



Local 592 Tribune

Dedicated to Working People Everywhere

Mike Bagley, Chair, Education Committee
Tim Mills, Editor

www.uaw592.com

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Negotiations With Hamilton Sundstrand On Deck

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a happy holiday season. This year will be full of activity for the union leadership and many of our members.

Opening day of negotiations between UAW Local 592 and Sundstrand is set to kick-off on March 25th at the Radisson Conference Center on Bell School Road at 10: a.m. We have invited several guests to sit at the bargaining table with us, many of whom have verbally committed to attend already. Some of those guests

invited include UAW Region 4 Director Dennis Williams, UAW Region 4 Assistant Director Dennis Kinard, UAW Local 718 (Gunitite) President Rick Kardell, UAW Local 1268 (Chrysler) President Tom Littlejohn, UAW Amalgamated Local 712 President LaDeryl Walker from CT., IAM Local 743 (Hamilton Sundstrand) President Mark Hebert, IAM International Servicing Rep., James Parent, and Rockford Police President Aurelio De La Rosa. We hope all will pledge to stand in support of our local as we bargain our new contract with management. We have also asked Region 4 Director Dennis Williams to extend an invitation to UAW President Ron Gettelfinger and UAW Vice-President Jimmy Settles.

It is getting harder and harder to settle grievances at Sundstrand short of arbitration. It doesn't appear that Labor Relations is interested in settling grievances until they have been appealed to arbitration. Unfortunately, this tactic doesn't facilitate a relationship that is helpful to either side.

Presently, at Sundstrand, we have four terminations in the arbitration process. One termination case was arbitrated January 10th with closing arguments due in written form by February 11th. Two of the remaining three terminations are scheduled to be heard in front of an arbitrator February 22nd and March 19th. The remaining termination has been appealed to

arbitration and we are awaiting a list of arbitrators available from the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS).

The Bargaining Committee at Hamilton Sundstrand filed an unfair labor practice charge against Hamilton Sundstrand 2 years ago. The charge has finally been ruled on by the Labor Board and the Union's position was sustained. The Bargaining Committee had been trying to obtain information from the company regarding temporary workers working within Hamilton Sundstrand. Management refused to supply the information and the Bargaining Committee filed unfair labor charges against management. The Labor Board found the charges to have merit and a Labor Board Judge ruled management must "promptly" provide the information requested to the Union. Hamilton Sundstrand will also be required to sign and post notice within the plants for a period of 60 days stating they violated Federal labor law. Management has until February 13, 2008, to decide whether or not they wish to appeal the decision.

We have also lost 3 other brothers and sisters at MNP Precision Products (Unit 2) and Learning Curve Brands (Unit 3). Two of the three terminations have been grieved by their respective bargaining committees and we expect those will end up in arbitra-

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tion as well if a settlement can't be reached.

Anyone within Local 592's three bargaining units interested in running for a position on the Executive Board, Election Committee, or their respective Bargaining Committee should begin thinking about it now. Per the Bylaws, there will be a special membership

meeting Sunday in April (April 27, 2008) at our UAW Hall. The purpose of the meeting will be to nominate and elect an Election Committee and nominate candidates for Executive Board and unit Bargaining Committee positions. Anyone nominated that does not accept their nomination at the April 27th meeting will have until Wednesday, April 30th to accept the nomination in

writing with our Recording Secretary, Mike Rourke.

Elected officers will then be installed at the membership meeting on June 25, 2008.

In Solidarity,
Ted Dever, President
UAW Local 592

Civil Rights/Human Rights Committee:

Serves as guardian over the Local Union's interest to assure the members full rights regardless of religion, race, creed, color, sex, political affiliation, age, or handicap. The Civil Rights Committee has experience in many different areas, such as: discrimination, sexual harassment, and conflict resolution in the workplace. So if you feel that your rights have been violated, either by management or by another union member please contact us.

