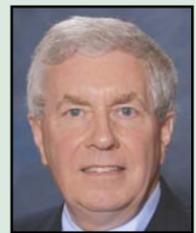
Vote your paycheck!

women and minorities for the right to vote were equally hard fought.

Today, it is apathy among middle-class workers – not foreign troops, not intimidation at the polls, not laws – that threatens American democracy.

The wealthy and business leaders are more likely to vote than working families.

By not going to the polls, working families put at risk their job



Officers' Column

By National Legislative Director

James Stem

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security, workplace safety, paychecks, access to affordable health care and pensions.

If you are concerned that your work schedule or other conflicts will hinder your ability to vote on Election Day, Nov. 2, most states allow you an option to vote by mail via absentee ballot, or to vote early.

Go to the UTU website at www.utu.org and click on the "Vote Early" button to find out how.

You can be sure that the wealthy and business leaders will vote – and vote for candidates who would undermine the financial security of working families.

Our vote is equal to the vote of every anti-labor business leader, but it is equal only if we cast it.

I am asking you to pay attention to the economic well-being of your

Vote for the candidates who will put the interests of working families first

family and workplace safety. Ask questions of candidates.

Ask your UTU local legislative representative and UTU state legislative board for information on local, state and national candidates' positions toward working families.

In the centerfold of this issue is a listing, by state, of labor-friendly candidates endorsed by the UTU.

This listing is the result of months of research by state legislative boards, the UTU National Legislative Office and the AFL-CIO – based on interviews with the candidates and their responses to written questions.

Be proud of the middle class lifestyle your UTU contract supports, and consider voting for candidates who will put the interests of working families first.

If you have further questions, contact the UTU National Legislative Office via e-mail at utujm@msn.com, or call us at (202) 543-7714.

Do not allow others to determine your future. Vote!

State Watch

News from UTU State Legislative Boards

Wisconsin



The UTU recently delivered its UTU PAC support to State Senator Julie Lassa, right, who is campaigning for representative for the 7th Congressional District. Above, Assistant State Legislative Director Jeff Thompson, left, and wife Chris, center, meet with Lassa.

Arizona



Members from Locals 1081 (Glendale) and 113 (Winslow) recently met with gubernatorial candidate Terry Goddard to show the UTU's support for his campaign. Shown from left to right are Chris Todd (alternate LR, L-1081); Rich Andrade (alternate LR, L-1081); Mike Branson (treasurer, L-113); State Director Greg Hynes; Attorney General Terry Goddard; Tom Pate (local chairperson, L-1081); Kelly Pate (wife of Tom); Scott Breen (L-1081) and Jeff Hartman (vice local chairperson, L-113).

Georgia



Michael Branam (left), Wesley Griffin (second from right) and Eddie Giddens (right), all members of Local 1790, Fitzgerald, recently presented a UTU PAC campaign contribution to former governor and current UTU-endorsed Democratic candidate for governor Roy Barnes (D). "This race is a toss-up, and we really need to get our members in the state to get out and vote for our union-supported candidates," State Legislative Director Howell Keown said.

Illinois

Illinois Legislative Board members recently participated in the railroad exhibit at the Illinois State Fair.

"Illinois: Rail Capital of America" was the theme of the 2010 State Fair rail exhibit, and volunteers included employees from the state's major carriers and the industry's major labor unions.

UTU and other rail-union members helped visitors to the tent understand the unprecedented revival of America's rail industry and its long and distinguished past.

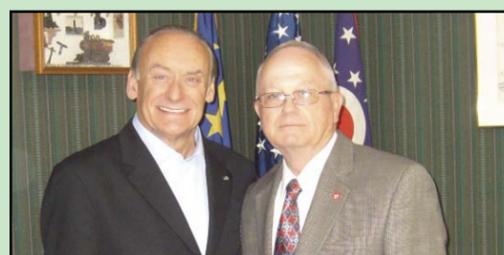
"This is a chance to do something very few people ever get to do – tell strangers what you do for a living and why it's important," State Director **Bob Guy** said. "Nobody can do a better job of

explaining railroad work than the people who do it for a living."

"And 2010 is the perfect time to do it," Guy said, "because railroads are returning to a position of commercial success and public popularity they haven't enjoyed since before the federal highway and airport programs nearly put them out of business.

"But today the industry is in a total turnaround, and Illinois is the center of the rail revival. With freight business continuing to creep up nationwide, and with all Class I carriers operating in our great state, Illinois is at the center of a growing shift from highway to rail, and rail jobs are starting to grow again," Guy said.

Ohio



State Legislative Director Glenn Newsom (above, right) recently met with Lt. Gov. Lee Fisher to offer UTU's support for his run for the U.S. Senate. "We encourage our UTU members and retirees to vote for Mr. Fisher," Newsom said. "He will let our UTU voices be heard in Washington, D.C."

UTU sportsmen: A TV show wants you

Don't just watch hunting or fishing shows from your couch. Be a guest star on "Brotherhood Outdoors," a new cable television series of the Union Sportsmen's Alliance that will feature hardworking and hard playing union members.

UTU and other union members passionate about the outdoors and who wish to pass on their hunting and fishing heritage to the next generation, have potential to star in this TV series.



"Brotherhood Outdoors," which will begin airing on the cable Sportsman Channel in July 2011, will portray two kinds of adventure. In some episodes, host Tom Ackerman will take guests on an outfitted hunting or fishing trip in North America, often with a union member-owned outfitting operation. In others, the tables will be turned as union guests play the guide, taking Tom to their secret hunting or fishing spot.

Whether you want to take a break from the do-it-yourself routine and join Tom for a guided hunting or fishing adventure, or show your union brothers and sisters and the rest of America that you've got the skill and experience to be the guide, send your application in and maybe you will be a star on "Brotherhood Outdoors."

To apply, get an application from www.unionsportsmn.org/brotherhoodtv.

2011 railroad paid holiday schedule

Rail employees working under the national agreement between the UTU and the National Carriers' Conference Committee (NCCC) will receive 11 paid holidays in 2011. The 2011 paid holidays are:

- **New Year's Day**, Saturday, Jan. 1
- **President's Day**, Monday, Feb. 21
- **Good Friday**, Friday, April 22
- **Memorial Day**, Monday, May 30
- **Independence Day**, Monday, July 4
- **Labor Day**, Monday, Sept. 5
- **Thanksgiving Day**, Thursday, Nov. 24
- **Day after Thanksgiving**, Friday, Nov. 25
- **Christmas Eve**, paid holiday observed Sunday, Dec. 25
- **Christmas Day**, paid holiday observed Monday, Dec. 26
- **New Year's Eve**, paid holiday observed Sunday, Jan. 1, 2012.

