

United Way relies on labor

United Way's veteran leader Vince Martin (left) presents the prestigious community service award to letter carrier Scott Van Derven, leader of the annual food drive, at the Labor Kick-Off Rally Sept. 17. **Story and more photos on Page 13.**



WORKING IN SOLIDARITY LABORFEST 2009



Pirates, strolling musicians, puppets and more joined the parade this year. **Enjoy photos and stories in a special section pages 7-11.**



Sen. Russ Feingold found Voces de la Frontera supporters at Zeidler Park before the parade. The workers rights center will hold a gala Oct. 22 with an AFL-CIO national figure as keynote speaker. **See Voces story on Page 6.**

AFL-CIO MILWAUKEE

LABOR PRESS

WWW.MILWAUKEELABOR.ORG

MILWAUKEE AREA LABOR COUNCIL, AFL-CIO

Vol. 69, No. 9

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

(USPS 350-360)



New National President Richard Trumka introduced his leadership team to the AFL-CIO convention, including re-elected Executive Vice President Arlene Holt Baker (left) and Liz Shuler, the first woman elected as secretary-treasurer and, at 39, the youngest AFL-CIO top officer in history.

What's truly afoot within AFL-CIO

There will be a lot of news and resolutions pouring out over the next few weeks from the AFL-CIO convention Sept. 13-17 in Pittsburgh, but one of the biggest stories might be a very quiet and disjointed one that emerged in a series of discussions and was only glimpsed at in the resolutions passed.

This involves a series of moves and commentary by major unions to rejoin the AFL-CIO under the new enthusiasm and

aggression reflected by Richard Trumka and his team of officers. Even outgoing AFL-CIO President John Sweeney now suggests that some unions concerned about his more cautious approach had some understandable reasons to leave in the first place. They have ample reason to come back given the strategy being outlined and a new mutual respect reflected in the leadership.

The unions who left wanted

AFL-CIO continued Page 5

Truthout scores a union first

By Dominique Paul Noth, Editor, Labor Press

One of my favorite websites, and a must for citizens who want to stay up with national and world news and even labor essayists such as David Bacon, is truthout.org. It rounds up some of the most interesting and important stories of the world's newspapers and magazines, always offering you pointers to the original, adding a search engine, encouraging your own browsing, organizing stories into a front page and categories, and it also encourages its own reporting.

It survives, much like public radio and TV, on donations from users. It is currently in a crucial fund-raising drive, but that isn't what makes it nota-

ble.

It's quality, dedication to issues and, as of Aug. 27, a decision to become the first online-only news site to unionize.

Through another first -- a virtual card-check signup -- Truthout employees signed a recognition statement, granting membership in The Newspaper Guild/Communication Workers of America. The union cards in this case were verified Faxed PDF files with each employee's signature. The bargaining committee for Truthout existed in New York, Sacramento, Los Angeles and Chicago.

Noted Truthout's union representative, Shannon Duffy, of the St. Louis Newspaper Guild: "For other **Online continued Page 3**

Journey into mock future

By Dominique Paul Noth, Editor, Labor Press

The Year: 2012

The Place: Milwaukee In a rambling but revealing interview with Wisconsin's largest newspaper, the new mayor for the city of Milwaukee, Scott Walker, discussed in greater detail his mayoral takeover of public education.

First, Walker said, he would sell 40 public school properties to condominium developers from Waukesha and Burnett counties he has worked with before. Included was the valuable Riverside High School building and its nearby environmental center.

In a meeting with the editorial board for the Sinclair Journal Sentinel, the recently acquired newspaper flagship for a national media chain that supported Walker in the recent city election, Walker also revealed his choices for the newly appointed Milwaukee Public Schools Board.

His selections would duplicate the current board of the

Ridicule is still a powerful weapon. First posted as online satire, this vision of an imaginary political future under a mayoral takeover of the schools has already stirred a fuss.

Comment

Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce "because we have to get our schools operating again on the business models that served the nation so well in the Tommy Thompson and George W. Bush eras," he said.

"The MMAC opposition to paid sick-days also confirms these business leaders understand caution in expecting education to change the future for our young people. This is the kind of dutiful debate-free school board we need."

He also revealed his pick for superintendent of schools -- the recently retired president of the Bradley Foundation "who will return test results and tough fiscal discipline to our relationship with both teachers and the minority populations," he said.

Other revelations by Walker: • **Twenty city parks** as well as the school properties will be sold to commercial developers.

• **Land sales and swaps** will allow less cost in expanding I-94 to 14 freeway lanes from the Waukesha county line not just to Miller Park but also to a new jump south at the stadium "to cut 20 minutes off the travel time for Chicago baseball fans by bypassing downtown," as Walker has proposed.

• **Kindergarten will be eliminated**, as will extracurricular music and theater. "Not sports or forensics," said Walker. "I did well at forensics. But I'm still looking at cutting science fairs."

• **Since there will be fewer schools and tighter costs**, class sizes would be allowed "to naturally rise to a very manageable threshold of 35 students."

• **Teacher certification requirements will be eliminated** to let voucher schools expand county wide and cover any family making under \$300,000 a year. Walker has asked defeated

Future continued Page 10

Demand halts training funds at Milwaukee, other job boards

The sheer number of job losses, union and non, keeps confounding the experts even while evidence mounts that the economy is recovering.

This was evident Sept. 16 when the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board, which has no control of how the federal government allocates Workforce Investment Act training funds, revealed that it had not been allocated enough training funds to handle a surge in demand. So the board has been forced to temporarily suspend vouchers for new training money into 2010. So many vouchers for training have been submitted that the available resource of state and federal money was simply tapped out.

CEO Donald Sykes did tell his staff in the Sept. 16 memo that applications in process - about 300 stretching to January - would be handled. For any new ones now deluging the HIRE Center and related facilities, only "intensive" (read absolutely emergency situations) would even be considered.

The suspension doesn't just

temporarily shut off the valve of training for companies and workers seeking entry, it affects current participants in the Workforce Investment Act funds (WIA, administered by the state) and those who had applied for ARRA (the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act passed in 2009) and SRR (the State Rapid Response system for distributing such funds).

This exhaustion of funding affects all the Wisconsin local boards helping dislocated workers, so this is an issue much larger than what is facing Milwaukee. It reflects the enormity of the problem, and looking at the numbers you can hardly blame the under-allocation on the experts at MAWIB (though the board's initials now do sound even more like a sighing bird).

For just half of 2009 (July to December) the board had sought and received \$1.5 million in WIA and ARRA training money for dislocated workers, a notable amount for programs that had suffered under the previous administration. But job losses will clearly continue though the overall economy is improving.

For 2009, in fact, requests by current participants exceeded training money by a half million dollars, and it's only September.

So the scramble is on, to meet the existing needs with an expanded number of caseworkers, to rethink how the money is being employed and how it can be stretched, whether any rapid or emergency training money can be found and how to rebuild and maybe down the road restart the vouchers for training.

-- Dominique Paul Noth



HIRE Center workers could be found marching with LCLAA (above), machinists and other unions during the Labor Day Parade.

Social Security is also for the young

By Karyl Richson
Special to the Labor Press

Financial planning is not just for people nearing retirement. In fact, it's a good idea to begin planning for a comfortable and secure retirement when you're young.

Social Security has a new financial planning tool especially for the 25 to 35 crowd. It's a special mailer with information about Social Security, savings, and other items of interest to young workers. If you're between the ages of 25 and 35 and you work and pay Social Security taxes, you'll get this automatically with your next Social Security Statement.



