



# ITPE NEWS

AFFILIATED AS LOCAL 4873 WITH OPEIU-AFL-CIO

President John F. Conley ■ Secretary-Treasurer John Brenton, III ■ Vice President Dennis R. Arrington

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## Report of the PRESIDENT

by John F. Conley

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I am certain, you like myself, are tired of the Democratic primaries and caucuses. As tired as we are, we must agree these are exciting times for the Democratic party. An African American and a woman, both outstanding candidates, one of which could very well be the next President of the United States. With either one, working families have a winner. Both have voting records ranging over 90% favorable to Labor. Whereas the Republican candidate has a 16% voting record. Voting for John McCain is the same as voting for four (4) more years of George Bush's policies. A recent poll determined 71% of American's are fed up with George Bush and the Republican party. They are ready for change. We must take the first step to make that change by voting for the Democratic nominee on Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>. Yes, the Republican's will do everything they can to continue occupancy of the White House. We, yes you, me and many millions of America's workers have the power to prevent that nightmare from happening. Make your vote count. We must send a loud clear message to all our Legislators in Washington we are FED UP – we the voters hired you, and we the voters can fire you. Join me on November 4<sup>th</sup> and "VOTE".

I am hopeful by now you have received your Perks card. If not, then we must not have your current address

on file. It is up to you to keep us informed if you change your address. Ask your Shop Steward or Representative for a change of address card. If you have received your Perks card, start using it now! Yes, it "pays to belong" especially when you use the members only benefit programs. If you are not familiar with the benefits program available to you as a member, I recommend you talk to your Shop Steward, your Representative or go to the websites. Each of them has a wealth of information. Visit them at: [www.itpe.org](http://www.itpe.org); [www.opeiu.org](http://www.opeiu.org); [www.perkscard.com](http://www.perkscard.com); [www.unionplus.org](http://www.unionplus.org).

Another great benefit to our members and their legal dependents is through our ITPE Scholarship Programs. See pages 5-6 for the 2008 winners of the ITPE Health and Welfare and ITPE Annual Benefit Funds programs. Sincere congratulations to all of them.

Again, the ITPE members, officers and staff salute all our Armed Forces: US Army, US Navy, US Marine Corp. and US Coast Guard for their services to our country each and every day. May you all keep safe and return to your homes safely.

Wishing you all an enjoyable summer!

In Solidarity

*John F. Conley*  
John F. Conley  
President



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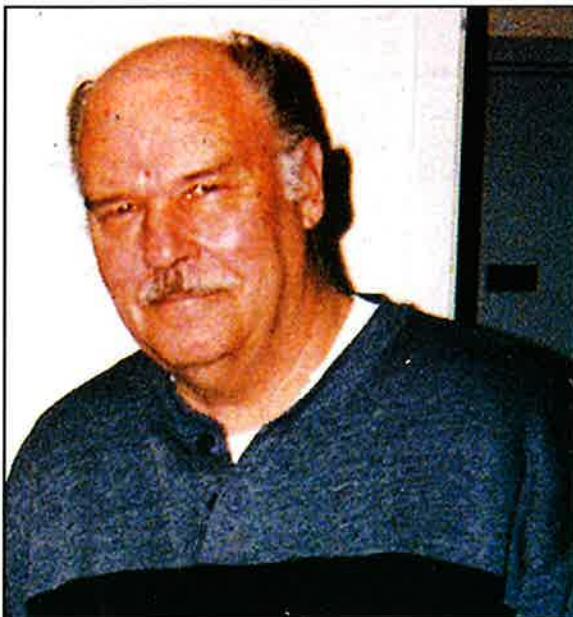
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## The ITPE Mourns the Passing of Two Great Friends of ITPE

PATRICK FOLEY



ITPE Officers, Staff, & Members mourn the passing of our brother and friend, Pat Foley on May 7, 2008. Pat was the Senior Representative in our San Antonio branch from September 1985 until May 2004. Pat leaves behind his wife Barbara and daughter Patty and Winnie, and two grandchildren, Melissa and Bryan. Our hearts go out to his family. Pat Foley will be missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him.



The ITPE also offers its deepest sympathy to Joan G. Wolfe, wife of **William F. Wolfe** known as Bill to most of us. Bill passed away on Thursday, May 8, 2008. Joan was the Administrator of the ITPE Health and Welfare Plan from 1971 through 2005 upon her retirement. Our deepest sympathy to Joan and her family.

**ITPE Members  
Receive a  
PerksCard**



Register your  
**OPEIU - ITPE**  
PerksCard online  
today and learn how  
to access great on-line  
offers and discounts  
for:

- Dining
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  - Hotels
  - Car Rentals
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  - on coffee, video rentals & More!

Also, be sure to  
recommend any of your  
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Log in at Perkscard.com  
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"I would like to recommend  
my favorite merchant."  
Complete the form and  
click submit.

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*A lesson that applies not just to our personal lives but to our work life too. This is for those who would say, I don't want to get involved, it's not my problem.*

### A MOUSE

Unknown Author

A mouse looked through the crack in the wall to see the farmer and his wife open a package

What food might this contain? The mouse wondered he was devastated to discover it was a mousetrap.

Retreating to the farmyard, the mouse proclaimed the warning.

There is a mousetrap in the house!  
There is a mousetrap in the house!

The chicken clucked and scratched, Mr. Mouse, I can tell this is a grave concern to you, but is of no consequence to me. I can not be bothered by it.

The mouse turned to the pig and told him, there is a mousetrap in the house!

The pig sympathized, but said, I am so very sorry, Mr. Mouse, but there is nothing I can do about it but pray, be assured you are in my prayers.

The mouse turned to the cow and said, there is a mousetrap in the house!

The cow said, Wow, Mr. Mouse I'm sorry for you, but it's no skin off my nose, so, the mouse returned to the house, head down and dejected, to face the farmer's mousetrap alone. That very night a sound was heard throughout the house, like the sound of a mousetrap catching its prey.

The farmer's wife rushed to see what was caught. In the darkness, she did not see it was a venomous snake whose tail the trap had caught.

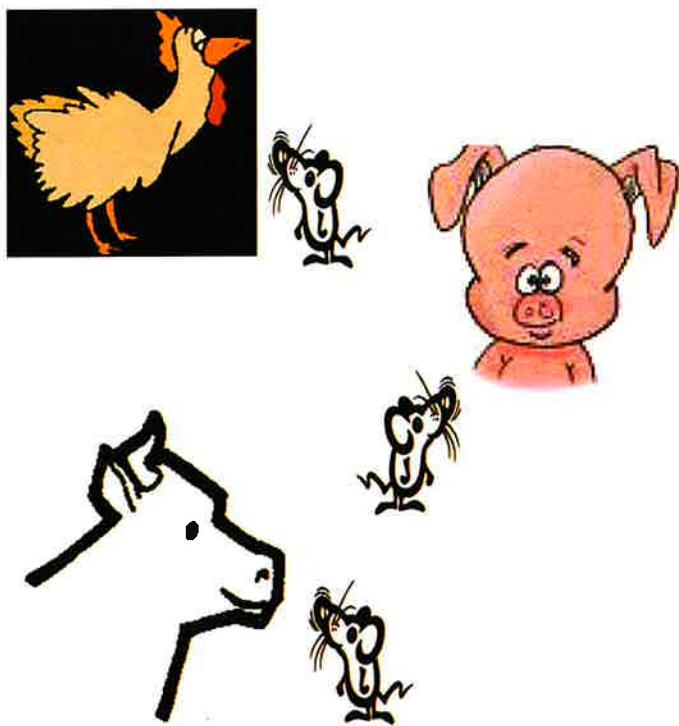
The snake bit the farmer's wife. The farmer rushed her to the hospital.