A message to UTU Bus Department members from Alternate Vice President-Bus Bonnie Morr

Elect lawmakers who support public transit

Right now in our country, economics are spelling out what transit and transportation will look like, now and in the future.

The UTU Bus Department has been following politics and the trends for funding that are necessary for passenger and public transportation to meet the needs of an aging population and growing automobile congestion. It does not look good.

In every town and community, hard decisions must be made – and we want those decisions made by lawmakers who understand the importance of adequate, reliable and safe public transportation, including transportation of school children by bus.

We have a responsibility to our families, children and community to make sure that the funding for public transportation stays in place. We can do that with our votes on Election Day.

When we say, "vote your paycheck," keep in mind that the jobs of UTU Bus Department members depend on adequate, reliable and safe funding for public transportation.

We need to get out the vote for labor-friendly candidates who support adequate, reliable and safe public transportation.

Think jobs, because there are candidates out there who are coming after our jobs.

When you cast your ballot on Election Day, support candidates who will do the right thing when it comes to funding and ensuring adequate, reliable and safe public transportation.

I am a laborer. I drive a bus. I want the labor protections that labor-friendly candidates will honor with laws and regulations that my mother fought for as an organizer for the Ladies Garment Workers Union.

We have protections as unionized bus operators, and we want to extend those protections to the unorganized.

Let us all support candidates who are pledged to increased funding for public transportation, job security, safe working conditions and an environment that respects working families.



Morr

These candidates deserve your vote!



Congressional Recommendations

Alabama

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 2 Bobby Bright (D)*
 Dist. 3 Steve Segrest (D)
 Dist. 5 Steve Raby (D)
 Dist. 6 Spencer Bachus (R)*
 Dist. 7 Terri A. Sewell (D)*

Alaska

- Senate**
 Scott McAdams (D)

- House of Representatives**
 At Large Don Young (R)*

Arizona

- Senate**
 Rodney Glassman (D)

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Ann Kirkpatrick (D)*
 Dist. 3 John Hulburd (D)
 Dist. 4 Ed Pastor (D)*
 Dist. 5 Harry Mitchell (D)*
 Dist. 7 Raul Grijalva (D)*
 Dist. 8 Gabrielle Giffords (D)*

Arkansas

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Chad Causey (D)
 Dist. 2 Joyce Elliott (D)
 Dist. 3 David Whitaker (D)
 Dist. 4 Mike Ross (D)*

California

- Senate**
 Barbara Boxer (D)*

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Mike Thompson (D)*
 Dist. 3 Ami Bera (D)
 Dist. 4 Clint Curtis (D)
 Dist. 5 Doris Matsui (D)*
 Dist. 6 Lynn Woolsey (D)*
 Dist. 7 George Miller (D)*
 Dist. 8 Nancy Pelosi (D)*
 Dist. 9 Barbara Lee (D)*
 Dist. 10 John Garamendi (D)*
 Dist. 11 Jerry McNerney (D)*
 Dist. 12 Jackie Speier (D)*
 Dist. 13 Fortney "Pete" Stark (D)*
 Dist. 14 Anna Eshoo (D)*
 Dist. 15 Mike Honda (D)*
 Dist. 16 Zoe Lofgren (D)*
 Dist. 17 Sam Farr (D)*
 Dist. 18 Dennis Cardoza (D)*
 Dist. 20 Jim Costa (D)*
 Dist. 23 Lois Capps (D)*
 Dist. 24 Tim Allison (D)
 Dist. 25 Jacquese Conaway (D)
 Dist. 26 Russ Warner (D)
 Dist. 27 Brad Sherman (D)*
 Dist. 28 Howard Berman (D)*
 Dist. 29 Adam Schiff (D)*
 Dist. 30 Henry Waxman (D)*
 Dist. 31 Xavier Becerra (D)*
 Dist. 32 Judy Chu (D)*
 Dist. 33 Karen Bass (D)
 Dist. 34 Lucille Roybal-Allard (D)*
 Dist. 35 Maxine Waters (D)*
 Dist. 36 Jane Harman (D)*
 Dist. 37 Laura Richardson (D)*
 Dist. 38 Grace Napolitano (D)*
 Dist. 39 Linda Sanchez (D)*
 Dist. 40 Christina Avalos (D)
 Dist. 41 Patrick Meagher (D)
 Dist. 43 Joe Baca (D)*
 Dist. 44 Bill Hedrick (D)
 Dist. 45 Steve Pognet (D)
 Dist. 46 Ken Arnold (D)
 Dist. 47 Loretta Sanchez (D)*
 Dist. 48 Beth Krom (D)
 Dist. 50 Francine Busby (D)
 Dist. 51 Bob Filner (D)*
 Dist. 53 Susan Davis (D)*

Colorado

- Senate**
 Michael Bennet (D)*
- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Diana DeGette (D)*
 Dist. 2 Jared Polis (D)*
 Dist. 3 John Salazar (D)*
 Dist. 4 Betsy Markey (D)*
 Dist. 5 Kevin Bradley (D)
 Dist. 6 John Flerlage (D)
 Dist. 7 Ed Perlmutter (D)*

Connecticut

- Senate**
 Richard Blumenthal (D)
- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 John Larson (D)*
 Dist. 2 Joe Courtney (D)*
 Dist. 3 Rosa DeLauro (D)*
 Dist. 4 Jim Himes (D)*
 Dist. 5 Chris Murphy (D)*

Delaware

- Senate**
 Chris Coons (D)
- House of Representatives**
 At Large John Carney (D)



Chris Coons (D)
U.S. Senate candidate, Delaware

District of Columbia

- House of Representatives**
 At Large Eleanor Holmes Norton (D)*

Florida

- Senate**
 Charlie Crist (I)

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 2 Allen Boyd (D)*
 Dist. 3 Corrine Brown (D)*
 Dist. 7 John Mica (R)*
 Dist. 8 Alan Grayson (D)*
 Dist. 10 Charlie Justice (D)
 Dist. 11 Kathy Castor (D)*
 Dist. 12 Lori Edwards (D)
 Dist. 17 Frederica Wilson (D)
 Dist. 18 Ileana Ross-Lehtinen (R)*
 Dist. 19 Ted Deutch (D)*
 Dist. 20 Debbie W. Schultz (D)*
 Dist. 21 Mario Diaz-Balart (R)*
 Dist. 22 Ron Klein (D)*
 Dist. 23 Alcee Hastings (D)*
 Dist. 24 Suzanne Kosmas (D)*



Charlie Crist (I)
U.S. Senate candidate, Florida

Georgia

- Senate**
 Michael Thurmond (D)
- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 2 Sanford Bishop (D)*

- Dist. 4 Henry Johnson (D)*
 Dist. 5 John Lewis (D)*
 Dist. 8 Jim Marshall (D)*
 Dist. 12 John Barrow (D)*
 Dist. 13 David Scott (D)*