Social Security is the foundation for a secure retirement, but was never intended to be the only source of income when you retire. While Social Security replaces about 40 percent of the average worker's pre-retirement earnings, most financial advisors say that you will need 70 percent or more of pre-retirement earnings to live comfortably. Even with a pension, you will still need to save. If you will not have a private pension, you will need to save more - and start saving sooner. Today's young workers can expect to spend 20, 30 or even more years in retirement, so saving is critical.

Take a look at Your Social Security Statement, which you'll receive in the mail about two to three months before your birthday, as well as the helpful two-

page insert tailored specifically to workers ages 25 to 35.

Pay close attention to the information provided, including tips on saving, getting your employer to help with matching contributions to retirement plans, and how much of a difference beginning to save early can make. There's even a graph showing the significant difference saving over time can make, even if it's just \$25 or \$50 a week.

The insert also includes helpful links to outside websites that can help you. For example, you can go to www.mymoney.gov for information on getting credit, paying for education, buying a home, creating a budget, starting a business as well as financial calculators and planning tools. Or, visit www.federalreserve.gov for a worksheet that will help you establish a budget to meet your financial goals. These and other financial links on the insert will help you become the master of your own financial future.

GLOVES

Union Made in the U.S.A.

For Information:
Knoxville Glove Co.
P.O. Box 138
Knoxville, TN 37901
1-800-251-9738

For quality, durability and comfort, the Knox-Fit #679S series gloves are the gloves of choice for America's Pipe Fitters

- 5" Gauntlet Cuff
- 2" Safety Cuff
- Knit Wrist

Most Styles \$2.50
Less Than

Direct sales to Companies & Individuals

Styles Available for most Trades

Drive safely. But if you are in an accident, put years of legal experience on your side.



Accidents can happen to even the best drivers. Fortunately, the Previant Law Firm has a well-earned reputation for assisting people involved in auto accidents. Receive the settlement you deserve. If you have been in a car, motorcycle or truck accident, call for a free consultation.

Car, truck & motorcycle accidents. Call 414-271-4500.



Previant, Goldberg, Uelmen,
Gratz, Miller & Brueggeman, s.c.
1555 N. RiverCenter Drive, Suite 202, Milwaukee, WI
414-271-4500 • 800-841-5232 • www.previant.com

Don't forget that Social Security coverage is not just for retirement, but also for disability and survivors benefits in the event that you are unable to work, or you leave behind a family that depends on your income when you die. Read more about retirement, disability and survivors benefits at www.socialsecurity.gov.

Karyl Richson, the Social Security public affairs specialist in Milwaukee, provides information in story form for the community.

Robert C. Angermeier
Attorney



Social Security Disability

- 30 years experience
- No attorney fees unless the case is successful
- Call now for your no obligation consultation

Law Offices of
Angermeier & Rogers, LLP
414-289-9200

AFSCME OKs city contract

On September 17, AFSCME's city of Milwaukee workers ratified almost two to one an unusual deal where they traded pay increases in 2010 and 2011 for guarantees of no layoffs.

The contract, which still required some city committee approval, is a balancing act by both sides. It threads the needle on helping the city contain predictable costs in a difficult economic environment and gain flexibility (granted by AFSCME) in how and where workers are assigned.

For AFSCME District Council 48, which represents a quarter of the city workers in a contract that most of the smaller

city unions tend to follow, it assured that jobs and benefits are secure. And, without going through legal costs and likely successful arbitration, that unpaid vacation days (furloughs) and similar concerns are indeed established as issues for the bargaining table, not autocratic executive demands as had occurred at Milwaukee County (and were rejected by the courts).

The union agreed to abandon its challenge to the two unpaid furlough days imposed this year and the city agreed at the bargaining table to a limit of four unpaid furlough days a year in 2010 and 2011. In what is in effect a five year agreement retroactively, the union agreed to

2% pay raises in each of 2007, 2008 and 2009 (less than the city had offered and less than two-thirds of what the union was seeking in arbitration) while freezing those higher wages for the next two years.

In exchange, the city will hold health premium costs to 2009 levels - though new research indicates that in Wisconsin such premiums could climb 20% for the city in the next two years. (In fact, Citizen Action of Wisconsin just released a report indicating that in Wisconsin health insurance premiums have increased 4.6 times faster than wages since 2000 - and workers' share of that has risen even more, given how private insurance plans have

employers of online-based employees often claim that unionization isn't feasible since there's no central location where employees can meet - and since many web sites are small start-up operations. It's been easy to this point to claim that budgetary woes make union benefits an unrealistic luxury.

However, telecommuting employees often need a union just as much as on-site workers. Truthout hopes to continue to survive through a public that appreciates its work, both as a collector of existing reports and a creator of new ones. It has survived for years on such appreciation and has emerged as one of the online journalistic organizations serving as a model for the industry.

Now it's developed a model for union organizing.



Seen chatting early Labor Day at Zeidler Park were Common Council President Willie Hines (left) and James K. Fields the board member of MALC and veteran city worker who also handles the Milwaukee contract for AFSCME District Council 48.

shifted more of the costs on to them and away from businesses.)

Both sides in the agreement are clearly banking that health care legislation working through Congress will lessen such costs in a few years and make future negotiations less painful.

The city is also expected to sweeten its pension rules (including higher costs of living and a

bonus year) to encourage early retirements. New hires would have to kick in more than triple the current wage load on pensions starting in 2010 -- though without some such deal, veteran workers pointed out to the Labor Press, the likelihood of new hiring by the city was pretty slim.

-- Dominique Paul Noth

Online

From Page 1

employee groups who are scattered around the country, this is a model that organizers may want to attempt. It made the Internet a tool of organization that it had never been before."

"We've certainly represented wire services for years that were far-flung," noted Bernie Luzer, president of the Newspaper Guild/CWA. "But we've never done any organizing where the group never saw each other or the organizers face to face."

Patric Verrone, president of the Writers Guild of America, served as the "third party neutral" during the card check, counting employees' union cards to verify a majority. This made "a theoretical practice into a reality," said Verrone. He noted that



American Income Life Insurance Company

N88 W17015 Main Street
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051
Phone (262) 502-9777

WHY NOT WORK WITH A 100% UNION COMPANY?

We offer unions and their members a **no cost** benefit package and supplemental benefits.

For a career opportunity call Cindy Vogel at 1-888-502-8777

Aurora Wilkinson Medical Clinic opens October 26, 2009, and the Aurora Medical Center opens early 2010

Thank you to these talented organizations that made this dream a reality

*Boilermakers Union,
Local 107*

*Bricklayers and Allied
Craftsmen Union,
Local 8*

Bricklayers District Council

*Bridge, Structural,
Ornamental & Reinforcing
Iron Workers Union,
Local 8*

*Chicago Regional Council of
Carpenters - North Region*

*Electrical Workers Union,
Local 494*

*Elevator Constructors Union,
Local 15*

*Heat & Frost Insulators Union,
Local 19*

*Laborers International Union,
Local 113*

*Operating Engineers Union,
Local 139*

*Operative Plasterers &
Cement Masons
International Union,
Local 599*

*Painters & Allied Trades,
District Council No. 7*

*Plumbers Union,
Local 75*

*Roofers Union,
Local 65*

*Sheet Metal Workers Union,
Local 18*

*Sprinklerfitters Union,
Local 183*

*Steamfitters Union,
Local 601*

*Teamsters Union,
Local 200*

*Tile & Terrazzo Layers
Protective Union,
Local 5*



Aurora Medical Center®

www.Aurora.org/Summit

Aurora Health Care is a not-for-profit health care provider and a national leader in efforts to improve the quality of health care.

Luggage piling up for foster kids

The unused luggage is no longer sitting around. It's piling up for transit in rooms at the labor council - and there's still room for more.