Everyone knows you treat a fever with fresh chicken soup, so the farmer took his hatchet to the farmyard for the soup's main ingredient. But his wife's sickness continued, so friends and neighbors came to sit with her around the clock. To feed them, the farmer butchered the pig. The farmer's wife did not get well; she died. So many people came for her funeral, the farmer had the cow slaughtered to provide enough meat for all of them,

The mouse looked upon it all from his crack in the wall with great sadness.

So, the next time you hear someone is facing a problem and think it doesn't concern you, remember, when one or us is threatened, we are all at risk. We are all involved in the journey called life. We must keep an eye out for one another and make an extra effort to encourage one another.

That's called Unity, thus a Union is formed.



Coco in the ITPE Branch Office 1301 Clear Spring Trace  
 Tel. - 502-618-3305  
 Louisville, KY



Wilma (Coco) Zimmerman



**Oberlin, Ohio FAA Guards Meeting**  
 L-R Bloomfield, Sanchez, Summerfield,  
 Varner, Rumph (Shop Steward), Coco  
 Zimmerman, Reynolds, Holbrook



Both Ms. Pearl Braswell & Ms. Shirley Williams have worked diligently at Ft. Campbell Army Base in Kentucky for 38 years. These two women have worked tirelessly to help feed the troops, while working in their churches and community. Thank you Ms. Pearl and Ms. Shirley for all the love that you show. Keep up the GREAT SERVICE.

**CONGRATULATIONS  
TO THE HEALTH AND WELFARE FUND  
2008 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS**

The Health and Welfare Fund had twenty-one candidates apply for the 2008 John F. Conley/Happy I. Franklin Scholarship Program. Ten of the twenty-one candidates submitted incomplete folders. Out of the remaining candidates, the winners are listed below.

Winner	Institution	Award Amount
<b>CHARLES BAILEY</b> San Antonio, TX Dependent of Lena Bailey ITPE	Brown University Providence, RI	\$15,000
<b>ROGERICK CURRIE</b> Fayetteville, NC Dependent of Carolyn King KCA	Norfolk State Univ. Norfolk, VA	\$15,000
<b>LAUREN DZIAGWA</b> Seward, PA Dependent of Joseph Dziagwa Santa Fe Protective	Univ. of Pittsburgh Jonstown, PA	\$15,000
<b>ANDREW EMERALD</b> San Antonio, TX Dependent of Yang Emerald Allen Tharp & Assoc.	Rice University Houston, TX	\$15,000
<b>PATRICE HAMMOND</b> Hopkins, SC Participant Johnson Food Service	College of Charleston Charleston, SC	\$7,500
<b>KIMBERLY HULL</b> Spring Lake, NC Dependent of Kyung Hull Bmar & Assoc	N.C. State Univ. – Raleigh Raleigh, NC	\$15,000

*Alternate winners listed below*

Jasmine Smith Tacoma, WA	Jill Carder Lowell, OH	Stephen Patton Brunswick, GA	Cody Brannon St. Augustine, FL
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**CONGRATULATIONS**  
**TO THE ITPE ANNUAL BENEFIT FUND**  
**2008 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS**

Winner	Institution	Award Amount
<b>CHAD SIEVERS</b> Vaughn, MT Dependent of Duane Sievers, Malstrom AFB	Montana State Univ. Bozeman, MT	\$10,000
<b>LAUREN DZIAGWA</b> Seward, PA Dependent of Joseph Dziagwa, NDIC	Univ. of Pittsburgh Johnstown, PA	\$5,000
<b>PRICILLA LUCERO</b> Socorro, TX Dependent of Juan Lucero, GSA El Paso	Univ. of Texas El Paso, TX	\$10,000
<b>DON KICKLIGHTER</b> Jesup, GA Participant, FLETC	Troy University Troy, AL	\$10,000
<b>SPENCER THOMAS</b> Roy, UT Participant, Hill AFB	Southern Utah Univ. Cedar City, UT	\$10,000
<b>SERENA PITEL</b> Brackenridge, PA Dependent of Joseph Pitel, GSA Pittsburgh	Indiana Univ. of PA Indiana, PA	\$10,000
<b>EMERLIN RIVERAPAZ</b> Perth Amboy, NJ Participant, Eielson AFB	Middlesex County College Edison, NJ	\$5,000
<b>GISHA DUDLEY</b> Brunswick, GA Participant, FLETC	Armstrong Atlantic St Univ. Savannah, GA	\$10,000
<b>KRISTINE NESKO</b> Scranton, PA Dependent of Michael Nesko, GSA Eastern PA	Lackawanna College Scranton, PA	\$5,000
<b>STEPHEN PATTON</b> Brunswick, GA Participant, FLETC	Troy University Troy, GA	\$10,000
<b>JAKWANKA GASTON</b> Pensacola, FL Participant, Pensacola NAS	Pensacola Junior College Pensacola, FL	\$5,000
<b>SHANICE REED</b> Tacoma, WA Dependent of Marcus Reed, Ft. Lewis	Univ. of Washington Tacoma, WA	\$10,000



# John McCain's **FAILED** Record on Working Family Issues

Senator John McCain's record and positions on economic issues effecting working families paint a clear picture of a politician who is out of touch with working-class Americans.

## On Wages

McCain voted against a clean minimum wage increase for low-wage workers in 2007, but supported tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans in 2005. He has repeatedly voted to undermine prevailing wage rules and in 1999 voted to prohibit Davis-Bacon requirements for fair wages in federal disaster areas.

## On Worker Rights & Safety

McCain voted with the Bush administration to eliminate overtime rights for some 6 million U.S. workers in 2004. He voted to gut the Family and Medical Leave Act in 1993 and in 2000 voted to block OSHA from issuing, implementing or enforcing standards to protect workers from ergonomic injuries. In 2007, McCain voted against the Employee Free Choice Act.

## On Unemployment Insurance

In 2003, McCain voted against extending the expiring Temporary Emergency Unemployment Compensation for six months, with an additional 13 weeks of benefits for workers who exhausted their federal benefits while looking for a job. At the time of the vote, more than one million long-term jobless workers were nearing the end of their benefits.

## On Jobs

In 2004 and again in 2005, McCain voted against federal highway and transportation bills that would have created an estimated one million goodpaying jobs protected by the Davis-Bacon prevailing wage standards.

## On Trade

McCain proudly calls himself a "free-trader." He voted for NAFTA, CAFTA and every other bad trade agreement including agreements with Oman, Singapore, Chile, and Morocco. He supported Fast Track making it easier for President Bush to enact trade agreements without strong worker protection. And he wants to expand CAFTA saying, "We need to build on the passage of the Central American Free Trade Agreement by expanding U.S. trade with the region."