- Collier Holleman, Chair
- Bill Kiddell
- Earle Rowe
- James Randolph
- Tim Mills



Paul Wixom, Dept. 578 received his Journeyman's Card. Nov. 07

Toy makers must be more vigilant about safety

Many toys have been recalled in the past year. Some people don't know that a lot of the toys were recalled because of the lead paint on the toys. Large toy companies such as Mattel have their products made in China. If the products were made in the United States, they would have been reviewed more carefully.

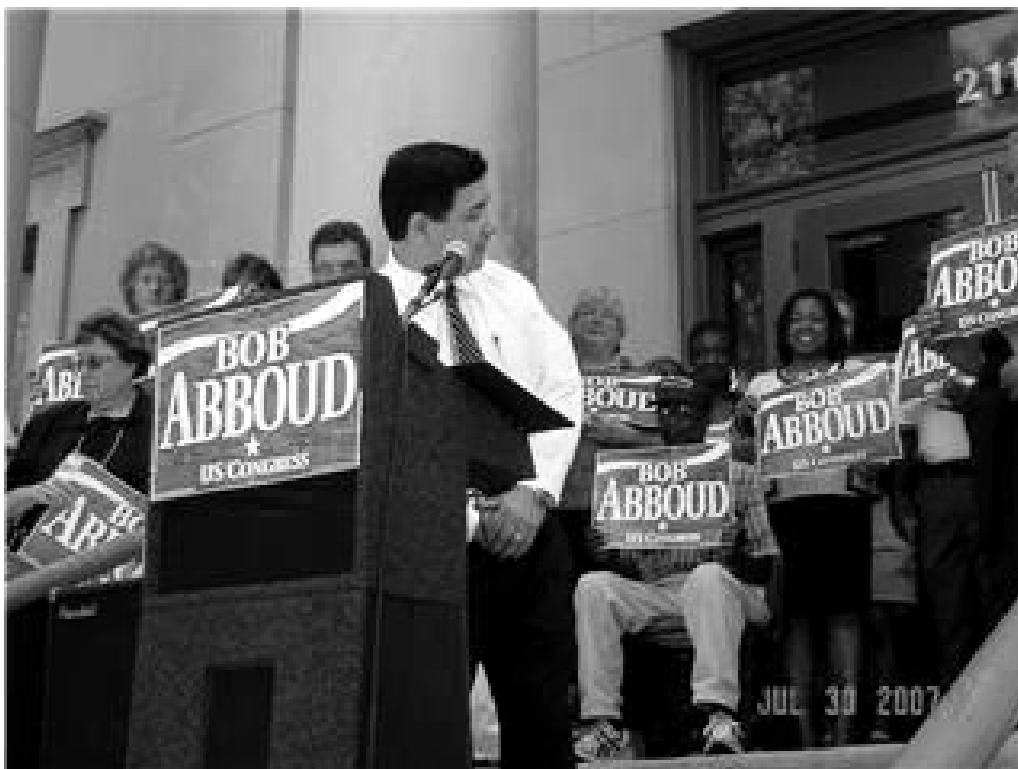
Mattel has their products made in China because they get a bigger profit out of it. If a toy is made and it takes \$10 to make in the United States and

they sell it for \$15, then Mattel gets a \$5 profit. But if you have the same toy made in China, it might take \$5 to make and therefore, Mattel gets a \$10 profit. So they, of course, send the toy off to China to be made. According to MSNBC on Aug. 14, Mattel has recalled 9 million Chinese-made toys, including "Polly Pocket Dolls" and "Cars" movie items.

The amount of toys recalled is unacceptable. Large toy companies need to know about these toys with

lead in the paint. They need to do something about it. I think that they should have their toys made in the United States, not in China. Forget the profit. (This could also save jobs in the United States.) Children's safety is way more important than money. Parents out there, be sure that your child's toys are safe and lead-paint free. Be cautious.

Danielle Cychosz, sixth grade
Kettle Moraine Middle School



"High quality, good paying jobs are at the heart of my campaign. Return of manufacturing to the 16th district and the country is strategically important to the economic health and the security of our country."