Almost everyone has some forgotten luggage -- suitcases, duffel bags, backpacks. Now they are being put to better use for hundreds and hundreds of foster youngsters.

Jay Reinke, a field mobilizer attached to the Milwaukee Area Labor Council through the AFL-

CIO Community Services program, was touched by a story from the Legal Aid Society (LAS) about its encounters with children caught in our foster care system.

These children are constantly moved from place to place, with representatives from the LAS providing legal guardianship. But they have no way to carry their goods from place to place - only a few items they can call their own and nothing they

can call their own as luggage. Usually they dump the belongings into garbage bags and travel that way.

Reinke was moved by the comments of one girl who said she felt like garbage having to carry belongings this way.

Workers at LAS have begun collecting luggage for those kids, soon joined by Potawatomi and the United Way. Now the MALC is stepping in to add to the luggage already gathered.

Reinke's office is already buried but he has called on the labor community to rifle their closets and attics and donate still more working luggage of all sizes -- even the bags they are sometimes given attending conferences. He will ship them to the Legal Aid Society to be given to the children. It will help establish some dignity and sense of property and permanence.

Call Reinke at (414) 771-9828 to arrange a pick-up or email him at jayafclcio@sbcglobal.net for further information. He will also keep a running count of the number of luggage items collected and report back to the labor council on the success.

The community needs to get a handle on helping these children.



Accept No Substitutes!

The Allied Printing Trades Council Label

It is the only officially recognized all inclusive printing label representing that **all** operations in the production of the printing were done by union labor. It is not a local union emblem indicating that only part of the work was performed under union standards. Write the words **ALLIED PRINTING TRADES UNION LABEL** on your copy when you send it to the printer!

633 South Hawley Road Suite 100
Milwaukee, WI 53214
Phone: 414.476.1577 Fax: 414.476.2022

Partnering to assure your family's health

At **Dental Associates**, we have all the expertise you need to ensure your family's dental health.

From braces to bridges, our caring professionals will treat your family's dental health needs throughout your lives.

Schedule your exam and dental cleaning appointment today!



dentalassociates.com

Dental Associates



Fond du Lac
545 E. Johnson St.
(920) 924 9090
(800) 398 0672

Wauwatosa
11711 W. Burleigh St.
(414) 771 2345
(800) 398 0687

Milwaukee
1135 S. Cesar Chavez Dr.
(414) 645 4540
(866) 346 8098

Kenosha
7117 Green Bay Rd
(262) 942 7000
(866) 811 4619

APPLETON • NORTH APPLETON • GREENVILLE • GREEN BAY • FOND DU LAC • WAUWATOSA • MILWAUKEE • KENOSHA



We understand how hard it is to pay out-of-pocket costs for a dental visit.

CARE+PLUS dental insurance makes **high-quality dental care** both accessible and **affordable** for you and your family. Available at any of the convenient Dental Associates centers.

dental care with benefi+

Call 800-318-7007 to learn how you can save on dental expenses with CARE+PLUS!

CarePlus
Dental Insurance Plans



CARE+PLUS Dental Plans, Inc. is a non-profit Limited Service Health Organization licensed and regulated by the State of Wisconsin Office of the Commissioner of Insurance.

Dental Associates, Ltd., is the exclusive provider to CARE+PLUS Dental Plans, Inc.

Calendar

For updated master list of events, visit www.milwaukeeelabor.org

Wednesday, October 7

OWL Informational Meeting

12:30 p.m., Washington Park Senior Center, 4420 W. Vliet St.
Expert discusses statewide Agency on Aging Resources for Older Women's League meeting.

Wednesday, October 7

MALC Delegate Meeting

6:30 p.m., Serb Hall, 5101 W. Oklahoma Ave.

Friday, October 11

LERA Lunch Features WERC

Peter Davis, general counsel, employment relations commission
Noon, Aliota's, 3041 N. Mayfair Rd., Wauwatosa
\$15 members, \$10 students and retirees
Call (414) 297-3883 for reservations

Thursday, October 22

Voces de la Frontera Celebratory Fund-Raiser

"Reaching for the American Dream"

Keynote speaker: AFL-CIO immigration issues director Atty. Ana Avendaño.
Potawatomi Woodland Dreams Ballroom, 1721 W. Canal St.
5:30 p.m. reception, 7 p.m. dinner and 8 p.m. awards.
Tickets \$50. Sponsor a low-income worker!
Contact (414) 643-1620 or www.vdlf.org

Wednesday, October 28

MALC Executive Board Meeting

2 p.m., 633 S. Hawley Rd.

Wednesday, November 4

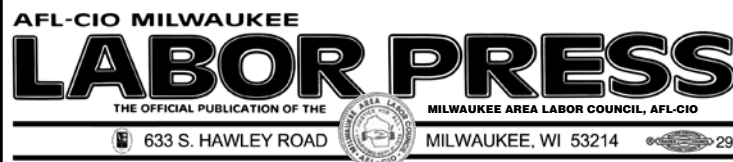
MALC Delegate Meeting

6:30 p.m., Serb Hall, 5101 W. Oklahoma Ave.

Sick-leave ordinance alive as major public issue

Columnist Ted DoBrow has provided a comprehensive dissection of why the 9to5 organization - and for that matter nearly 70% of city voters - feel abandoned and betrayed by their mayor, as 9to5 is left to its own lawyers to conduct a court campaign for the paid sick-leave ordinance that passed overwhelmingly last November. The article is at thirdcoastdigest.com

Labor's own commentary on the issues remains available at www.milwaukeeelabor.org



Published Monthly by the Milwaukee Area Labor Council AFL-CIO
www.milwaukeeelabor.org

Secretary-Treasurer Sheila D. Cochran
President Willie D. Ellis
Vice-President Annie Wacker
Administrative Assistant Robin Lundgren
Editor, Communications Director Dominique Paul Noth
Editorial Assistant, Advertising & Circulation . . . Lynnnda Guyton

EXECUTIVE BOARD - Richard Abelson, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees District Council 48, Lyle Balistreri, Milwaukee Building & Construction Trades Council; Stephanie Bloomingdale, Wisconsin Federation of Nurses and Health Professionals; William F. Christianson, International Association of Machinists Lodge 1845; Ike Edwards, United Food and Commercial Workers Local 1473; Nacarri Feaster, Laborers Local 113; James K. Fields, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 33; Sam Gallo, Workers United Local 122; Larry L. Nunley, IAMAW, Lodge 1916; Anthony Rainey, UAW Local 469 (CBTU representative); Scott J. Redman, Plumbers and Gas Fitters Local 75; Joy Roberts, Communications Workers America Local 4603; Kenneth Roberts III, Graphics Communications Council/International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 577M; Andy Voelzke, United Steel Workers (USW) Local 2-209; DiAnn Wagner, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 2150 (APRI Representative); Patrick R. Weyer, Brewery Workers 9, United Auto Workers; Ross M. Winklbauer Sr., United Steel Workers (USW) Local 2-232.



AFL-CIO Milwaukee Labor Press
Editorial and Business Office
633 S. Hawley Road, Milwaukee, WI 53214
Telephone (414) 771-7070 FAX (414) 771-0509
E-mail: dom@milwaukeeelabor.org



THE MILWAUKEE LABOR PRESS (USPS 350-360) is published once a month by the Milwaukee Area Labor Council AFL-CIO, 633 S. Hawley Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53214, and is also available by subscription for \$12 a year. Periodical postage paid at Milwaukee, WI.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the AFL-CIO MILWAUKEE LABOR PRESS, 633 S. Hawley Rd., Suite 110, Milwaukee, WI 53214.