Hawaii

- Senate**
 Daniel Inouye (D)*

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Colleen Hanabusa (D)
 Dist. 2 Mazie Hirono (D)*

Idaho

- Senate**
 Mike Crapo (R)*

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Walt Minnick (D)*

Illinois

- Senate**
 Alexi Giannoulias (D)

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Bobby Rush (D)*
 Dist. 2 Jesse Jackson Jr. (D)*
 Dist. 3 Daniel Lipinski (D)*
 Dist. 4 Luis Guterierrez (D)*
 Dist. 5 Mike Quigley (D)*
 Dist. 6 Peter Roskam (R)*
 Dist. 7 Danny Davis (D)*
 Dist. 8 Melissa Bean (D)*
 Dist. 9 Jan Schakowsky (D)*
 Dist. 10 Dan Seals (D)
 Dist. 11 Debbie Halvorson (D)*
 Dist. 12 Jerry Costello (D)*
 Dist. 13 Scott Harper (D)
 Dist. 14 Bill Foster (D)*
 Dist. 15 Tim Johnson (R)*
 Dist. 16 George Gaulrapp (D)
 Dist. 17 Phil Hare (D)*
 Dist. 19 Tim Bagwell (D)

Indiana

- Senate**
 Brad Ellsworth (D)

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Peter Visclosky (D)*
 Dist. 2 Joe Donnelly (D)*
 Dist. 3 Thomas E. Hayhurst (D)
 Dist. 4 David A. Sanders (D)
 Dist. 5 Tim Crawford (D)
 Dist. 6 Barry Welsh (D)
 Dist. 7 Andre Carson (D)*
 Dist. 8 Trent Van Haften (D)
 Dist. 9 Baron Hill (D)*

Iowa

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Bruce Braley (D)*
 Dist. 2 Dave Loebsack (D)*
 Dist. 3 Leonard Boswell (D)
 Dist. 5 Matt Campbell (D)

Kansas

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 3 Stephene Moore (D)
 Dist. 4 Raj Goyle (D)

Kentucky

- Senate**
 Jack Conway (D)

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Ed Whitfield (R)*
 Dist. 2 Ed Markey (D)
 Dist. 3 John Yarmuth (D)*
 Dist. 4 John Waltz (D)
 Dist. 6 Ben Chandler (D)*

Louisiana

- Senate**
 Charlie Melancon (D)

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Myron Katz (D)
 Dist. 2 Cedric Richmond (D)
 Dist. 3 Ravi Sangisetty (D)
 Dist. 4 David Melville (D)

Maine

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Chellie Pingree (D)*
 Dist. 2 Michael Michaud (D)*

Maryland

- Senate**
 Barbara Mikulski (D)*

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Frank Kratovil (D)*
 Dist. 2 C.A. "Dutch" Ruppersberger (D)*
 Dist. 3 John Sarbanes (D)*
 Dist. 4 Donna Edwards (D)*
 Dist. 5 Steny H. Hoyer (D)*
 Dist. 6 Andrew Duck (D)
 Dist. 7 Elijah E. Cummings (D)*
 Dist. 8 Chris Van Hollen (D)*

Massachusetts

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 John Olver (D)*
 Dist. 2 Richard Neal (D)*
 Dist. 3 James McGovern (D)*
 Dist. 4 Barney Frank (D)*
 Dist. 5 Niki Tsongas (D)*
 Dist. 6 John Tierney (D)*
 Dist. 7 Edward Markey (D)*
 Dist. 8 Michael Capuano (D)*
 Dist. 9 Stephen Lynch (D)*
 Dist. 10 Bill Keating (D)

Michigan

- U.S. House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Gary McDowell (D)
 Dist. 2 Bill Huizenga (R)
 Dist. 3 Pat Miles (D)
 Dist. 5 Dale Kildee (D)*
 Dist. 7 Mark Schauer (D)*
 Dist. 9 Gary Peters (D)*
 Dist. 10 Candice Miller (R)*
 Dist. 11 Thaddeus McCotter (R)*
 Dist. 12 Sander Levin (D)*
 Dist. 13 Hansen Clarke (D)
 Dist. 14 John Conyers (D)*
 Dist. 15 John Dingell (D)*

Minnesota

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Tim Walz (D)*
 Dist. 2 Shelly Madore (D)
 Dist. 3 James Meffert (D)
 Dist. 4 Betty McCollum (D)*
 Dist. 5 Keith Ellison (D)*
 Dist. 6 Terry Clark (D)
 Dist. 7 Collin Peterson (D)*
 Dist. 8 James Oberstar (D)*



James Oberstar (D)*
U.S. Representative, Minnesota

Mississippi

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Travis Childers (D)*
 Dist. 2 Bennie G. Thompson (D)*
 Dist. 4 Gene Taylor (D)*

Missouri

- Senate**
 Robin Carnahan (D)

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 William Lacy Clay (D)*
 Dist. 3 Russ Carnahan (D)*
 Dist. 4 Ike Skelton (D)*

- Dist. 5 Emanuel Cleaver II (D)*
 Dist. 7 Scott Eckersley (D)
 Dist. 8 JoAnn Emerson (R)*



Robin Carnahan (D)
U.S. Senate candidate, Missouri

Nebraska

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Jeff Fortenberry (R)*
 Dist. 2 Tom White (D)
 Dist. 3 Rebekah Davis (D)



Tom White (D)
U.S. Representative candidate, Nebraska

Nevada

- Senate**
 Harry Reid (D)*
- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Shelley Berkley (D)*
 Dist. 2 Nancy Price (D)
 Dist. 3 Dina Titus (D)*



Harry Reid (D)*
U.S. Senate, Nevada

New Hampshire

- Senate**
 Paul Hodes (D)

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Carol Shea-Porter (D)*
 Dist. 2 Ann Kuster (D)

New Jersey

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Robert Andrews (D)*
 Dist. 2 Frank A. LoBiondo (R)*
 Dist. 3 John Adler (D)*
 Dist. 4 Christopher Smith (R)*
 Dist. 6 Frank Pallone Jr. (D)*
 Dist. 7 Leonard Lance (R)*
 Dist. 8 Bill Pascrell Jr. (D)*
 Dist. 9 Steve Rothman (D)*
 Dist. 10 Donald Payne (D)*
 Dist. 12 Rush Holt (D)*
 Dist. 13 Albio Sires (D)*

New Mexico

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Martin Heinrich (D)*
 Dist. 2 Harry Teague (D)*
 Dist. 3 Ben Ray Lujan (D)*