## Outsourcing

Finally, in 2004, McCain voted to allow overseas outsourcing of government contracts and voted to allow the Secretary of Defense to waive Buy American laws for defense systems.

**John McCain's record proves he is NOT a friend to working-class Americans.**  
For detailed information and fact sheets go to [www.mccainrevealed.org](http://www.mccainrevealed.org)

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM YOUR UNION

# John McCain: **WRONG** Choice FOR WORKING FAMILIES



**More of the Same.** McCain supported Bush's positions 95 percent of the time in 2007 and an average of 89 percent over Bush's two terms in office. (Congressional Quarterly Voting Study, 109th Congress)

**Opposes Our Right to Bargain.** McCain voted against the Employee Free Choice Act, which would level the playing field for workers trying to form unions, and for a national Right-to-Work for Less law that would attempt to eliminate unions altogether. (H.R. 520: Vote #337, 4/26/07; S. 1768: Vote #188, 7/30/07)

**Supports Unfair Trade Deals.** McCain voted for NAFTA and CAFTA, and to allow China to enter the WTO although the United States has lost more than 1 million jobs because of NAFTA and 1.8 million jobs since China entered the WTO. (H.R. 450: Vote #195, 11/30/93; S. 1397: Vote #120, 4/27/05; H.R. 4444: Vote #251, 7/17/07; Economic Policy Institute, 10/4/07)

SUPPORT CANDIDATES WHO SUPPORT WORKING FAMILIES

You Hold the Power

VOTE ★ Nov. 4

Presidential Election

Labour  
2008

How you vote is a personal decision. For more information, contact your union or visit [www.workingfamiliesvote2008.com](http://www.workingfamiliesvote2008.com).

## NEWS FROM NORTH CAROLINA & WEST VIRGINIA

Representative: Cindy L. Diehm

Written by: Cheryl Lowe, Assistant Representative

We made it through winter and it's time to dust out the cobwebs, put together our thoughts of campaign speeches, candidate qualifications, leadership abilities, experience, and pick a President. November will soon be here so make your plans to go and vote.

### **WELCOME**

The ITPE would like to congratulate the Ft. Bragg Barbers. They voted in the ITPE Union as their Collective Bargaining Agents at a vote of 20 to 1. We are pleased to have you as members. The barbers are employed by Gino Moreno Enterprises LLC from San Francisco, Ca. Rex Moreno, President.

The Recreational Employees at the Wellness Center, National Mine Health and Safety Academy at Beaver, West Virginia are new members of ITPE and we want to say welcome aboard. They are employed by Basic Contracting Services, Inc. from Artesia, New Mexico. John Morgan, President.

The Food Service Employees at Camp Lejeune working for Coastal Enterprises from Jacksonville, N.C., President John Ed Glover, became a sub-contractor for Sodexho. A warm ITPEU welcome to these new members.

As usual this time of year, Cindy is in negotiations for the 2008 benefits package and as usual you will see some good results. The cost of living is on the rise and wages should be as well

### **SPECIAL MENTION**

#### **JAMES ANDREWS**



James Andrews is the President of the North Carolina AFL-CIO. He hails from Warren county and served for 13 years as Secretary-Treasurer before being elected President. James is a Vietnam veteran and a Purple Heart recipient. He is the first full-time elected African-American state federation president in the country's history. He is a member of ITPEU.

James and the N.C. AFL-CIO, are the coordinating council for 260 local Union and the have made great thing happen for the labor force in North Carolina. They have taken on big companies like Smithfield to bring about better working conditions for employees. We were fortunate enough to meet James at a North Carolina AFL-CIO convention. Seeing all the Unions in the state come together in solidarity to make things better for the working people of North Carolina was awesome. [www.aflcionc.org](http://www.aflcionc.org).

## NEWS FROM NORTH CAROLINA &amp; WEST VIRGINIA continued.....

## CAN WE TALK?

We are always getting questions from our members on all subjects, so I decided to share some with you in case you may want the answers to the same questions.

**QUESTION:** Why didn't BCBS pay my dental or vision claim?

**ANSWER:** BCBS only pays for medical, your dental, vision, prescription, and disability are paid by the ITPE Health & Welfare Fund.

**QUESTION:** Why can't the Union make the Company give us more hours?

**ANSWER:** The Union can't tell a Company how to set their schedules or hours. Their contract with the government dictates the amount of hours they schedule.

**QUESTION:** I was moved to another building, can't the Union make the Company leave me in my regular building?

**ANSWER:** No, when you work for a contractor that has multiple buildings, even if you have been in a particular building for a long time, you can be moved. You work for the contractor not the building.

**QUESTION:** If the contractor gives me seven reprimands and fires me on the seventh, can he do that since he didn't fire me under the three reprimand rule?

**ANSWER:** Yes, under the CBA three reprimands in your file can get you terminated. In this instance, the contractor gave the employee four more chances to do better instead of termination at three reprimands.

**QUESTION:** My manager yells at me all the time, I don't want to file a grievance but can you do something about it?

**ANSWER:** Without a grievance being filed on any mistreatment or other problems, you are tying the Unions hands. We have guidelines to follow as any business has, we can only investigate and take action if the employee files a grievance. Think of us in the way you would think of a lawyer. A lawyer would not take a case without a paper signed authorizing them to handle the case, we need your written authorization, (i.e., a grievance) to investigate your claim.

**QUESTION:** I'm going to school now and I need to get my hours changed to suit my school schedule, can't the Union make them give me a schedule to work around my school hours.

**ANSWER:** No, the company does not have to accommodate the employee. It would be wonderful if they would, but they have a business to run. If they accommodated this employee, then they would have to accommodate every request for special scheduling which would jeopardize the running of the contract.

We hope these examples help answer some of the questions you might have. If you need an answer to any question pertaining to your job or benefits, please don't hesitate to call us at 910-497-1661.

The office staff here hopes each and everyone of you takes time out of your busy schedule to go and vote this year, not only is it a right, it is a privilege.

Cindy,

Cheryl,

&

Amanda



## FORT BRAGG, NORTH CAROLINA

### Gino Moreno Enterprises, LLC.



Clarence Collier pictured here has been a Barber at Ft. Bragg for 54 years.



Pictured are Howard Sinclair, Jennifer Bouyoucas, Gloria Hamel & Carmel Shelton



Wilson Brewington has been a Barber at Ft. Bragg for 43 years.



Ezra Spearman, out Chief Shop Steward, has been a Barber at Ft. Bragg for 18 years.



Thaddies Butler has been a Barber at Ft. Bragg for 53 years.





*Greetings from*

# SAVANNAH

By John Brenton, III, Secretary-Treasurer

On April 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of this year, the ITPE held its first ever ITPE Representative Seminar.

President John Conley planned an informational two days. He had a Representative of the "Perks Card" give a demonstration. You should have received your Perks Card. If you are a member and have not received the card, notify your Representative. Notice I said member, the Perks Card is for members only.

After watching the demonstration and seeing the discounts available through the Perks Card and realizing that I could save more money than I pay in dues, I can emphatically say that it does Pay to Belong.

Mr. Conley also had a Representative from Union Plus give a presentation. This is a program backed by the AFL-CIO with some great benefits from low rate credit cards to reduced rates for movers and more in between.