The Publisher reserves the right to refuse or discontinue any advertisement which is deemed objectionable. Publication of advertisements is not to be construed as a personal endorsement nor are all ads necessarily from unionized companies or services of the Milwaukee Area Labor Council or any of its affiliates. **COPY DEADLINE:** Usually by noon 3rd Monday of each month except December (2nd Monday).

AFL-CIO

From Page 1

more dues money put into organizing to expand union membership and less money put into political pressure, to oversimplify the issue. The loss of John Kerry added weight to such thinking as several unions joined Andy Stern and SEIU to form the Change to Win federation.

The long view suggests they were wrong, and it is reflected in a report in a newspaper often sympathetic to Stern, the Washington Post. Rather than leading labor out of the wilderness, the Post suggests bluntly, the opposite happened:

"Four years later, it is unclear what was gained from the formation of Change to Win. . . The unionized share of the private-sector workforce has kept falling, to 7.5%, down from one-third in the 1950s.

"The SEIU has grown, but some of its gains were the result of political deals with leaders like former Illinois governor Rod Blagojevich. Change to Win was helpful in electing Obama, but no more so than the AFL-CIO, which played a decisive role in key Rust Belt states."

It is not just all this, as the Post noted, that "has left leaders in both coalitions wondering

Trapshooting

After 20 weeks of shooting in the Milwaukee Area Labor Council league at Lakeview gun club, here are the season's final results, reflecting wins, losses and ties:

Class AA W-L-T

1. Pipers
Plumbers Local 75.....14-4-2
2. 6 volts to lightning
IBEW 494..... 11-6-3
3. Blind.....7-10-3
4. Wire & Fire
CWA 4603.....3-15-2

Class A

1. Wirenuts
IBEW 494.....19-1-0
2. Pipe Dopes
Plumbers Local 75.....14-6-0
3. Team #2
CWA 4603.....5-15-0
4. Sparkeys
IBEW 494.....2-18-0

LEAGUE HIGH GUNS

John Kling	485
Ron Wahl	474
Scott Kruck	470

Submitted by
Ron Wahl, League Secretary



LEFT: Labor Day turned into just the tip of a 10-day marathon for Sheila Cochran, secretary treasurer. Early at Zeidler Park, she not only greeted such appropriately dressed public officials as Rep. Josh Zepnick (left) and Milwaukee County Supervisor Willie Johnson. She also sent stray union members to the right spots, kept the parade marshals hopping, charged off to the grounds in a classic pickup truck at the head of the parade, ran the event – and then headed off to Pittsburgh, where delegates sent her to represent the Milwaukee labor council

about the wisdom of the division and looking to patch things up before the moment slips away."

Underlying that new thinking has been Stern's controversial entry into the UNITE HERE money dispute, his raiding and leadership issues in California and the tricky decision to support Wal-Mart's newly found conscience on health care while side-stepping the company's refusal to unionize.

So no wonder the Pittsburgh gathering was abuzz with the departure from Change to Win of the carpenters union and the overtures being made to re-affiliate with the AFL-CIO. It is an open secret that there are similar leanings back to the AFL-CIO among the Teamsters and the Laborers.

Underscoring that move Wednesday: Trumka welcomed the troubled UNITE HERE back into the fold and announced the executive council had given the union's president, John Wilhelm, a seat on the AFL-CIO board. This union still represents 250,000 workers in the hospitality, gaming, food service, manufacturing, textile, laundry and airport industries, though all its original Wisconsin locals have left to be part of the new Workers United.

For Milwaukee, the issue is more modest than the concerns nationally because "we all get along," as one leader of the AFL-CIO Milwaukee Building & Construction Trades Council put it.

Change to Win unions -- SEIU, Laborers, UFCW, Workers United -- have been active and full members of the Milwaukee Area Labor Council through Solidarity Charters. And other

unions, such as the carpenters and even independents such as the NEA teachers and the UE, have been supporters of MALC's issues and protests -- and vice versa.

Still, it's not just the guy in the White House who would find life a lot easier, as Obama has often suggested, to deal with one united labor federation rather than many on key issues. Such unity would add strength, clout -- and size -- for Milwaukee's labor council as well.

Today, the AFL-CIO approach -- political and legislative victory first and then we can really organize -- looks like the winner. The quiet national question: How will organized labor's dissident rivals agree to make unity happen?

-- Dominique Paul Noth

State helps approval of Iraqi labor resolution

A major event at the AFL-CIO convention Sept. 17 was approval of Resolution 16. It called on both the Iraqi and US governments to end their silence on rights for unions and workers in that country by finally passing promised modern labor laws and rejecting the holdover denials of public service unions imposed in 1987 by the Saddam Hussein regime.

The resolution confirms the "fundamental building blocks of a democratic society" as the right of workers to join "unions of their choice free of government interference, domination, harassment or repression."

Singled out by USLAW for special thanks in passing the resolutions were David Newby, president of the Wisconsin AFL-CIO, and Jos William, president of the Metropolitan Washington D.C. Labor Council, both of whom served on the committee pushing the resolution.

Leaders of five of Iraq's labor federations attended the convention to witness this success and were then honored with a luncheon hosted by the United Steel Workers. Several had previously participated in speaking tours of the United States sponsored by USLAW.



State AFL-CIO's David Newby

If You Have Been Thinking About Joining A Fitness Center....

NOW IS THE TIME!



On 10th and Layton is Offering The Best Value Of The Year!

1. 24 hour access for no additional fee to all 950+ SNAP in the world
2. No contracts-EVER
3. First month FREE when you sign up
4. An additional month FREE when you sign up for 6 months or an additional 2 months FREE for 12 month sign up
5. Individual TV's with 75 cable channels on all cardio equipment
6. Rates as low as \$28.95 monthly for a single person
7. Unlimited tanning for \$15.00 monthly
8. A FREE week with our partner SQUEEZE Studio Fitness which includes classes and a health assessment (valued at over \$800.00)

AND

If you are one of the first 25 to sign up you will also get a \$5.00 Starbucks Gift Card!

To redeem this most incredible offer you must bring this coupon in to Snap Fitness on 10th and Layton! Offer only good when signing up at Snap Fitness on 10th and Layton in Milwaukee. Offer expires October 15th. Please go to www.snapfitness.com/milwaukee for business hours or call 414-483-1300 to schedule a time that is convenient for you.

Where Labor Meets!

Office Space Available
Call for details
414-476-1577



OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

633 S. Hawley Road
Milwaukee, WI 53214

- Newly Renovated Suites.
- Secured Building.
- Meeting Rooms.
- Free Parking.

Voces' positive gala drive

Voces de la Frontera, the workers rights center that has actively supported labor legislation, marched in the Laborfest parade and helped with the puppet parade and pageant that day, is inviting the community to turn a major fund-raiser into a celebration, not just by buying a ticket but by sponsoring a low-income student or worker to attend the party.

And quite a party is planned: Called "Reaching for the American Dream," it will be held Thursday, October 22, at Potawatomi Woodland Dreams Ballroom (located above the casino) at 1721 W. Canal Street, Milwaukee.

Keynote speaker for the event will be Ana Avendaño, the associate general counsel and director of the Immigrant Worker Program at the national AFL-CIO. In that capacity, she advises national and local union leaders on immigration policy, provides legal and technical assistance on organizing and representational campaigns, and works closely with coalition partners such as Voces on the quest for comprehensive immi-

gration reform.

This fund-raiser for Voces includes a 5:30 p.m. reception and silent auction, 7 p.m. dinner and 8 p.m. awards program. Tickets are \$50 a person or \$500 for a table of 10.

The celebration builds on other events, such as a Sept. 17 celebration of the founding of the Constitution and a day for American citizens to express pride in their citizenship. On that day, Voces held a press conference highlighting reflections from newly naturalized US citizens, such as Vicente Esquevada, a prominent local Racine businessman, and those preparing for their citizenship exam.