Know the Candidates: Bob Abboud

Know the Candidates spells out positions taken by 16th Congressional District candidate Bob Abboud, who is running to unseat the incumbent Don Manzullo. This material was culled from a questionnaire; the complete text is available upon request.

War in Iraq.

"The war in Iraq represents a failed foreign policy that has cost of some 4,000 American lives, tens of thousands of casualties, and \$12.5 billion a month. Yet we have remained in this country for more than 5 years. It's time to come home. This is their country and Iraq needs to take responsibility for itself. This war has much more to do with corporate contracts and special interests than Iraq's future. Successfully transferring our forces for those of Iraq's internal government will go a long way to rebuilding our foreign policy position."

Jobs and the Economy.

"First, it's important to start with the premise that we must *put America first* in all decision making regarding the economy. NAFTA and CAFTA [and the like] must be repealed. These agreements were marketed as mechanisms to open global markets to American manufacturers. Instead, they shipped good jobs out and let bad products in. These agreements have simply become a tax sleeve for corporate special interest to bypass safety and environmental regulation, and bypass federal and state income tax. We must create a truly fair trade playing field that makes global markets available to American manufacturers.

We must reduce the national debt and eliminate debt held by foreign holders. The \$9.2T debt, growing at some \$800B/year, driven by fiscal irresponsibility of the Bush/Manzullo

administration is the single largest impediment to making substantive trade policy progress."

Energy and the Environment.

"Don Manzullo, under the direction of President Bush, has been ineffective in supporting the development and deployment of hybrid and 'plug-in' hybrid technologies by American manufacturers. Continued reliance on foreign oil and fossil fuels damages the competitiveness of our businesses costing American jobs. It hurts the pocket book of every American household. The CO2 we release is the largest single contributor to climate change. Yet, my opponent Don Manzullo has done nothing to address the cost of energy, the impact of energy use on the environment, or the impact of energy on our foreign policy. His approach seems to be 'drill more, burn more'. He

is a proponent of the Bush energy policy of 'No Oil Executive Left Behind'.

Our energy policy must achieve the following goals: Dramatically reduce energy costs to consumers and businesses. Dramatically reduce CO2 emissions. Improve energy abundance and availability. Energy technologies and sources must be domestic and support American jobs

America should be the global supplier of energy technology, systems and components, and nuclear fuel. My energy polices focus on the following elements: Redevelopment of domestic nuclear electric power, including spent fuel recycling. Development and expansion of domestic ethanol and biodiesel. Continued development of hydro, wind, and solar and other 'renewable' sources. Wide spread use of hybrid vehicle technology with "plug-in" capability. Continued development of coal electric power technologies. Continued development and coal gasification /coal-to-oil technologies."

Education.

"The Bush administration federal education policy, supported by Don Manzullo, is not effective in helping our schools prepare the next generation to be competitive. 'No Child Left Behind' creates under-funding in school systems and is overly focused on testing. [It must be repealed.] Federal education policy must be flexible and support local school districts, which each have their own challenges. We must empower teachers to stay in the system to provide long term expertise. We must also recognize that our schools have to prepare students to be competitive in a global economy. It's time to refocus on the basics of reading, math, and science. The vast majority of the new jobs will be technical in nature. We must prepare our students to be leaders in these fields. We also have to return to a solid focus on physical

education and health.

Immigration.

"Don Manzullo has not been effective in addressing immigration reform and enforcing the law. I will make an amendment to the Sarbanes-Oxley legislation which will require companies to certify that their employees are of legal status within this country. Companies that violate this legislation will face still penalties, including jail time for senior management.



I will fund expansive protection at geographical borders as well as airports and shipping terminals. I will also work to reform the US Citizenship and immigration Service to be responsive to requests from businesses and individuals. Those who want to become citizens and meet our qualifications should be able to do so in a timely manner. I do not support any use of federal funds for illegal aliens."