Congressional Recommendations

New York

- Senate**
 Charles E. Schumer (D)*
 Kirsten E. Gillibrand (D)*

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Timothy H. Bishop (D)*
 Dist. 2 Steve J. Israel (D)*
 Dist. 3 Peter T. King (R)*
 Dist. 4 Carolyn McCarthy (D)*
 Dist. 5 Gary L. Ackerman (D)*
 Dist. 6 Gregory W. Meeks (D)*
 Dist. 7 Joseph Crowley (D)*
 Dist. 8 Jerrold L. Nadler (D)*
 Dist. 9 Anthony D. Weiner (D)*
 Dist. 10 Edolphus Towns (D)*
 Dist. 11 Yvette D. Clarke (D)*
 Dist. 12 Nydia M. Velazquez (D)*
 Dist. 13 Michael E. McMahon (D)
 Dist. 14 Carolyn B. Maloney (D)*
 Dist. 15 Charles B. Rangel (D)*
 Dist. 16 Jose E. Serrano (D)*
 Dist. 17 Eliot L. Engel (D)*
 Dist. 18 Nita M. Lowey (D)*
 Dist. 19 John Hall (D)*
 Dist. 20 Scott Murphy (D)*
 Dist. 21 Paul D. Tonko (D)*
 Dist. 22 Maurice D. Hinchey (D)*
 Dist. 23 Bill Owens (D)*
 Dist. 24 Michael A. Arcuri (D)*
 Dist. 25 Daniel B. Maffei (D)*
 Dist. 27 Brian Higgins (D)*
 Dist. 28 Louise M. Slaughter (D)*
 Dist. 29 Matt Zeller (D)



Tim Bishop (D)*
U.S. Representative, New York

North Carolina

- Senate**
 Elaine Marshall (D)

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 G.K. Butterfield (D)*
 Dist. 2 Bob Etheridge (D)*
 Dist. 4 David Price (D)*
 Dist. 7 Mike McIntyre (D)*
 Dist. 8 Larry Kissell (D)*
 Dist. 11 Heath Shuler (D)*
 Dist. 12 Mel Watt (D)*
 Dist. 13 Brad Miller (D)*

North Dakota

- Senate**
 Tracy Potter (D)
 John Hoeven (R)

- House of Representatives**
 At Large Earl Pomeroy (D)*

Ohio

- Senate**
 Lee Fisher (D)

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Steve Driehaus (D)*
 Dist. 2 Surya Yalamanchili (D)
 Dist. 4 Doug Litt (D)
 Dist. 5 Caleb Finkenbinder (D)
 Dist. 6 Charles Wilson (D)*
 Dist. 7 Bill Conner (D)
 Dist. 8 Justin Coussoule (D)
 Dist. 9 Marcy Kaptur (D)*
 Dist. 10 Dennis J. Kucinich (D)*
 Dist. 11 Marcia Fudge (D)*
 Dist. 12 Pat Tiberi (R)*

- Dist. 13 Betty Sutton (D)*
 Dist. 14 Steve C. LaTourette (R)*
 Dist. 15 Mary Jo Kilroy (D)*
 Dist. 16 John Boccieri (D)*
 Dist. 17 Timothy J. Ryan (D)*
 Dist. 18 Zack Space (D)*



Steve C. LaTourette (R)*
U.S. Representative, Ohio

Oklahoma

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 5 Billy Coyle (D)

Oregon

- Senate**
 Ron Wyden (D)*

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 David Wu (D)*
 Dist. 2 Greg Walden (R)*
 Dist. 3 Earl Blumenauer (D)*
 Dist. 4 Peter DeFazio (D)*
 Dist. 5 Kurt Schrader (D)*

Pennsylvania

- Senate**
 Joe Sestak (D)

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Robert A. Brady (D)*
 Dist. 2 Chaka Fattah (D)*
 Dist. 3 Kathy Dahlkemper (D)*
 Dist. 4 Jason Altmire (D)*
 Dist. 5 Michael Pipe (D)
 Dist. 6 Jim Gerlach (R)*
 Dist. 7 Bryan Lentz (D)
 Dist. 8 Patrick J. Murphy (D)*
 Dist. 9 Bill Shuster (R)*
 Dist. 10 Christopher P. Carney (D)*
 Dist. 11 Paul E. Kanjorski (D)*
 Dist. 12 Mark Critz (D)*
 Dist. 13 Allyson Y. Schwartz (D)*
 Dist. 14 Michael F. Doyle (D)*
 Dist. 15 Charles W. Dent (R)*
 Dist. 16 Lois Herr (D)
 Dist. 17 Tim Holden (D)*
 Dist. 18 Tim Murphy (R)*
 Dist. 19 Todd Platts (R)*

Rhode Island

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 David Cicilline (D)
 Dist. 2 James Langevin (D)*

South Carolina

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Tim Scott (R)
 Dist. 2 Rob Miller (D)
 Dist. 5 John Spratt (D)*
 Dist. 6 James Clyburn (D)*

South Dakota

- House of Representatives**
 At Large Stephanie Herseth Sandlin (D)*

Tennessee

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 2 John J. Duncan Jr. (R)*
 Dist. 4 Lincoln Davis (D)*
 Dist. 5 Jim Cooper (D)*
 Dist. 6 Brett Carter (D)
 Dist. 8 Roy Herron (D)
 Dist. 9 Steve Cohen (D)*

Texas

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 5 Tom Berry (D)
 Dist. 9 Al Green (D)*

Texas

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 5 Tom Berry (D)
 Dist. 9 Al Green (D)*

- Dist. 15 Ruben Hinojosa (D)*
 Dist. 16 Silvestre Reyes (D)*
 Dist. 17 Chet Edwards (D)*
 Dist. 18 Sheila Jackson Lee (D)*
 Dist. 20 Charles A. Gonzalez (D)*
 Dist. 23 Ciro D. Rodriguez (D)*
 Dist. 25 Lloyd Doggett (D)*
 Dist. 27 Solomon P. Ortiz (D)*
 Dist. 28 Henry Cuellar (D)*
 Dist. 29 Gene Green (D)*
 Dist. 30 Eddie Bernice Johnson (D)*

Utah

- Senate**
 Sam Granato (D)

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Morgan Bowen (D)
 Dist. 2 Jim Matheson (D)*
 Dist. 3 Karen Hyer (D)

Vermont

- Senate**
 Patrick Leahy (D)*

- House of Representatives**
 At Large Peter Welch (D)*

Virginia

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Krystal M. Ball (D)
 Dist. 2 Glenn Nye (D)*
 Dist. 3 Bobby Scott (D)*
 Dist. 4 Dr. Wynne V.E. LeGrow (D)
 Dist. 5 Tom Perriello (D)
 Dist. 6 Bob Goodlatte (R)*
 Dist. 7 Rick W. Waugh Jr. (D)
 Dist. 8 Jim Moran (D)*
 Dist. 9 Rick Boucher (D)*
 Dist. 10 Jeffrey R. Barnett (D)
 Dist. 11 Gerry Connolly (D)*