The rights center also supported that day's National Day of Civic Engagement in Washington, D.C., when hundreds of people from throughout the country lobbied Congress to speak on behalf of undocumented persons who live in the shadows of citizenship with the threat of deportation and separation from their families.

Through such actions and the October gala, Voces is

responding with positive vibrations to a new round of hatred being generated against immigrant workers, those legally here, those who illegally entered and those simply caught in the bizarre system.

Much of the excessive new hatred came as a belated defense of South Carolina Rep. Joe Wilson and his fact-less as well as unprecedented rude interruption of President Obama's speech before a joint session of Congress.

Obama correctly stated that the health care reform bill carefully excluded illegal immigrants from benefiting, but in a desperate effort to justify Wilson's outburst, a number of groups sought to renew anger about immigrants (even though hospitals, physicians and health insurance companies confirmed that the real fraudulent behavior came from citizens).

Wilson's defenders now claim that simply because physicians must follow their oaths and treat the sick, as opposed to insisting that every victim of



Voces de la Frontera director Christine Neumann-Ortiz arrived at Zeidler Park on Labor Day to greet friends, plan campaigns, help with puppets and get ready to march in the parade.

emergency prove citizenship or go without treatment, that illegal workers still can get health care they don't pay for. Which strikes many Americans as basic humanity.

The atmosphere has renewed fringe behavior that seeks to flip the realities of the current economy and create a scapegoat for society's problems

and attitudes. Voces de la Frontera is calling on the community instead to celebrate the diversity that has long been America's real economic strength.

For tickets or more information on the event, contact 414-643-1620 or visit www.vdlf.org.

-- Dominique Paul Noth

PORT PUBLICATIONS
125 E. Main Street
Port Washington, WI 53074
262.284.3494 f262.284.0067

Design • Newsletters • Books • Catalogs • Annual Reports • Newspapers
Parts Manuals • Product Brochures • Directories • Inserts • Presentation Folders

Proud Printers of the Award-Winning AFL-CIO Milwaukee Labor Press

www.portpublicationsinc.com

MASTERS AT THE ART OF FINE OFFSET PRINTING

Workers Compensation

Lawyers Representing Injured Workers for over 50 years.

Michael H. Gillick - Dennis H. Wicht
Patrick J. Gillick - Charles J. Graf

**Claim denied? Job Lost? Back Injured?
Hearing Loss? Other Questions? FOR ANSWERS:**

Call 414-257-COMP (2667)

No fees unless we get you money.

JOBS

KONO PACKI
©2009 HUCK/KONOPACKI LABOR CARTOONS
WWW.SOLIDARITY.COM/HKCARTOONS - OCT

BS

ALL THAT WALL ST. HAS TO OFFER.

Plan Your Next Function at

The Pfister Hotel

424 E. Wisconsin Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53203
414-273-8222

- ❖ Weddings
- ❖ Conferences
- ❖ Meetings
- ❖ Parties
- ❖ Negotiations

EMPLOYEES ARE REPRESENTED BY:

WORKERS UNITED LOCAL 122

(414) 271-0290

LABORFEST 2009



Union members and youngsters were among the volunteers to don masks and perform in the parade and pageant. The assembled material strewn around Zeidler Union Square Park (below) caused a few startled gazes as locals gathered early Labor Day morning.



Milwaukee Public Theatre director Barbara Leigh (left) steered volunteers at a signup table while AFT Local 212 President Michael Rosen (right) passed out T-shirts and flyers protesting the mayor's plan to rule the public schools. See Page One commentary.



Teamsters began lining up trucks and riders down Michigan St. (above) while UFCW prepared a balloon float for kids to ride.



IT WAS LIKE A CHILDREN'S PARK BEFORE THE PARADE. The painters of Local 781 brought enough families to stock a suburb (above) while Operating Engineers Local 139 piled its families onto the boat that was going to be hauled along the parade route (below right).



All around the park, children were being prepared for the parade by donning hats or trying out carts and strollers.



Various unions gathered early along 4th St. south and north of the parade route. Here District 2 leader Ernie Dex (center) was greeting the steelworkers and their families.



A COLOR GUARD assembled from Iraqi and Afghan war veterans lead union trucks at the head of the parade – right after (below) a roaring collection of Harley Davidson motorcycles and (next) a remarkable collection of vintage American-made cars and trucks. BOTTOM: Right after that, AFSCME trucks saluted parade watchers by raising their shovels in tribute at they turned onto Chicago Avenue for the Laborfest party.



ABOVE: Among the notable performers and crafts experts riding in the front of the orchestra flatbed was (center) one of the community's most admired actors and a founder of the Milwaukee Chamber Theater, Ruth Schudson. Musicians, stagehands and Actors Equity combine to create this MASH entertainment unit.



FROM THE VERY TOP AFSCME District Council 48, the largest collection of locals in the Milwaukee labor council, prepares to run over the camera-man, while units of laborers gave the thumbs up as they passed and the nurses promoted (what else?) good health. ABOVE and RIGHT: The building trades council headed a mighty assortment of unions with its banner while Operating Engineers Local 139 and MALC President Willie D. Ellis guided a huge number of trucks carrying children, retirees and musicians along with its own workers.



RIGHT AND BELOW: The smiles of the young and retirees dominated the parade whether riding the route as in the carpenters unit or helping prepare the puppetry and the pageant.

BOTTOM: Even young marchers were being educated into the importance of the union label, though it is most effective when not promoted upside down.



TOP TO BOTTOM: The plumbers were on the march. Se were members of various SEIU locals, including 150. And another enthusiastic contingent was provided by the MTEA, Milwaukee's public school teachers, who were heading back to the classrooms.



In a parade full of slogans, some signs told the entire story. Laborfest photos in this issue by editor Dominique Paul Noth, AFT Local 212 photographer Sue Ruggles and such friends as retiree Ken Greening.

ABOVE: Included in a parade that was certainly the longest in memory and might have been the biggest in years were sizable numbers of participants from the United Food and Commercial Workers (top) and the United Steel Workers. How long? The front locals in the parade were already on the Summerfest grounds dancing to live music before the building and construction trades had started off from Zeidler Park.



LABORFEST 2009



HELPFUL FLIPS: They stopped practicing their slams Sunday afternoon before Labor Day to help unload three trailers full of puppet parts for the theater groups. And then (right) the professional wrestlers, several members of Milwaukee unions, put on quite a show of thuds and throws Monday afternoon. **BELOW:** Bingo was again a popular feature, and car owners (next photo) noted a livelier interest than usual in the vintage American-made cars parked in rows along the northern walkways of Maier Festival Park.



ENORMOUS CREATURES with civic messages attracted a crowd to Miller Stage at Laborfest. Guiding his pageant troops (elephants?) at far right was puppet creator Max Samson. The other photos reflect the range of citizens, students and unions preparing for and performing in the event.



LEFT: Sheila Cochran applauded the final Spider George band set. The first set of dance music at the Miller Stage was (bottom left) by Nightlife.



TOP: The water fountain greeted the marchers coming through the gate, but the children didn't wait, splashing into the waiting water for hours after their arrival at Laborfest **LEFT:** Stiltwalker Debra Davis, a veteran presence at Laborfest, this time adopted her Rosie the Riveter persona. She not only stiltwalked the parade route, bridging the space between union units and the closing parade of puppets, she then tirelessly conducted impromptu performances on the grounds, here unspooling ribbons in a spontaneous tribute to the concluding pageant.