And of course no benefit seminar would be complete without the legendary Mr. Roy Boyd. For those of you who know Mr. Boyd, he was his usual good old Georgia Boy self. For those who have never had the privilege to meet or

hear Mr. Boyd, you missed him at his best. "Now Listen Here" as Mr. Boyd usually says as he makes a point, "the ITPE Health & Welfare has done a hell of a turn around and the Trustees of the Fund and the Union Reps deserve one hell of a lot of credit for its turn around."

A couple of years ago we had to come and explain some cut backs, take aways and introduce a deductible. We went around trying to explain to some very angry members that this was not only hard on them but hard on the representatives too, as we are covered by the same plan. We also said we would make things good again.

You have watched your deductible drop from \$350.00 with a Maximum of \$9,500.00 out of pocket to \$250.00 with a maximum of \$3,500.00 out of pocket. You have seen your Dental benefit go from \$1,000.00 to \$1,500.00. Yes, we will make it better.

And we had everybody's favorite Lawyer, Sid Kalban, give talks on Grievance Handling, The Working of the NLRB and Enforcement through the Department of Labor.

Mr. Kalban and I also spent the last afternoon going over the Collective Bargaining Agreements one section at a time. There were some great questions and some wonderful and helpful answers.

OPEIU President Michael Goodwin, OPEIU Local 153 Secretary/Treasurer Rich Langan and OPEIU Organizing Director Kevin Kistler were present. Mr. Kistler gave a great talk on Internal and external Organizing.

As you can see it was an interesting seminar with a lot of knowledge shared and hopefully it gave your Representative the tools and knowledge to share with you.

Until that time,

John Brenton, III  
Secretary/Treasurer



***Congratulations to  
Mr. Elwood Hampton,  
former ITPE Vice President,  
on his recent award***



**NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE OF MAYORS  
PRESENTS  
THE LEE VEALE NJCM SPIRIT ANNUAL AWARD  
TO  
MAYOR EMERITUS ELWOOD HAMPTON**

On Wednesday evening April 9<sup>th</sup> 2008 at the Board of Directors meeting at the Annual Conference of the New Jersey Conference of Mayors in Atlantic City N.J. Mayor Emeritus Elwood Hampton was awarded the "Lee Veale New Jersey Conference of Mayors Spirit Award."

Former Paulsboro mayor and former Gloucester County Freeholder Elwood Hampton was selected as one of two recipients of this award this year for demonstrating spirit, professionalism, interest, resourcefulness, integrity and thoroughness in not only his support of the N.J. Conference of Mayors but also in support of the other organizations and groups in which he is involved.

The New Jersey Conference of Mayors, Mayors Emeritus Advisory Council is proud to have presented this award to former Mayor Hampton and is very thankful for his support to the New Jersey Conference of Mayors.

*Greetings from Las Vegas*

See photos on pages 16 &amp; 20

**It pays to belong!**

The ALLIANCE Protest Rally, "No More Cabs!" held on March 31, 2008, was a success. Thanks to all who participated. We got 380 signatures from attendees and more than 500 attended.

**Drivers Under Pressure!**

Leslie D. Pike, an 18-year Checker driver and loyal union member, recently suffered an experience that was totally out of character for him while driving his cab. The stresses and strain of driving his cab long hours every day, personal issues, combined with an altercation with a Metro Officer could have been what pushed him over the edge. Then, in one day, his life changed forever.

On Les' behalf I want to say none of us can be absolutely certain what we are capable of given the right circumstances. We never know what may cause us to do something that is totally out of character for us. I know Leslie to be one of the nicest individuals you would ever want to meet, a spotless record with the Company, worked well with his fellow drivers, never a problem in 18 years with his job. What happened to him was unusual and his reaction to the situation was due to combination of pressure and stress he was under.

Could his situation portend more to come? Due to the ever-increasing pressure and stress Las Vegas taxi drivers are working under?

Leslie, and his family want to thank all the drivers who wrote character reference letters on his behalf. They did have an impact. He got out on bail and his preliminary hearing is scheduled for June 12, 2008. We wish him all the best.

**Farewell to a Loyal Member**

We would like to wish our Brother Patrick McClurg the best. After 30 years of continuous driving, dealing with every facet of life on the road (and staying sane!), you are to be commended.

Pat says he started driving cabs in his home town in Ohio in 1973. Later he drove in Joliet, Illinois, near Chicago, and then El Paso, Texas, before being hired by Yellow Cab here in Las Vegas in December, 1977. He said after 35 years it's time to hang up his steering wheel.

Since day one Pat has always been a loyal friend and a **member in good standing** with the ITPE Union. I cannot tell you how much that has meant to me. Just remember Pat, if you ever need anything, please don't hesitate to call. You will definitely be missed.

Oh by the way The Union have something for you.

Now that you have plenty of time to relax, kick back and run naked through your apartment(!), give a thought to those of us you've left behind, still working like crazy.

TO A LIFETIME BROTHER IN SOLIDARITY, Love and Kisses Always, ITPE Union, Local #4873.

## News From The AFL-CIO

AFL-CIO observed Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday in February with a major conference in Memphis, site of sanitation workers strike in 1968 that brought King to the city where he was assassinated. More than 1,000 participants from across the nation attended event which featured several veterans of the sanitation strike. Speakers called for workers to unite and vote in 2008 to change nation's directions. "I challenge you that 2008 must be a year of renaissance for this country," said Jess Epps, 71, a striker and former organizer for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees. He is currently president of the National Union of American Families. Roz Pelles, director of the AFL-CIO's Civil, Human and Women's Rights Department, told crowd, "We are at a crossroads for the labor movement. What we have is a situation in the country where polls show workers want to join unions but feel like they are blocked."

Congress should pass broad stimulus package that includes extending unemployment payments, increasing food stamp benefits, sending fiscal relief to state and local governments and investing in "ready-to-go" school, bridge and sewer construction, said AFL-CIO President John J. Sweeney last month as financial crisis spread worldwide. In addition to providing tax rebates targeted to middle- and low-income taxpayers, he called for economic policies that also begin to address underlying causes of the current weakness. "It is encouraging that President Bush has recognized the immediate need for an economic stimulus package," he said in letter to House Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid. "But it appears that President Bush's proposals are too heavily weighted toward tax cuts over much-needed spending... and do not target tax benefits to those families who need them most and will spend them fastest."

Labor called on subprime lenders to halt foreclosures in wake of record year-end Wall Street bonuses. As it called for one-year moratorium on subprime mortgage foreclosures, AFL-CIO noted that top five Wall Street firms handed out record \$38 billion in bonuses at end of 2007. "Wall Street seems to be giving unprecedented cash rewards to the very people whose conduct threatens to strip millions of Americans of their homes and drive our country into recession, while at the same time refusing to take the actions necessary to address the crisis," AFL-CIO head Sweeney said in letter to largest subprime mortgage lenders. Federation reported that Richard Trumka, AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer, and Arlene Hold Baker, AFL-CIO Executive Vice President, also co-signed letter.