Washington

- Senate**
 Patty Murray (D)*

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Jay Inslee (D)*
 Dist. 2 Rick Larsen (D)*
 Dist. 3 Dennis Heck (D)
 Dist. 4 Jay Cough (D)
 Dist. 6 Norm Dicks (D)*
 Dist. 7 Jim McDermott (D)*
 Dist. 8 Suzan DelBene (D)
 Dist. 9 Adam Smith (D)*



Patty Murray (D)*
U.S. Senate, Washington

West Virginia

- Senate**
 Joe Manchin III (D)

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 1 Mike Oliverio (D)
 Dist. 2 Shelly Moore Capito (R)*
 Dist. 3 Nick Joe Rahall II (D)*

Wisconsin

- Senate**
 Russ Feingold (D)*

- House of Representatives**
 Dist. 2 Tammy Baldwin (D)*
 Dist. 3 Ron Kind (D)*
 Dist. 4 Gwen Moore (D)*
 Dist. 6 Thomas Petri (R)*
 Dist. 7 Julie Lassa (D)
 Dist. 8 Steve Kagen (D)*

UTU
Alumni

UTU Alumni Association

News, information for members of the UTU Alumni Association

Got Medicare? Complete the authorization form

In this age of technology, privacy is more important than ever.

For this reason, it is essential that BOTH Medicare-covered employee AND spouse complete the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) authorization form (which protects the confidentiality of patient information) so that information about claims you may incur can be discussed with your spouse.

Palmetto GBA Railroad Medicare has always been concerned with protecting the privacy of the many beneficiaries it serves, and one of the ways Palmetto does this is by making sure that your personal Medicare information is given out to the right people. If you or your spouse call Palmetto's customer service office to ask questions about your Part B Medicare, before Palmetto can answer your questions, you will always be asked to give your: full name; date of birth; health insurance claim number; telephone number.

While Palmetto understands that sometimes it may seem inconvenient, the Privacy Act of 1974 prohibits Medicare from releasing any specific information about your benefits to someone else unless you give your verbal or written permission.

If your spouse or anyone else calls for you, Palmetto will not be able to give any details about your Medicare information unless Palmetto has your permission. Verbal permission has to be given over the phone at the time of each call. Written permission is more detailed, and can be used for future reference; and must include the following:

- The name of the person or group to whom information can be given.
- The specific types of information (data or records) that can be released.
- Your signature and date you signed your name.
- Length of authorization (ongoing or one-time only).

If Palmetto does not have your verbal or written consent, the only information Palmetto can release is:

- Claim has/has not been received.
- Claim has/has not been processed.
- A Medicare Summary Notice (MSN) can be expected by a certain date.

If you know that your spouse or someone else will be calling for you on a regular basis, consider sending in written permission for them.

Go to the "Healthcare" page of the UTU website for a form you can fill out and return to Palmetto so that your records can be updated and your privacy will remain protected.

If you have questions about your Railroad Medicare Part B claim, you may call Palmetto's toll-free customer service line at (800) 833-4455, Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., for all time zones with the exception of PST, which receives service from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For the hearing impaired, call TTY/TDD at (877) 566-3572. This line is for the hearing impaired with the appropriate dial-up service and is available during the same hours Palmetto customer service representatives are available.

Bus Department and Airline Department members should check with their employers with regard to this privacy requirement.

Medicare provides free flu, pneumonia shots

We are about to begin the flu season and a flu vaccine is the best way to prevent infection and the complications associated with the flu.

Vaccination is necessary each year because flu viruses change each year. The flu shot can be received once a year in either the fall or winter.

You may need only one pneumonia shot in your lifetime. You might be at risk for pneumonia if you:

- Are age 65 or older;
- Have a chronic illness, such as heart or lung disease or diabetes;
- Have a weak immune system.

Flu and pneumonia shots are a covered benefit for Medicare beneficiaries, and are exempt from deductible or coinsurance liability. You do not need a doctor's referral to receive these vaccines.

Retiree puts money where mouth is

When Alumni Association member **Don Fanning** talks, he puts his money where his mouth is.

Just three months shy of his 100th birthday, Fanning remains a loyal UTU member and UTU PAC contributor, Local 911 President **Cory Plath** reports.



Fanning

Fanning recently attended a monthly meeting of his local in St. Paul, Minn., which prompted Plath to contact the *UTU News* regarding Fanning's upcoming birthday.

"Don is amazingly sharp. He still attends local meetings and tells relevant stories about the union and solidarity to his fellow members," Plath said. "Local 911 has been going through tough times with the carrier, and when Brother Don Fanning visits, we really appreciate his insights."

He also continues to support UTU PAC.

"Everything I have I owe to this union, and when they ask me to contribute to our UTU

PAC, I do it," Fanning said. "It's pennies on my dollar."

"When Fanning was mugged in Minneapolis' Uptown District a few years ago, the first thing he did after getting his driver's license replaced was to call me and request a new UTU Alumni Association membership card," Plath said.

Born in 1911, Fanning will become a centenarian on Jan. 26 next year.

Fanning hired out in 1942 and retired in 1981 as a Milwaukee Road brakeman. He is the son of a Canadian National depot agent and spent his early years growing up above different CN stations throughout Ontario and Saskatchewan.

He has been a member of the Scottish Right Shriners for more than 40 years and serves on their scholarship committee for disadvantaged youth.

"I first met Fanning when I was putting up Christmas lights a few years back," said Minnesota State Legislative Director **Phil Qualy**. "I was wearing my Kromer railroad cap and Don was walking by wearing his. I said to him, 'Hey, only

one guy can wear a Kromer in this neighborhood.' He yelled back 'Yeah, and that's me, kid.' I learned he was a UTU member, and we have been friends ever since."

Asked to what he attributes his longevity, Fanning replied, "It was the food we ate as kids. We used to eat in the meal halls and it was good, healthy food."

THE FINAL CALL

Following are the names of recently deceased members who maintained annual membership in the UTU Alumni Association (formerly known as the UTU for Life Program), according to reports received at UTU International Headquarters. These brothers and sisters will be missed by their many friends and by fellow UTU Alumni Association members.