All sizes won

The annual wish to win a Harley Davidson motorcycle -- and this one a 2009 Dyna FSDX -- had chances selling like hotcakes (or more accurately like raffle tickets, which is what they were), from the Wisconsin State Fair onward.

Curiously, the winning ticket was not sold until the day of the drawing, Labor Day, and it was bought by a union member, Nick Matthes of IBEW Local 494.

Matthes has now already arranged to get his bike, but he was not at the Miller Stage for the drawing. Neither, typically, were the winners of the sizable cash prizes. The winners were Mark Crogan (the \$500 prize winner) and \$100 winners Janet Jante, Jean Kiepert, Tom Saylor, Bob Juarez, Al Angle, Rae Morley, Dave Serseh and Brian Peyer.

For the free raffles, prizes for names drawn from boxes on the grounds, the rules are different. Winners have to be there to collect when their names are announced. The adult prizes -- a range of restaurant and hotel vouchers contributed by businesses cooperating with Workers United Local 122 -- created some confusion with names drawn for people not there and uncertainty about IDs presented. At press time there was no official list.

But there was for the children's prizes, given out an hour earlier at the children's stage by the area's organizer, Doreen Reske, with help from one of the professional clowns who had just finished entertaining at the event, Pocket Lady Kathleen Mohr. Many of the winners were children of union families or guests of union members.

Boys and girls ages 2 to 16 won these prizes, and the super-affle, when all the boxes were



combined into one to win a baseball autographed by Bob Uecker. That was won by Marquise Pele (guest of Bryant Johnson of OPEIU Local 9). Many of the children wore faces professionally painted by artists in the children's area.

The provided list of other winners and prizes:

Isaiah Corera (guest of Nadia Rivera, OPEIU Local 9), Zaniah Armstead (Daniale Armstead, CWA Local 4603), Alex Meyer (guest of Amy O'Neal of Briggs & Stratton), Nevaeh Silverman, Sam Seegart (guest of Teamsters Local 200),

Ivory Taylor (guest of Karen Swift), Jeremy Clover (Keith Clover of Carpenters), and Nicole Scaffidi (John James, Teamsters Local 200).



FAR LEFT ROW: The Harley bike model was visible up-close in a Laborfest union tent, but winner Nick Matthes (top far left) wasn't around to hear his name called. **BELOW:** Organizer Doreen Reske (right) held the raffle pail at the children's stage while Pocket Lady Kathleen Mohr makes the picks and was swarmed (circle of photos) by winners, many face-painted.



<p>Wisconsin Vision</p> <h2>FREE Lenses</h2> <p>FREE single vision standard lenses with the purchase of any frame with a minimum retail value of \$129. Discount can be applied to the upgrade of multi-focal lenses.</p> <p><small>Offer Not Valid With Other Offers or Discounts. Some Restrictions May Apply. Offer Expires 12/31/09.</small></p>	<p>Wisconsin Vision</p> <h2>\$99 Disposable Contact Lens Package</h2> <p>Price includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Comprehensive Eye Exam 2. Three Month Supply (6 pr.) of Select Soft, Spherical Disposable Contacts 3. Instruction Class 4. Starter Kit of Solutions 5. Follow-up Care with the Doctors <p>or \$35 off Complete Contact Lens Package Exam, Fitting & Lenses</p> <p><small>Offer Not Valid With Other Offers or Discounts. Some Restrictions May Apply. Offer Expires 12/31/09.</small></p>	<p>Wisconsin Vision</p> <h2>\$37 Comprehensive Eye Exam</h2> <p><small>includes dilation</small></p> <p>Performed By A Licensed Doctor of Optometry.</p> <p>Call Today to Schedule Your Appointment.</p> <p><small>Offer Not Valid With Other Offers or Discounts. Excludes Contact Lens Examination. Some Restrictions May Apply. Offer Expires 12/31/09.</small></p>
---	---	---

HAWKS QUINDEL, S.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Proudly Representing Labor Unions and Members for Over 30 Years.

Labor and Employment Law
Workers Compensation
Family Law - Divorce, Custody, Support
Social Security Disability Law

414-271-8650
or
800-236-3348

Time For A Change?...

We've Got Your Style

It's never too early to start utilizing your **Flex Plans**

WISCONSIN VISION

"Eye Care Done Right"

MILWAUKEE 1920 W. Layton Ave. 414-325-8600 • MILWAUKEE 7528 W. Burleigh St. 414-873-9090
ELM GROVE 12876 W. Bluemound Rd. 262-432-0052 • FRANKLIN 8225 S. 27th St. 414-761-2269
GRAFTON 1260 N. Port Washington Rd. 262-546-0234 • GREENFIELD 4818 S. 76th St., Suite 1 414-431-0385
KENOSHA 5725 75th St. 262-694-5553 • MENOMONEE FALLS N85 W16033 Appleton Ave. 262-251-1900
RACINE 3905 Douglas Ave. 262-639-5360 • RACINE 6035 Durand Ave. 262-554-8600
WAUKESHA 203 A East Sunset 262-524-1130 • WAUKESHA 1921 Silvernail Rd., Suite D 262-436-0884
WEST ALLIS 1401 S. 108th St. 414-476-0200

www.wisconsinvision.com

Workers the victim of stimulus politics

Some \$3.1 billion in unemployment benefits included in the federal economic recovery are not being spent, robbing some 350,000 out-of-work Americans of benefits because of states that have either refused, failed to revamp or are moving too slowly to change state rules covering jobless benefits.

In 11 of the states - reflecting more than half that stimulus money, some \$1.7 billion -- Republican governors or legislatures have refused to modify the rules governing unemployment insurance to qualify.

In some, "politics is in play," noted Maurice Emsellem of the National Employment Law Project (NELP). Governors such as Rick Perry of Texas and former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin refused to accept the funds.

The other 12 states are looking at the required changes, but have either not applied for the funds or have not taken legislative votes on the necessary changes. Under the rules, these states have until 2011 to change the laws, though the reality is that many states need the money now and the workers really need it now.

Other states that had to change their system have moved faster. In late August, the US Labor Department agreed to release \$89.2 million in unemployment insurance funds to Wisconsin after the state updated its UI program to reflect the 21st century workforce.

Noted Hilda Solis, the labor secretary, Wisconsin's legal updates "not only help workers, but will contribute to the state's overall economic recovery." The changes, she added, "make it easier for workers who become unemployed for compelling family reasons and workers who are upgrading their skills to be eligible for benefits."

Emsellem points out that the facts dispute those Republican governors who claim that changing the laws would lead to tax increases down the road.

Not really true, he said. The economic crisis has severely stretched state unemployment trust funds, and several states have laws that require tax hikes when the trust funds run low. So these stimulus funds would go into the state coffers immediately, preventing mandated tax increases.

The federal funds could pay for about seven years of expanded benefits, he says. His analysis decries the attempted demonization: This increase in benefits is not going to be the straw that breaks the camel's back to determine whether taxes are going up.