AFL-CIO called for action to "rein in" nation's trade deficit with China which is at an all-time high. According to Census Bureau trade statistics released last month, U.S. trade deficit with China was \$237 billion in first 11 months of 2007, up 11 percent over the same period in the previous year. AFL-CIO pointed out that trade deficit with China continues to grow, despite declining value of the dollar, while bilateral trade deficits with most other regions declined. "China continues to violate the rules of the global trading system, manipulating currency, violating workers human rights, and providing illegal subsidies to businesses," said federation's Secy.-Treas. Richard Trumka. "President Bush refuses to take action, fiddling away while the U.S. economy burns. With a do-nothing President, these figures reiterate the need for strong action by Congress."

No presidential candidate appeared to have necessary two-thirds support of the federation's membership as the AFL-CIO Executive Council met in early March in San Diego. According to AFL-CIO head Sweeney, recent federation poll showed Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-N.Y.) with 45 percent support, Sen. Barack Obama (D-III.) with 25 percent support. Sweeney explained margin had probably tightened since the poll was taken. Council also reviewed AFL-CIO's multi-million dollar Labor 2008 program which seeks to engage union members in this year's federal, state and local elections in record numbers. Prior to Council meetings, Sweeney told news media that he meets regularly with five union heads who comprise Change to Win coalition. The five-million member CTW, meanwhile, endorsed Sen. Barack Obama.

## News From The AFL-CIO cont....

AFL-CIO President John J. Sweeney called President Bush's budget proposal "a slap in the face to America's working families." Sweeney said Bush's budget was "ideologically driven" and "ill-conceived" because it preserves huge tax cuts for the wealthy while cutting social programs. He said the budget puts workers at risk because it slashes funding for tests and screening responders to the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center, cuts funding for occupational safety and health research and provides no new funding for job safety enforcement programs. He said Bush also wants to cut job training programs for workers displaced by international trade and slashes funding for Medicare and Medicaid. Sweeney charged Bush's budget "shoves America further in the wrong direction."



Two nominations by President Bush to the National Labor Relations Board "are a blatant attempt to keep a Labor board with an unbalanced, anti-worker bias, and they would be poisonous to America's working families," said AFL-CIO head John Sweeney Jan. 29. Bush recently re-nominated Chairman Robert Battista to another five-year term and selected management attorney Gerald Morlaes to a new term. He also re-nominated member Dennis P. Walsh (D) who is supported by labor. Since December, Democratically-controlled Senate has blocked President Bush from making recess appointments, leaving the five-member board with three vacancies as 2008 opened. Chairman Battista (R) left office Dec. 16 when his five year term expired and the recess appointments of former Members Peter N. Kirsanow (R) and Walsh (D) expired Dec. 31.



AFL-CIO filed lawsuit to block additional federal regulations from requiring unions to disclose more information about their officers' finances. Federation said new rules by the Department of Labor were "capricious and arbitrary" and should be set aside. Regulations require union officials and leaders to go into more detail on their government LM30 financial reports if they get loans or payments from vendors that do business with the union. AFL-CIO said current regulations already require such reporting and the additional rules impose "onerous" paperwork burden. AFL-CIO called on Bush Administration to increase enforcement of worker safety rules rather than going on a "witch hunt" against union officials.



AFL-CIO Executive Vice President-Emerita Linda Chavez-Thompson, Communication Workers of America President Larry Cohen, and United Steelworkers Counsel Dan Kovalik, conducted two-day fact-finding trip Feb. 12-13 to Columbia and called for protection for union leaders there. They met with Columbian union leaders, International Labor Organization representatives in Columbia and with Columbia President Alvaro Uribe. During their meeting with Pres. Uribe, they expressed their concern over dangerous conditions faced by Columbian unionists and threats they encounter on a daily basis. According to ILO reports, Columbia is the most dangerous place in the world for trade unionists. "The meeting with President Uribe was important to send a strong message of solidarity with the Columbian unions," said AFL-CIO Executive President-Emerita Linda Chavez-Thompson.



Economic stimulus package recently passed by Congress and signed by President Bush fails to help unemployed workers and those who have been laid off due to economic slowdown, AFL-CIO said Feb. 7. Federation targeted its strongest criticism at Senate Republicans who refused to support Senate version of the economic stimulus package that would have provided extended unemployment benefits. "The very people who need help the most will get what they have routinely gotten from this Administration and its right-wing Republican supporters: a whole lot of nothing," AFL-CIO's Sweeney said. "Economists agree that providing unemployment benefits is one of the most efficient ways to stimulate the economy, since jobless workers are most likely to spend their checks immediately..."

## ITPE in the Trip Sheet Magazine



## ITPE Las Vegas Taxi News

by THEATLA "RUTHIE" JONES

Email: lasvegasitpe@aol.com

### "It Pays to Belong"

The ALLIANCE Protest Rally "NO MORE CABS" held on March 31, 2008, was a success. Thanks to all that participated. We got 380 signatures and approximately 500 attended.

Leslie D. Pike, 18-year Checker Cab driver and his family want to thank all the drivers who wrote character reference letters on his behalf. They did have an impact. He did get out of jail and his preliminary hearing is scheduled for June 17, 2008. We wish him all the best.

On Les' behalf, I want to say that we, none of us, can be absolutely certain what we might do in every circumstance. We never know what circumstances may cause us to do something that is totally out of character for us. I know Leslie as one of the nicest individuals you would

ever want to meet. What happened to him was unusual and his reaction was totally out of character for him. He had 18 years working in this industry with no problems with the Company or the F.A. He always worked well with other drivers. Could his situation be just a portent of things to come due to the ever-increasing pressure and stress taxi drivers are working under?

Leslie, please let me say again, we wish you all the best and if there is anything further we can do, we are here for you.

The "ALLIANCE" - It pays to belong.

It truly does pay to belong.

In next month's article I'll be telling you how some Alliance members saved thousand of dollars when they traveled to Chicago.

The "Alliance" is located at:

3271 Highland Drive, Suite #701  
Las Vegas, NV 89109

Phone: 702-735-4005 Fax: 702-735-4006

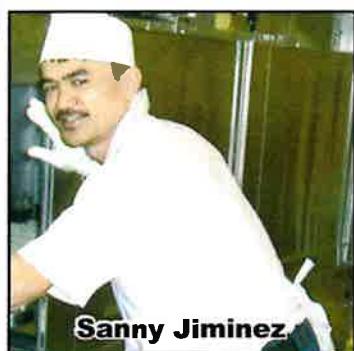
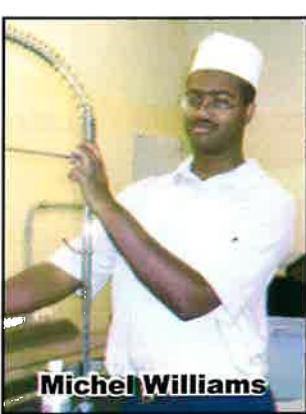
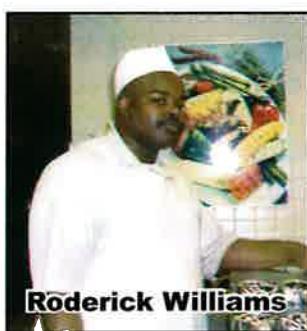
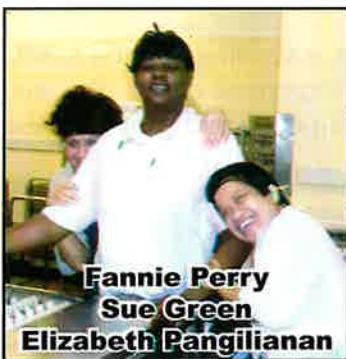
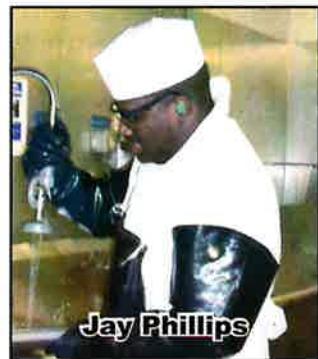
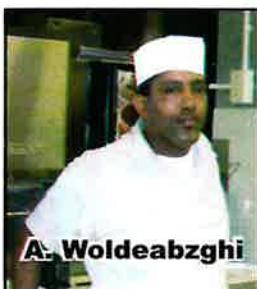
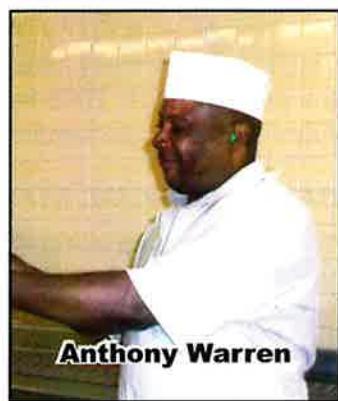
The "ITPE UNION" is located at:

3281 Highland Drive, Suite #807  
Las Vegas, NV 89109  
Phone: 702-284-7171 Fax: 702-284-4929

TSM



## LITTLE CREEK AMPHIBIOUS BASE VIRGINIA BEACH, VA



## SUMMARY ANNUAL REPORT for the ITPE HEALTH AND WELFARE FUND

This is the summary annual report for the ITPE Health and Welfare Fund, EIN 58-1236802, Plan number 501 for the period July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007. The annual report has been filed with the Employee Benefits Security Administration, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

### BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was \$26,621,938 as of June 30, 2007 compared to \$14,896,560 as of July 1, 2006. During the year the plan experienced an increase or (decrease) in its net assets of \$11,725,378. This increase or (decrease) includes unrealized appreciation or depreciation in the value of plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of the plan's assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year or the cost of assets acquired during the year. During the plan year, the plan had total income of \$48,932,259 including employer contributions of \$47,591,251, employee contributions of \$73,434, realized gains or (losses) of \$(40,277) from the sale of assets, and earning from investments of \$1,307,851. Plan expenses were \$37,206,881. These expenses included \$5,517,529 in administration expenses, \$31,689,352 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries, and \$0 in other expenses.

### YOUR RIGHTS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

You have the right to receive a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, on request. The items listed below are included in that report.

- An accountant's report
- Financial information and information on payments to service providers
- Assets held for investment
- Transactions in excess of 5% of plan assets

To obtain a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, write or call the office of ITPE Health and Welfare Fund, who is the plan administrator, 24 Ogethorpe Professional Blvd, Savannah, GA, 31406, 800-327-5926. These portions of the report are furnished without charge.

You also have the right to receive from the plan administrator, on request at no charge, a statement of the assets and liabilities of the plan and accompanying notes, or a statement of income and expenses of the plan and accompanying notes, or both. If you request a copy of the full annual report from the plan administrator, these two statements and accompanying notes will be included as part of that report.

You also have the legally protected right to examine the annual report at the main office of the plan:

ITPE Health and Welfare Fund  
Plan Sponsor  
24 Ogethorpe Professional Blvd  
Savannah, GA 31406  
58-1236802

And at the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, D.C., or to obtain a copy from the U.S. Department of Labor upon payment of copying costs. Requests to the Department should be addressed to:

U.S. Department of Labor  
Employee Benefits Security Administration  
Public Disclosure Room  
200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room N-1513  
Washington, DC 20210



## From DENNIS R. ARRINGTON

ITPE Vice President

Dear Fellow Brothers & Sisters,

Your Union has been on the move organizing new contracts since our last issue of the ITPE newsletter.

Here's what your Representative's have recently organized:

Representative Cindy Diehm organized the Barbers at Ft. Bragg, NC.

Representative Dennis Conley organized Food Service employees at Camp Shelby, MS.

Representative John Brenton, IV organized Security Guards at Ft. Gordon, GA.

Representative Lynette Guillebeaux organized Maintenance employees at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Glynco, GA.

The ITPEU continues to target new contract sites for organizing. This is not a job for one person, but for all of you to assist in.

Therefore, your Union is asking that if you know relatives, friends, or anyone who needs and wants to be organized and enjoy the benefits of being members of the ITPEU, please contact your local representative.

Have a wonderful summer and be careful. Thank you for your continued loyalty.



Fraternally,

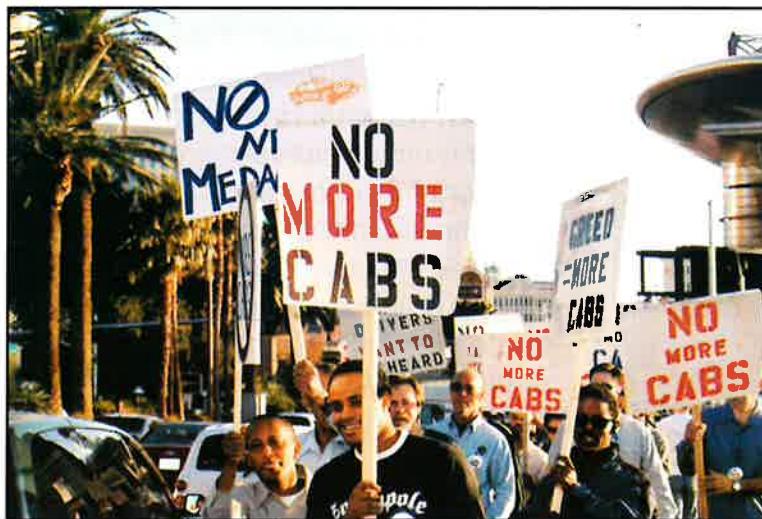
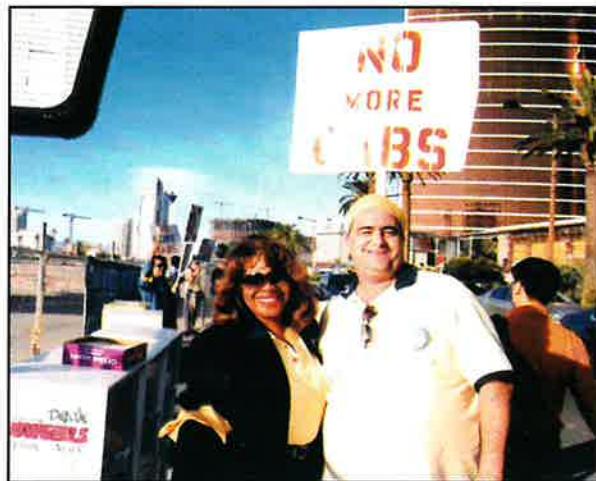
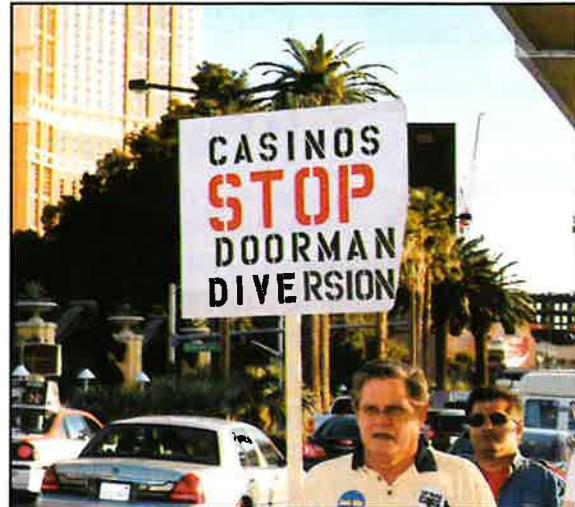
Dennis R. Arrington,  
ITPE Vice President