Local	Name	City/State	Local	Name	City/State	Local	Name	City/State
9	Johnson, Donald J.	Sweetwater, Tex.	610	Thornton, Joseph C.	Elkridge, Md.	1376	Neff, Richard L.	Pickerington, Ohio
118	Farley, Joe N.	Hinton, W. Va.	632	Stitt, John J.	Tyrone, Pa.	1390	Dever, J.P.	Leesburg, N.J.
202	Marlow, Jack C.	North Platte, Neb.	662	Watts Jr., Horace R.	Glen Allen, Va.	1390	Myers Jr., Albert W.	Toms River, N.J.
212	Sheffield, Lester J.	Glendale, Ariz.	744	Ruckel, Dallas H.	Oswego, N.Y.	1400	Degruchy, Bernard	Cape Elizabeth, Maine
228	Juergens, Gerald W.	Dubuque, Iowa	792	Begg, Hal	Bedford, Ohio	1413	Sweeney, John	Blakeslee, Pa.
48	Ketchem Sr., William L.	Chesapeake, Va.	811	Trask, Byron E.	Prescott, Ariz.	1420	Clay, William P.	Cordova, Tenn.
254	Wade, George V.	Atkinson, N.H.	830	Beaver, Clair R.	Lemoyne, Pa.	1433	Spirodek, Joseph J.	North Barrington, Ill.
298	Trook, George P.	Peru, Ind.	950	Chesser, Darwin R.	Memphis, Tenn.	1494	Sloger, Leon A.	Calumet City, Ill.
313	Loncki, Theodore J.	Wyoming, Mich.	951	Dibble, Charles J.	Helena, Mont.	1502	Cochran, C.C.	Wildwood, Fla.
318	Oparil Jr., Stanley	Elmira, N.Y.	974	Pyle, Lester G.	Nashville, Tenn.	1544	Young, Alfred L.	Tustin, Calif.
324	Hyneman, Ralph R.	Edmonds, Wash.	1074	Haun, Francis C.	Sligo, Pa.	1564	Rumsey, Ben H.	Dickson, Tenn.
339	Early, Travis E.	Haleyville, Ala.	1293	Dewitz, Vernon E.	Eau Claire, Wis.	1597	Swies, Thomas E.	Chicago, Ill.
367	Fay, Robert L.	Grand Island, Neb.	1293	Murphy, John B.	Pierre, S.D.	1694	Speer Jr., Charles D.	Barstow, Calif.
376	Devore, William C.	Sanibel, Fla.	1301	Mims, Manuel	Knoxville, Tenn.	1813	Brough, James V.	Morongo Valley, Calif.
489	Bostic, Alton R.	Austin, Tex.	1344	Diebel, Richard	Bismarck, N.D.			
524	Bomer, Lauton A.	Teague, Tex.	1345	Rose, Albert G.	Cleveland, Tenn.			

UTUIA offers protection against accidental death and dismemberment

UTUIA policy offers guaranteed approval for active transportation employees!

UTUIA's accidental death and dismemberment policy includes all these benefits for only \$19.50 per month:

- \$180,000 for death caused by common carrier
- \$90,000 for death caused by automobile
- \$60,000 for accidental death
- \$30,000 for dismemberment
- \$600 per day for intensive care confinements
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- \$30 per day for family meals
- Up to \$1,800 for air ambulance transportation
- Up to \$300 for surface ambulance transportation
- Optional family rider for your spouse and children

This policy provides benefits for accidents only. These benefits are not available for sickness. Some benefits provided under the optional family rider are less than those provided to the policyholder.

For more information, complete and mail the coupon at right or call the UTUIA.

Some benefits may vary based on state of residence.

Call toll-free:
1-800-558-8842



Information, please

I would like more information on the accidental death and dismemberment plan.

Please print



Full name _____ Date of birth _____ UTU local number _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Sex Male Female

Telephone number with area code _____

Complete and mail to: UTUIA, 24950 Country Club Blvd., Suite 340, North Olmsted, OH 44070-5333 10/10

Smelly house built with railroad ties

A couple that bought a bank-owned home built in 1945 has discovered it was built of salvaged railroad ties, reports KXTV in Sacramento, Calif.

"I would guess from a lot of research there are about 1,935 railroad ties," said Mike Ledbetter.

Ledbetter and his wife Daphne first realized the exterior walls were composed of stacked railroad ties when they began remodeling in March.

The exposed ties show marks left by rails and holes from the spikes.

Ledbetter said the ties didn't pose a problem until summer heat brought eye-watering creosote vapors inside the home. "If you walked the railroad tracks as kids playing by trains, you would know the smell," he said.

The Environmental Protection Agency says creosote is a suspected carcinogen and there are no approved residential uses of lumber treated with creosote.

OneRail Coalition, which includes UTU, asks Congress: "Put rail on equal footing with road, aviation funding"

(Following are excerpts from recent congressional testimony by OneRail Coalition, whose members include the UTU, other rail labor organizations, railroad suppliers, the American Public Transit Association, Amtrak, the Association of American Railroads and environmental organizations.)

The OneRail Coalition supports expanding the role of rail by providing for additional public and private investment in the nation's rail infrastructure to create American jobs, decongest chokepoints, put more freight and passengers on fuel-efficient trains, and reduce our nation's greenhouse gas emissions.

The coalition urges that the nation's transportation policies be rebalanced to put rail on an equal footing with highways and other transportation modes.

The federal government must recognize the complexities of passenger and freight rail partnerships, and recognize that delivering successful new high-speed and intercity passenger rail corridor services will require significant capital investment, as well as a new level of analysis and consistent communication among and between freight railroads, Amtrak, other passenger operators, and the traveling public.

OneRail [supports] new dedicated funding sources for high-speed and intercity passenger rail, including Amtrak.

Support for development of a renewed U.S. passenger rail equipment manufacturing industry would provide for sustained equipment purchases and the creation of a strong domestic supplier base for equipment.

UTU members: Send us your photos

The UTU International is seeking photographs of the children and grandchildren of UTU members wearing UTU-logoed hats and shirts or sporting other UTU gear.

The union is also seeking good rail, bus and airline photos for its annual calendar.

High-resolution digital photographs should be e-mailed to "utunews@utu.org".

Printed photographs should be mailed to UTU News, 24950 Country Club Blvd., Suite 340, North Olmsted, OH 44070.



Please include the UTU member's name and UTU local number, the name(s) of the person or persons in the photo (left to right) and any other pertinent information.

All photographs submitted become property of the UTU.

SIR member fighting ALS

Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS, or Lou Gehrig's Disease) is a debilitating and terminal disease – and Local 1440 member **Robert Sullivan**, age 40, an employee of Staten Island Railway, is fighting its effects.

"Sully" has been unable to work since July 2009 due to the rapid progression of the disease. He is no longer able to feed or dress himself without assistance from his wife Edie, who must also care for their two boys – seven-year-old Max and two-year-old Alex.

Officers of Local 1440, with assistance from New York State Sen. Andrew Lanza and Assemblyman Michael Cusick, appealed to the management of Staten Island Railway to provide pension assistance to Sully. Unfortunately, Sully does not qualify for a reduced pension as he lacks the required minimum 10 years of employment to qualify.