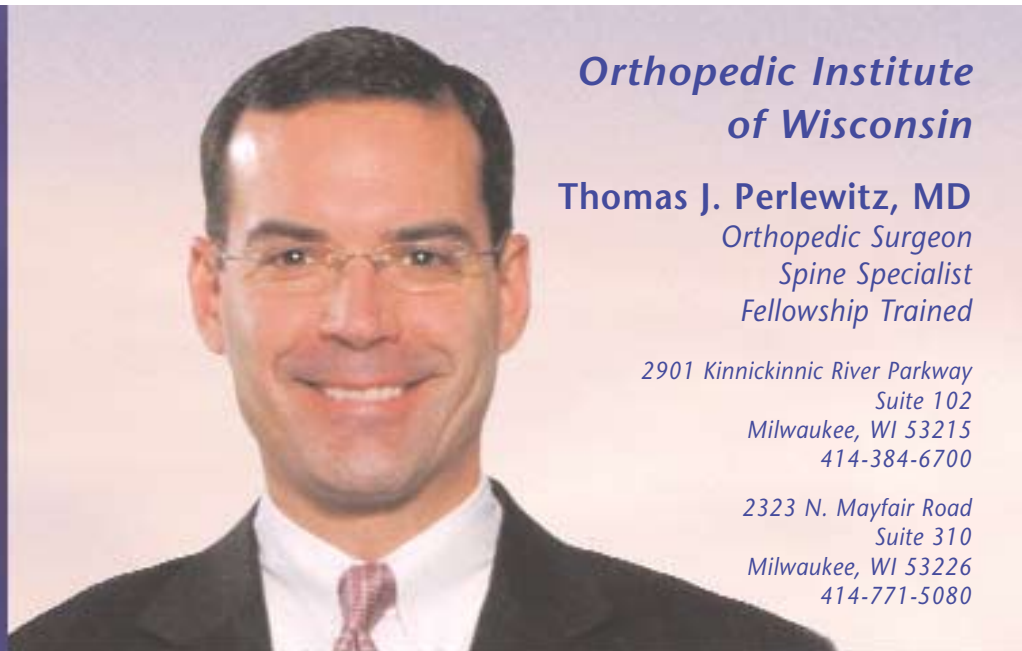
Emsellem adds that once state lawmakers and employers look carefully at the program, they realize that everyone would benefit from the changes. He credits AFL-CIO state federations for playing a key role in building coalitions to push through the changes in several states.

States can get one-third of the money by relaxing their rules on the length of employment needed to qualify for jobless benefits. They can get the rest by providing just two of four kinds of unemployment benefits: extra money for the workers' dependents, for part-time workers, for those in training programs or for those who quit because of "compelling family circumstances" -- such as fleeing domestic violence or caring for a sick relative.

The five states with the largest number of jobless workers eligible for the expanded unemployment insurance are Texas, Florida, Pennsylvania, Missouri and Indiana. There are more than 169,000 people in those states alone who are missing out on nearly \$1.6 billion in benefits.



KIDS, PARADE AND UNITED WAY - Were the children riding under the UFCW sign among the 4,500 fed by MALC and United Way at its food pantry after the devastating fire at the plant? Some in the parade were. The story of that effort was shared by Bucyrus International CEO Tim Sullivan, one the speakers at the Labor Kick-Off Rally. **See story facing page.** The event drew both the labor community and business leaders. Below, Tony Rainey, the UAW member who heads the community service committee and Journal Sentinel's president and publisher, Betsy Brenner, chatted with the head of Milwaukee's United Way (back to camera), Sue Dragisic.



Orthopedic Institute of Wisconsin

Thomas J. Perlewitz, MD
Orthopedic Surgeon
Spine Specialist
Fellowship Trained

2901 Kinnickinnic River Parkway
Suite 102
Milwaukee, WI 53215
414-384-6700

2323 N. Mayfair Road
Suite 310
Milwaukee, WI 53226
414-771-5080

"I offer comprehensive evaluation, diagnosis and treatment of all spinal conditions by utilizing state-of-the-art techniques, procedures and instrumentation. My ultimate goal is improved quality of life for the patient through both operative and non-operative measures."

Specialty Procedures and Professional Achievements

- ◆ Fellowship trained in spinal surgery at Harvard with emphasis on treatment of conditions of the cervical, thoracic and lumbar spine
- ◆ Compassionate care focused on the whole individual
- ◆ Selected as Chief Resident in Department of Orthopedic Surgery at the Medical College of Wisconsin
- ◆ Alpha Omega Alpha medical honor society

Medical Education

Medical College of Wisconsin
Milwaukee, WI

Residency

Medical College of Wisconsin
Milwaukee, WI

Fellowship – Orthopedic Spine Surgery

Harvard Medical School
Boston, MA

Board Certified

American Board of
Orthopedic Surgery

For more information or scheduling, please call 414-384-6700.

www.TheOrthoInstitute.com

Your One-Stop Union Printer

Wells Print & Digital Service is constantly updating to give our customers the latest in technology for quality and convenience. We strive to give our customers the best **ONE-STOP** union print shop in Madison. Technology, union craftsmanship and pride in what we do has made us a leader in the printing field. **Wells Print & Digital Service** has been carrying on the union tradition in Madison since 1923 and proud of it.

So for all your printing and mailing needs **Wells Print & Digital Service** would like to be your **ONE-STOP Union Printer.**

WELLS
PRINT AND DIGITAL
SERVICES

3121 Watford Way
Madison, WI 53713
608-274-7474
www.printanddigital.com

Labor hailed as crucial to the United Way

It's really your campaign. The speakers reminded unions of that September 17 during the Labor Kick-off Rally for the United Way. And they had both facts and anecdotes to prove it.

Betsy Brenner, president and publisher of Journal Sentinel and this year a co-chair of the community campaign, reminded the crowded room that, while high rollers were always welcome, more than half the donations were under \$100. So again and again over a century, it has been the citizens with the least who give the most. In 2009, putting its goal where its belief in the community is and where it knows the need is, United Way is seeking \$45 million, some \$700,000 more than last year.

Brenner emphasized that belief with a story about Cargill Meats, where the workers this year met an amazing 99% of their goal even though the campaign came a week after the company had frozen wages because of the economic turnaround.

Tim Sullivan, CEO of Bucyrus International and a longtime United Way leader serving this year as board chair, recounted how amazed the leaders of the Patrick Cudahy plant were in the aftermath of that devastating fire. They almost didn't believe that United Way was not just a place with its hand out, but "a place that gives as well as receives."

One example was that the Milwaukee Area Labor Council and United Way agencies such as the AFL-CIO Community Services created a food pantry that fed 9,000 Cudahy family members, half that number children.

"The people in this community are extraordinarily generous," Sullivan said, but he offered the union leaders the most important component in getting donations. "Just remember, the key to success is that you have to ask."

Other speakers with examples and passion included Stephanie Bloomingdale, director

of public policy of the Wisconsin Federation of Nurses and Health Professionals (AFT), and Labor Participation Co-Chairs Anthony Rainey, president of (Master Lock) UAW Local 469, and Scott Redman, business representative for Plumbers Local 75.

But the crowd saved its highest emotion for the joy and sadness reflected in a brief speech by the winner of the Labor/United Way community service award.

Scott Van Derven has served in various offices over the years for Pioneer Branch 2, National Association of Letter Carriers, and also as top safety representative and coordinator of the combined federal campaign.

But he is probably best known in the community over six years as organizer, newsletter columnist, media spokesman and tireless go-to guy for the annual "Stamp Out Hunger" NALC food drive. Nationally this year the NALC collected 70 million pounds of food and in Milwaukee the door-by-door collection by letter carriers in the spring carries the Hunger Task Force deep into the summer.

Van Derven was ecstatic in thanking his union and his wife, Mary, for putting up with his enthusiasm for charitable work and promoting him to win the Werner J. Schaefer Award (a labor member's highest honor; it is named after a legendary labor and United Way leader).

But he suggested quietly that maybe it took actually going out into the neighborhoods every day, as he and his fellow letter carriers do, to understand the depth of the pain and the need.


"We've seen these people daily through hurt and tragedy," he said. "We've delivered, I'm sad to say, more foreclosures this year than in the 26 years I've been on the job. Maybe that's why we feel we have to help."