Charles T. Bailey is a senior at Communications Arts High School in San Antonio, Texas. He is the son of Robert and Lena Bailey. Lena is an employee of ITPEU AFL-CIO. Charles is a member of the National Honor Society and is also the Vice President of his school's chapter of the Spanish National Honor Society. He also actively engages in community volunteer projects with the San Antonio chapter of the Foresters and various other projects with his school. Charles plans will be attending the University of Texas at Austin next fall where he will be majoring in African American Studies. He plans on receiving his doctorate in this field and afterwards plans on becoming a professor of African American Studies at a prestigious Ivy League institution.

## ITPE & USW

Taxi drivers in Las Vegas protest the Taxi Authority adding of more taxis. Union taxi drivers have seen their number of trips go down from an average of 22 per shift to 18 per shift. This results in a loss of income from tips and commission.



# Labor Leaders Spell Out Strategy For 'Economy That Works For All'

During its meeting in San Diego in early March, the AFL-CIO executive council passed a number of statements designed to help set the labor federation's agenda for the months ahead. One of those resolutions, focusing on U.S. workers and the economy, appears below.

The council is headed by AFL-CIO President John Sweeney. SIU President Michael Sacco has served on the board since 1991.

## AFL-CIO Executive Council statement

We may be seeing the end of the first economic expansion since the Second World War in which average family incomes have not recovered their pre-recession levels.

A bursting housing bubble last summer and the resulting crisis in the U.S. sub-prime mortgage market have triggered a full-blown credit crisis, which now seems to be dragging the American economy into recession and slowing economic growth globally.

Economic growth slowed sharply toward the end of 2007 and the economy began to shed jobs early this year. The unemployment rate rose to 4.9 percent in January but would be 6.7 percent if labor force participation were close to pre-recession levels. Even at the peak of a recovery, median family income, adjusted for inflation, was lower in 2005 than in the previous year and economic anxiety was unusually high due to the threat of job loss, the volatility of family incomes, rising health care costs and the continued erosion of pensions.

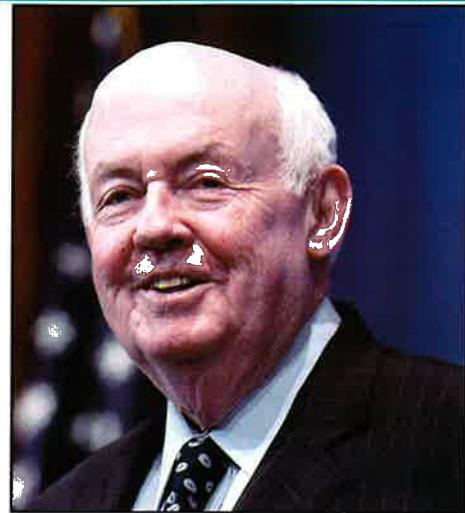
Even before the recent economic slowdown, working families were struggling to maintain their living standards by working longer hours and more jobs, by sending more family members to work and by borrowing against the equity in their homes. In terms of jobs, wages, health care and pensions, the recovery from the 2001 recession has been the weakest of any recovery since the Second World War, weaker even than the jobless recovery of the

early 1990s. Debt-financed consumer spending has provided what momentum the economy has shown over the past seven years. Stagnant wages and incomes left consumers borrowing against the expected rise in the value of their homes to maintain their families' living standards. Household savings fell below 1 percent, levels not seen since the worst years of the Great Depression.

The truth is, as weak and unbalanced as the current recovery has been, America's workers are suffering what is now a generation-long stagnation of wages and rising economic insecurity. The misguided domestic and international economic policies of the past three decades have produced an unbalanced economy that has seriously reduced the role of government in guiding the economy and radically shifted bargaining power from workers to their employers.

These policies have benefited our wealthiest families as never before, but working families have been left behind. Corporations are earning record profits and CEOs, on average, are now earning 364 times what workers earn. Productivity has increased 67 percent since 1980, but wages have barely budged. Average family incomes are only 15 percent higher today than they were three decades ago, and only because families are working harder and sending more members into the workforce. Only the top 10 percent of families have seen their income rise at or above the rate of productivity growth.

As a result, incomes and wealth are more unequally distributed in America than in any other developed country and are more unequal today than at any time since the 1920s. Even more alarming, American intergenerational economic mobility is falling and is already lower today than in many European countries. The American Dream is fading for



AFL-CIO President John Sweeney

millions of working families.

The bursting of the housing bubble and resetting interest rates on sub-prime mortgages threaten the homes of hundreds of thousands of America's working families. The credit crisis and financial market turmoil threaten the pensions and savings of millions. And the resulting pull-back of consumer spending and business investment now threatens the jobs of millions more.

Housing prices already have fallen 10 percent and may fall another 10 to 20 percent over the next two years, leaving 10 million families with negative equity in their homes, causing more than 2 million foreclosures and destroying trillions of dollars of household wealth. This massive loss of wealth likely will undermine consumer spending and business investment. Declining housing prices of this magnitude have never taken place without the economy falling into recession.

The Federal Reserve moved aggressively to lower interest rates by over 2 percentage points and is signaling more cuts to come. Congress also passed a \$168 billion fiscal stimulus package featuring a tax rebate for families and tax cuts for business. While these steps are helpful in mitigating some of the worst effects of the slowdown, they are insufficient to avert recession, nor do they deal with the fundamental economic imbalances at the root of the current economic crisis....

Working families need, and we

*continued on page 22*

## Economy That Works For All con't

demand, additional measures to keep families in their homes by enacting a moratorium on foreclosures and a second stimulus package to extend unemployment insurance, expand the food stamp program and bolster federal aid to states and cities to prevent further cutbacks of vital public services. We should also front-load public investment to maintain our schools and repair crumbling bridges and deteriorating highways. Spending that puts people to work on projects we desperately need is more likely to stimulate the domestic economy than tax cuts that may be saved or spent largely on imported consumer goods.

But even these expanded stimulus measures do not address the fundamental imbalances at the root of the current economic slowdown. In addition, we need a bold national economic recovery program to change the policies that produced the imbalances that are now driving the economy into what may become a serious recession.

First, we must restore the competitiveness of the United States in global markets to balance our trade with the rest of the world. Currently we must borrow nearly \$800 billion a year to pay for the things we consume as a nation that we no longer produce. We have lost 3.3 million good manufacturing jobs since 2000, many the result of our imbalanced trade.