Sully and his family are facing foreclosure on their home.

Sully's union brothers and sisters in Local 1440 now are appealing to all of his UTU brothers and sisters to donate whatever they are able.



Sullivan family

Donations may be sent to: The Robert Sullivan Family Trust Fund, P.O. Box 60437, Staten Island, NY 10306.

A portion of all donations will be shared with the ALS Association Greater New York Chapter to help find a cure for ALS.

To learn more about ALS, visit the website www.als-nv.org.

Dependent child health-care alert

One of the jewels of the Obama health care reform plan passed into law by Congress earlier this year allows certain dependent children to remain on an employee's health care insurance plan until age 26 without regard to student, marital, residence or financial dependent status.

This provision of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act becomes effective Jan. 1, 2011, but only if enrollment is accomplished during a special 30-day enrollment period.

Complete information on the eligible dependent child provision, and elimination of the lifetime maximum benefit limits on the railroad national health and welfare plans, will be detailed in the annual re-enrollment packet railroad employees will be receiving from United Healthcare in the next few weeks.

Members not covered by national rail plans – which includes UTU Bus Department and Airline Department members – should check with their employers regarding what actions may be necessary to ensure dependent children under 26 remain covered on their employer-provided health care insurance plans.

As for UTU-represented railroad employees, it is essential you open the packet from United Healthcare and review the information carefully when it arrives, as failure to complete and return the required information in the required time period could result in a missed opportunity to enroll your eligible dependent child.

The law requires that the addition to health care insurance plans of eligible dependent children under age 26 be accomplished within the 30-day special enrollment period.

Failure to complete and return the required information could result in eligible dependent children being denied coverage.

Bus operators busted for texting

NEW YORK – An alarming number of MTA bus drivers have been issued summonses for texting, eating, and reading behind the wheel this year, the *New York Post* reports.

Since January 2010, a total of 178 operators were caught pecking away at cellphones while carrying passengers around city streets, MTA data show.

Also, seven drivers were cited for eating while operating a bus, and another seven were reading while driving, the MTA said.

The MTA said the drivers were reprimanded, suspended or dismissed depending on their records.

"This is out of 10,000 bus operators," said Charles Seaton, an MTA spokesman.

"The MTA views this as a very serious safety concern and we employ several methods of policing cellphone use behind the wheel."

Those include sending out scores of MTA officials to watch drivers and following up on rider complaints, the agency said.

In the past, bus operators who are preoccupied while behind the wheel have seriously hurt or killed pedestrians.

Last November, a texting driver killed a 22-year-old F.I.T. student at Ninth Avenue and West 53rd Street. If the driver had not been texting, he would not have hit the young man, a state agency said.

The MTA figures were released as the U.S.

Department of Transportation held its second districted driving summit.

Citing a national "epidemic" of texting while driving, Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood said, "Rules banning commercial bus and truck drivers from texting on the job and restricting train operators from using cellphones and other electronic devices while in the driver's seat have been posted today."

UTU cookbook a great stocking stuffer

Looking for a tasty gift for friends or family at the holidays?

The UTU cookbook, "*Labor of Love for the Cure*," which was created to raise funds for breast cancer research, will fit in any stocking or under any holiday tree.

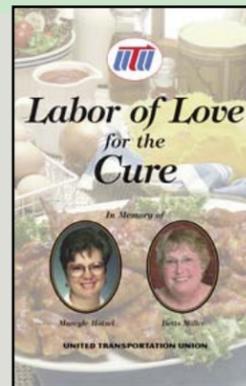
The book is a compilation of recipes and helpful household hints submitted by UTU members and others, collected by volunteers at the UTU International.

Proceeds from the sale of the book are being donated to

the Case Comprehensive Cancer Center of the University Hospitals of Cleveland and Case Western Reserve University for breast cancer research.

Just a few cookbooks remain. The UTU is offering them this holiday season at \$8 each, which includes shipping.

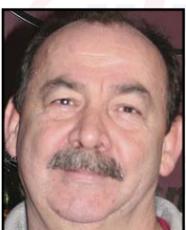
To order contact Tammy Kramer at the UTU International at (216) 228-9400, ext. 5401, or e-mail her at t_kramer@utu.org.



THE UTU International STAFF: HERE TO SERVE YOU

TIM SECORD

Tim Secord is the executive assistant to the UTU International president. He formerly served as national legislative director in Canada; he assumed his current position in 2008. "I handle all the incoming and outgoing correspondence for the president that relates to the interpretation and application of the UTU Constitution," he said. "I also handle problems with locals, state boards and general committees related to elections, transfers, dues and similar matters. It's an interesting and exciting job and I enjoy it every day."



ERIC EAKIN

Eric Eakin is a public relations assistant in the UTU International's Public Relations Department. He started in the position in 1977. "I am responsible for some of the writing, plus the layout, production and distribution of the *UTU News*. I also help update the UTU website every morning. Additionally, I produce the annual bus and railroad timebooks and the Alumni Association calendar. I also do layout and design work for the UTUIA. I help out with the administration of the UTU Alumni Association program, too. Every day is different and challenging and interesting."



NICK SZENTKIRALYI

Nick Szentkiralyi is the accounting supervisor in the UTU International's Accounting Department. He started in the position in 2008 after working in the accounting field for years for various other companies. "My primary duties are to handle Internal Revenue Service, Department of Labor and Railroad Retirement Board filings for the UTU International and general committees," he said. "I also try to resolve problems with the Railroad Retirement Board on behalf of members. The work is interesting because of the complexity of the UTU, which presents different challenges every day."



Show your union pride with UTU gear

American Products features complete line of union-made UTU gear and clothing

It is not too early to begin your holiday shopping and the UTU website is just the place to start, without ever leaving your home or going to a busy shopping mall. Just visit the UTU website at www.utu.org and click on the UTU Gear tile.

All of the UTU items featured there are sold through American Products and are union-made and/or made in America.

American Products is offering several new items this fall that were debuted at the regional meetings this summer, including the UTU tangerine concord polo shirt, sunset polo shirts, ladies' fleece pullovers, ladies' lauren shirts and safety vests. Be sure to check the UTU website for details on the new items, as well as other American Products gear.

All items carry a 100-percent quality guarantee against defects in materials and workmanship. Volume discounts on customized orders are available to UTU locals.

Watches and clocks carry a two-year manufacturer's warranty against defects.

All of the featured items can be ordered by credit card directly through the company's secure website, or by calling the company's toll-free telephone number: (800) 272-5120.

UTU members may also download and print a custom order form that can be mailed to **UTU Merchandise.com, 1600 North Clinton Ave., Rochester, NY 14621.**

All orders will be processed within days of receipt.