Healthcare.

"Don Manzullo's ['No'] vote on SCHIP is simply another indication of his rubber-stamp to President Bush's policy to cater to special corporate interest. It is unbelievable that he would deny the needed health care to children. Reform of health care is one of my top 4 priorities. We must address all the major elements: Insurance. Legal

system Impacts. Delivery of Health Care. Pharmaceuticals."

Social Security and Senior Issues.

"I support Social Security. I do not support 'privatizing' Social Security. The market behaviors of the recent past are good evidence as to the dangers of banking on the stock market for base line retirement income. We must protect the Social Security commitments we have made. Calls for privatization are driven by special interest investment and financial lobbies who stand to gain huge windfalls in trading fees and interest on capital through this mechanism.

While Social Security will need some attention in the years to come, its underlying foundation can support future growth. The real problem is the economy. The loss of American manufacturing has had a serious effect on the Social Security income stream. Create real jobs, and you will substantially address Social Security."

Rural Life.

"Don Manzullo's political contributions have a large component from real estate developers and other entities that have not been friendly to land use and municipal / community planning. As the Mayor of Barrington Hills, I have a very strong record of protecting the environment and the American rural lifestyle."

Workers' Rights.

"[I will vote 'Yes' for the Employee Free Choice Act.] I support the rights of worker's to organize and bargain as a group. It is critical to the future of our economy to enforce sound working conditions and balance the forces of management and labor. I also believe we need to take a very serious review of compensation practices of corporate management."

Romney's Firm Refuses to Protect Farm Workers from Sweatshop Conditions

From AFL-CIO NOW

Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney (R) founded Bain Capital in 1984. In December 2002, Bain Capital joined with two other buyout firms to purchase Burger King for \$1.5 billion. To date, Bain Capital and its partners have nearly tripled their original out-of-pocket investment. Bain Capital and its partner firms own roughly 43 percent of Burger King and control six seats on the company's board. During his tenure at Bain Capital, he stayed on the sidelines as the firm slashed jobs at the office supply manufacturer "in marked contrast to his recent pledges to beleaguered autoworkers in Michigan and textile workers in South Carolina to "fight to save every job."

During the same time, the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW), a community organization in Immokalee, Fla., organized the Campaign for Fair Food, calling on major buyers of Florida tomatoes to take responsibility for the chronic poverty and horrific labor abuses faced by tomato workers. Earlier this month, federal officials arrested Antonia Zuniga Vargas with virtually enslaving immigrant workers in south Florida, charging her with conspiring to make money off workers from Mexico and Guatemala, forging documents and committing identity theft.



NEW SLAVERY INVESTIGATION IN TOMATO FIELDS

and Bain Capital continue to support a system that keeps workers in subpoverty conditions? Will they stand silently as these workers' modest gains are rolled back?

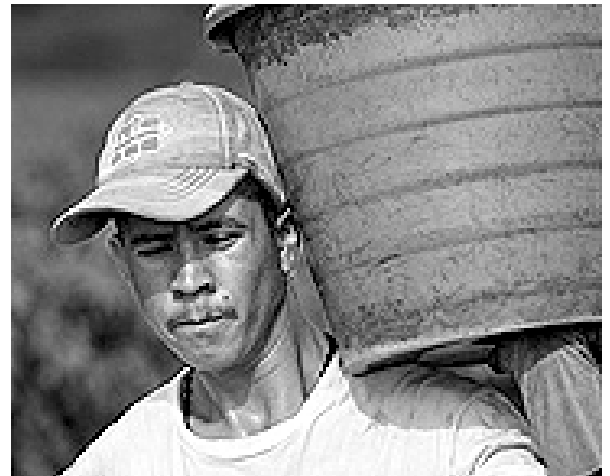
In the past decade, there have been six federal criminal prosecutions in Florida for forced labor and slavery of farm workers, resulting in prison terms and the freeing of more than 1,000 workers. Farm workers have few protections, with most workers earning subpoverty wages and excluded from the right to overtime pay and to organize and bargain collectively.