Moreover, China and other Asian trading partners are manipulating their currencies to maintain their competitive advantages. The huge trade surpluses of these countries have produced a global savings glut which is fueling asset price inflation in the United States. The demand for U.S. assets from these countries has fed the unsustainable housing bubble on which our fragile growth has depended over the past seven years.

To restore the competitiveness of the American economy, we must change our trade, tax and exchange rate policies to level the playing field for domestic producers. Domestically, we must also greatly expand public investment in the education and training of America's workers, as well as the in-

formation, communication and transportation infrastructure so essential for a competitive American economy.

We must also adopt a national strategy to rebuild American manufacturing. We must have national health care reform to level the competitive field for domestic manufacturers. And we must have an approach to climate change focused on domestic investment in new technologies to produce a more environmentally sustainable economy, lessen our dependence on foreign oil and produce good manufacturing jobs.

Second, we must have a more robust and coordinated monetary and fiscal policy focused on maximum sustainable growth and full employment. We cannot continue to depend on consumer spending financed by asset bubbles to power the U.S. economy. The Federal Reserve and Treasury are mandated by Congress to maintain rapid growth and full employment but they have largely abandoned this mission to serve other purposes....

Third, we must have transparent and more effective financial regulation in the mortgage and credit markets. The failure of regulators to ensure secure mortgage markets and sound financial markets has fostered speculation in both. The promotion of irresponsible mortgages has put millions of working families into homes they cannot now afford. And the financial services industry has engineered these fragile mortgages into exotic securities that we were told would disperse risk to those best able to bear it. Instead, these complex securities have concentrated the risk in the hands of those least able to understand it. The deregulation of financial markets and the financial engineering that produce mountains of unsupportable debt have allowed finance to dominate the real economy, produced turmoil in our capital markets and undermined the stability of the real economy in which our members live and work.

We must restore effective regulation to ensure transparency and ac-

countability of mortgage lenders, investment banks, hedge funds, private equity and sovereign wealth funds.

Fourth, we must restore a fair tax system capable of financing the key public investments necessary for a competitive U.S. economy. The United States is plagued by rapidly rising inequality and a public sector so impoverished we are unable to fund vital infrastructure improvements, educate our children, or deal with the challenge of energy and the environment. At the heart of these problems is a tax system that treats the upper middle class and billionaires the same in terms of marginal income tax rates. We need a truly progressive tax system, one that looks to the superrich to pay their fair share.

Fifth, and most important, we must restore a balance of power between workers and their employers to allow workers to share in the prosperity that they help create. We must enact meaningful minimum employment standards, including a minimum wage indexed to one-half the median wage. We must also pass the Employee Free Choice Act to restore the freedom of workers to organize and bargain collectively. And we must extend collective bargaining rights to millions of public-sector workers denied these fundamental rights.

America's workers are the most productive workers in the world. And they work longer hours than workers in any other developed country. America is still the richest country in history. There is no reason that we cannot have a strong and internationally competitive American economy whose prosperity is broadly shared.

Economic issues—stagnating living standards, rising economic anxiety and growing inequality—have risen to the top of the nation's agenda and are the leading concern of America's voters this year. To win the trust of the American people, candidates for office must show they know and care about the real economic anxieties of America's working families. Most of all, they must bring forward credible economic policies to produce an Economy That Works for All.

## SAY GOODBYE HERSHEY



A sad story for those of us who remember growing up with Hershey bars, and just as sad for the generations of today. What will be outsourced next?

Pennsylvania is a big state, but it amazes me in the day, how some news doesn't make it over the mountain to the front page of our papers or the top of our news hours in Western Pennsylvania.

Milton Hershey, this year, will be joining H. J. Heinz in rolling over in his grave. Hershey Chocolate is moving to MEXICO...whoopee! They're even closing down Hershey Canada. Don't buy any more Hershey Bars. Reese's Peanut Butter Cups are my favorite and they are made by Hershey. But I will not purchase another one!

M.S. Hershey had a dream....I will buy my OWN sugar, milk, Cocoa beans, (all natural mind you!) and make candy...(no tariffs etc...) EVEN during the depression...HE and the Company made money...NOW some corporate big wigs are reining the name...AND the product M.S. created...Please pass it on...What a bunch of college educated "idiots."

Thank you M.S. Hershey for all the things I have and all you have done for me and my family..."I" do appreciate it...as for "Dick" Lenny and Company good luck you greedy, money loving B.....s. You are ruining the name, the company, and MANY lives in central Pennsylvania....read on...Enough is Enough!

So Hershey executives are closing plants in the US, laying off over a thousand people, and destroying Mr. Hershey's dream, all to cut labor, material costs and AVOID PAYING US TAXES! The company will save about \$170 million a year, all on the back of American people. The top executives will still make their mega bucks and the laid off workers will have to find other jobs, some probably at minimum wage due to their age. All this to take their jobs to India, China, and Mexico.

So WHAT part of the "GREAT" American Chocolate Bar is left? NOTHING! These countries are no doubt laughing at Americans, who they don't like anyway. How long are the American people going to sit around and let big corporations do this to us? We must all band together and let our Politicians in Washington know we have had it with NAFTA, CAFTA, and "SHAFTA" and we won't take it any longer!

Please, do not buy any Hershey product! If the company wants to take the work to these countries, then let those countries buy the product. We don't need it.

BOYCOTT HERSHEY!!!!



*In order to keep our records current, if you have moved or are planning to move in the near future, please fill out the below form and return it to your Shop Steward. Thank You!*

.....

### INDUSTRIAL, TECHNICAL AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES UNION (OPEIU Local 4873)

#### MEMBERS ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Social Sec # \_\_\_\_\_ (optional)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_ Contract Site \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Hire Date \_\_\_\_\_

Member's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Take A Look

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Lena Bailey  
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## EL PASO, TX 79905

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Reddington Bldg., Suite 500U  
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915-783-0110 • Fax: 915-881-0700

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Washington, D.C. 20005  
Representatives: Charles Hampton  
Sandra King  
202-628-5770 • Nights & Weekends: 856-423-7268  
Fax: 202-628-5774

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80 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Room 1806 • New York, NY 10011  
Sidney H. Kalban, Esq.  
212-868-5867

## ITPE HEALTH AND WELFARE PLAN

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Savannah, GA 31406  
P. O. Box 13817 • Savannah, GA 31416  
Kathy Heery, Administrator  
912-352-7169

## ITPE PENSION PLAN

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ERISA SYSTEMS  
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Cranford, NJ 07016  
Enzo LaVecchia  
Administrator  
908-276-0800  
Fax: 908-276-0810

## ITPE FUNDS REPRESENTATIVE

365 Bull Island Road  
Brunswick, GA 31525  
Roy Boyd  
912-267-9249  
Fax 912-280-0992

Your Union offices are spread throughout the United States. Get to know your Shop Steward and your Union Representatives by name. Get to know the phone number of the Union office closest to you. Above all make sure you go to your Union meetings when they are held in your area. In true Union spirit, an informed member is the best member.

[www.itpe.org](http://www.itpe.org) & [www.itpebenefits.com](http://www.itpebenefits.com)  
VISIT NOW

## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## ITPE HEADQUARTERS - ITPE AFL-CIO

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