Prices are shown in U.S. dollars and members should make payment by check in U.S. funds.

When using credit cards, transactions will automatically be billed in U.S. funds. Apparel prices may vary depending on size. Visit the UTU online store for complete details about prices and available sizes.



UTU flag



Desk clock



Pocket watch



UTU fitted cap



UTU lapel pin



Ladies' black pullover fleece



Ladies' pink lauren



UTU safety vest



UTU tangerine concord polo



UTU red sunset polo



UTU blue sunset polo



UTU grey sunset polo



Longtime UP GC sec. Harriette Gard retires



Harriette Gard, who served as executive secretary to a long line of Union Pacific general chairpersons, has retired after some 31 years of service. She first worked for UP General Chairperson L.L. Nelson, then Arty Martin (now UTU International assistant president), Dean Hazlett and current General Chairperson Rich Draskovich.

"The members and officers of GO 953 wish Harriette the happiest of retirements and thank her for service to the membership," Draskovich said. Shown above (front, left to right) are UTU Auxiliary National Legislative Director Kathryn Hastings; Gard; Martin; Draskovich and Washington State Director Larry McKillip; (rear, left to right) Oregon State Director Delmer Hanson; Idaho State Director George Millward; Utah State Director Jay Seegmiller; Wyoming State Director Stan Blake; Designated Legal Council James Vucinovich, and Colorado State Director Rick Johnson.

Report dependent SSNs to retain health coverage

This is a final effort to collect dependent Social Security numbers to comply with new federal law for all medical plans including:

- The Railroad Employees National Health and Welfare Plan; and
- The National Railway Carriers and United Transportation Health and Welfare Plan.

Federal Law now requires the reporting of Social Security numbers (SSNs) for covered dependents to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

This includes participants of all medical plans, including the railroad plans listed above.

In addition, if a covered dependent is eligible for Medicare, then the Medicare Health Insurance Claim Number (HICN) is also required.

To comply with these reporting requirements, Railroad Enrollment Services has mailed a final notice to those members identified with missing dependent SSNs and/or HICNs.

If you have received a notice from Railroad Enrollment Services, please provide the SSN and/or HICN for any dependent who is listed as missing this information.

Be sure to sign, date and return the Social Security Number Reporting Form by

the requested return date to the address provided.

If you do not receive a notice requesting missing dependent SSNs and/or HICNs, then you do not need to take any action at this time.

The following will occur if the requested SSNs are not provided for any dependent added to the plan before Jan. 1, 2009:

If Railroad Enrollment Services does not receive the Social Security number for any dependent whose SSN is missing by Jan. 31, 2011, the dependent(s) will be DISENROLLED from the plan effective Jan. 31, 2011.

Be assured that when Railroad Enrollment Services transmits the SSNs and/or HICNs to CMS, they will maintain all physical, electronic and procedural safeguards that comply with federal standards to guard your personal information.

For additional information regarding the new CMS federal law pertaining to this requirement, visit www.cms.hhs.gov/MandatoryInsRep/.

If you have questions, or need another copy of the notification sent to you, call Railroad Enrollment Services at (800) 753-2692.

Additionally, there will be an opportunity to provide missing dependent SSNs and/or HICNs during the 2011 Annual Open Enrollment process in the month of October.

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Amtrak members: Report close calls

The UTU's fourth Federal Railroad Administration-sponsored risk-reduction pilot project, known as "Confidential Close Call Reporting System" (C³RS), has been formalized in a memorandum of understanding among the UTU, Amtrak and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen.



risks that might be reduced or eliminated through corrective action, such as improved training, changes in physical plant, changes in existing federal safety laws or regulations, or changes in carrier operating rules.



Previsich

The Amtrak Confidential Close Call Reporting System will be implemented nationwide at most Amtrak yard operations.

As its name implies, the pilot project permits conductors, engineers, trainmen and yardmasters to report – voluntarily, confidentially and without fear of carrier discipline or FRA enforcement action – close call events that might have resulted in an accident or injury. Examples of close calls include varying levels of risk, such as leaving pieces of equipment unsecured, improper blocking, operating trains beyond track authority, or violating operating rules.

The UTU already is engaged in pilot confidential close call reporting projects with New Jersey Transit, systemwide; Union Pacific at North Platte, Neb.; and Canadian Pacific at Portage, Wis.

"Non-punitive reporting produces safety data that could not otherwise be obtained while helping to identify and mitigate risks before another serious incident occurs," said UTU International Vice President John Previsich, who helped negotiate the Amtrak Confidential Close Call Reporting System memorandum of understanding on behalf of the UTU.

The close call events will be reported confidentially to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), which has years of experience with similar risk-reduction projects. NASA will mask the identity of those involved before passing on the information for collaborative study among regional peer review teams selected from carrier management, the FRA, the UTU and the BLET.

Previsich recognized the support and leadership, in their territories, of UTU General Chairpersons **Roger Lenfest** (GO 769) and **Robert Keeley** (GO 342).

UTU International President Mike Futhey praised Amtrak President Joseph Boardman for "his hands-on involvement and commitment in expanding this project nationwide on Amtrak."

The regional peer review teams will strive to identify

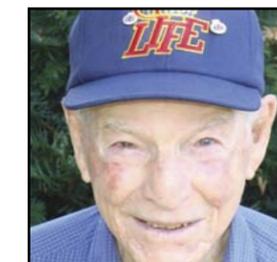
Inside this issue of the *UTU News*:



UTU's Barnett helps teach children value of voting. See page 2.



Longtime UTU activist Ray Cunningham has retired. See page 3.



UTU retiree Fanning puts his money where his mouth is. See page 8.



It's not too soon to be thinking about holiday gifts. See page 11.

This month's winning photo:

The UTU International is seeking photographs of the children and grandchildren of UTU members wearing UTU-logged hats and shirts or sporting other UTU gear.

The union is also seeking good rail, bus and airline photos for its annual calendar.

High-resolution digital photographs should be in the JPEG format and e-mailed to "utunews@utu.org".

Printed photographs should be mailed to UTU News, 24950 Country Club Blvd., Suite 340, North Olmsted, OH 44070-5333.

With each photograph, please include your name and UTU local number, the names of the persons in the photo (left to right), where the photo was taken, and all other pertinent information.

All photographs submitted become property of the UTU.

Remember to review your employer's policies regarding use of cameras on the property or during work hours.



This photo was taken by **Richard A. Olson**, a locomotive engineer and member of Local 1175, Duluth, Minn. "I took this photo at the Northstar commuter station in downtown Minneapolis. UTUers who operate this train are members of Local 1000, Minneapolis. Operation over the line started in November 2009 from Minneapolis to Big Lake, Minn."



Please recycle