"BITTER HERBS" SERVED DURING INTERFAITH VIGIL AT BK HEADQUARTERS!

The CIW campaign achieved several unprecedented successes, bringing companies like McDonald's and Yum! Brands behind two key principles: economic relief for farm workers through a penny-per-pound surcharge passed on directly to workers in the form of a raise in the piece rate and a code of conduct with strict consequences for violating workers' rights.

Burger King has chosen to join with the most extreme elements of Florida's tomato industry to undermine these agreements and enable a "harvest of shame." Will Mitt Romney



It's time to end slavery and sweatshops in Florida's fields!

In the latest Florida slavery investigation, prosecutors filed charges against four farm labor employers in Immokalee accused of locking and chaining workers inside U-Haul trucks, holding workers in debt and beating workers who tried to leave.

Long-term unemployment warrants action now and is projected to get worse

From the Economic Policy Institute

The White House has demanded that legislators not extend unemployment benefits as part of the upcoming economic stimulus package, despite the fact that the latest jobs report from the Department of Labor shows that long-term unemployment is already a problem.

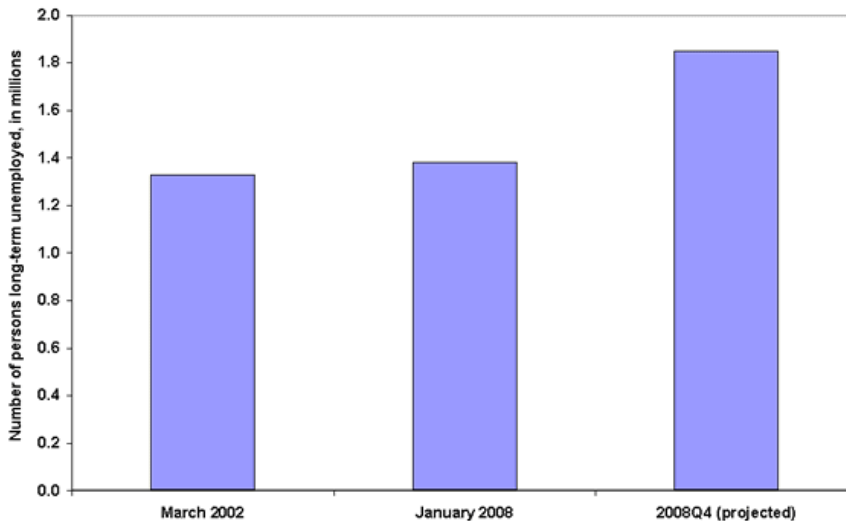
After the last recession, Congress first extended unemployment benefits to those who had exhausted their 26 weeks of standard benefits in March 2002.

While the unemployment rate at that time was higher than it is now—5.7% in March 2002 versus 4.9% last month—the more relevant figure is how many jobless workers have exhausted their unemployment insurance. The chart below shows that the total number of long-term unemployed is substantially higher now—1.4 million workers last month compared to 1.3 million in March 2002. In other words, today 1.4 million workers have exhausted their entitlement to unemployment

compensation but are still actively trying to find work.

The chart also shows projections to the end of this year. Independent researchers have forecasted that by the fourth quarter, the unemployment rate will have increased to 6.2%. Based on that forecast and the historical relationship between the unemployment rate and the share of the unemployed who are long-term jobless, nearly 1.9 million workers will likely be unemployed long term by the end of 2008. Long-term unemployment places an enormous strain both on families and on the economy. Extending unemployment benefits would not only give aid to the families hardest hit by the economic downturn but also provide a critical stimulus to the economy. The long-term unemployed, their savings depleted, quickly spend virtually every dollar they receive, mostly on necessities found in their local economy. Extending unemployment benefits during an economic downturn is not only the right thing to do for the families struggling in this economy, it is also excellent economic policy.

Number of long-term unemployed



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