The sponsors also thanked WRTP/Big Step for donating its training facility, the Center of Excellence, 3841 W. Wisconsin

Ave., for this festive launch, specially catered and decorated. Guests also received the MALC anniversary logo shopping bags and souvenir booklet. The event was organized and promoted by AFL-CIO field mobilizers Annie Wacker (also Vice-President of the MALC), Jay Reinke and Mike Balistriere.




Catered snacks drew a constant crowd at the Center of Excellence Labor Kick-Off Rally.



Northwest Funeral Chapel, Inc.
O'Bee, Ford & Frazier
 6630 W. HAMPTON AVE. • MILWAUKEE, WI 53218 • 414/462-6020


*Serving the Families of Union Members
 From one Generation to the Next*

In Loving Memory



Ernestine O'Bee
 Founder
 Former Funeral Director
 1907-2007

Offering pre-need, at-need and after-care services to families in Milwaukee, Racine, Kenosha and other communities throughout Wisconsin



J.C. Frazier
 Funeral Director

"We are Setting New Standards for Funeral Services in our Community"

Let us remember in our prayers the families of:

Mrs. Elvira Broaden, Milwaukee County
Mr. Robert Hayes, Milwaukee County
Mr. Garry Ingram, City of Milwaukee
Mr. Rod Jackson, A.O. Smith
Mr. Ronald McNealy Sr., A.O. Smith
Mr. Algene Moreland, A.O. Smith
Mrs. Luebirtha Talley, University of Milwaukee
Mr. J.T. Walton, Milwaukee County Transit System

Rollovers Made Easy
 401(k), 457, 403(b)



Robert S. Johnston
 Financial Adviser, Financial Services Representative, MetDESK® Specialist (MetLife's Division of Estate Planning for Special Kids)
 9000 W. Chester Street, Suite 105
 Milwaukee, WI 53214
www.nextlevelpwm.com



(An office of MetLife.)



Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (MLIC), New York, NY 10166. Securities and investment advisory services offered by MetLife Securities, Inc. (MSI) (member FINRA/SIPC). MLIC and MSI are MetLife companies. L0609041881[exp0710][WI]

Inside the Tenth silliness

American Progress has taken apart the latest sideshow surrounding the health debate and, in fact, a lot of other long-established operations by the government -- from Social Security to interstate highways to Internet protocols -- not specifically addressed in the US Constitution.

This is the largely laughable Tenth Agenda, in which a constitutional amendment dismissed over the decades by even conservative Supreme Court decisions is being offered as a control, rather than as the intended statement of the obvious, by those who don't like any government involvement in society decisions.

In a nutshell, as American Progress historians and researchers point out, tenthers think that President Franklin Delano Roosevelt led an illegal coup against the US Constitution. In that view, FDR wasn't trying to get the country out of a financial mess. All they see is expanded federal power.

Killing health reform is only the beginning of this tenth agenda. Under the tenth constitution, Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, federal education funding, the Veterans Affairs health system and the GI Bill are all illegal. The minimum wage, the requirement that employers pay overtime wages, and the ban on child labor are all beyond Congress' power to enact because they are not named as

federal powers in the Constitution, and the federal ban on whites-only lunch counters is an unlawful encroachment on local business.

Indeed, nearly every single law that Americans cherish -- from protecting workers' right to organize to forbidding race and gender discrimination -- could be eliminated overnight if such contortions ever became law. One prominent tenth, a Texas official charged with rewriting that state's public school textbooks, even includes the federal highway system.

Tenthers derive their narrow vision from a strained reading of the Tenth Amendment, stretching the language about federal powers to say that anything not itemized in the Constitution is beyond Congress' authority and should be decided by the states. Even stuff invented after the 18th century!

However, the tenth constitution bears little resemblance to the words of the document itself.

Contrary to tenth claims that federal spending programs like Medicare or Social Security are unconstitutional, Article I of the Constitution empowers Congress to "lay and collect taxes" and to "provide for...the general welfare of the United States," which unambiguously authorizes it to spend money in ways that benefit the nation. Similarly, Congress' broad authority to enact regulatory

schemes that "substantially affect interstate commerce" easily encompasses laws like the federal minimum wage and the requirement that businesses do not discriminate. As Roosevelt chided tenth-like conservatives from his era, "The Constitution of 1787 did not make our democracy impotent."

Sadly, as the American Progress research outlines, tenthism's assault on democracy is nothing new; indeed, retreat to outlandish constitutional theories is a favorite tactic of the right during times of historic upheaval. Tenth "state sovereignty resolutions" are little more than new names for the resolutions enacted by Southern States in the immediate wake of Brown v. Board of Education.

Tenth claims that health reform is unconstitutional -- because the Constitution does not specifically use the words "health care" -- echo the infamous Southern Manifesto's argument that Brown was wrong because the "Constitution does not mention education." Indeed, conservative "tenthers" even justified the greatest act of treason in American history, the Civil War, by claiming that each state can leave the union at will.

Now that America is slowly emerging from its most recent crisis, tenthers once again hope to exploit the nation's fears to fuel a radical constitutional agenda.



Annie Wacker was sworn in as new commissioner of the Social Development Commission (SDC) Sept. 10 by Milwaukee County Clerk Joseph Czarnecki. She is also the vice-president of the Milwaukee Area Labor Council.

A Bush 'secret rule' dies

It's no secret now. The Bush administration's clandestine move to loosen the rules on how much toxin or dangerous chemicals to which workers can be exposed -- and to make it more difficult to issue new worker protection rules -- is now officially dead.

The US Department of Labor announced the first week of September that the proposed rule was unnecessary and withdrew it. The rule came to be known as the "secret rule" because of the Bush administration's attempt to keep it off the media's radar screen last year.

In January, as one of its first official acts, the Obama administration ordered work halted on the chemical exposure rule and other last-minute regulatory changes the Bush administration tried to ram through before leaving office.

The secret rule could have led to increased exposure of workers to dangerous chemicals and toxins by changing the way worker exposure is measured. The rule was pushed by Bush political appointees over the objections of career health and safety professionals and kept secret until media reports in July 2008 revealed the plan.

When the rule became public knowledge, it unleashed a firestorm of criticism from workplace safety advocates who pointed out that for the eight years the Bush administration had been in office, it had not developed any significant new worker safety rules -- but with the clock running out, the administration was rushing to weaken protections.

Last September, Dr. Celeste Monforton, from the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health at George Washington University, told the House Workforce Protections Subcommittee that our nation's system for protecting workers from harmful substances that cause injuries, illnesses and deaths was paralyzed.

It struck other testifying experts as "shameful" that after refusing to take action to protect workers, the Bush administration spent its last months "and taxpayer money to lock in place rules that would prevent the next administration from taking prompt action."



Habush Habush & Rottier s.c.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

When Accidents or Injuries Happen to Someone You Love Our Family of Lawyers Will Protect Your Family.



WHY CHOOSE ANYONE ELSE? ®

Injuries From Accidents Contingent Fee Available

Automobile & Truck Accidents | Motorcycle Accidents | Product Defects | Fires & Explosions
Farm Accidents Boat & Air Accidents | Medical Malpractice | Workplace Injury
Construction Accidents | Machinery Accidents | Nursing Home Negligence & Elder Care Abuse
Our Reputation, Experience & Honesty Result In Most Of Our Cases Settling Without a Lawsuit or Trial

Helping Injured People For Over 75 Years | Wisconsin's Largest Personal Injury Law Firm
Free Consultation | No Fees or Costs Unless We Are Successful | 100's of Millions in Settlements and Verdicts Collected For Our Clients | More Lawyers Named in the Best Lawyers in America Publication Than Any Other Personal Injury Law Firm in Wisconsin

1-800-2-HABUSH

1-800-242-2874

Milwaukee Office - US Bank Center

1-800-242-7205

777 E. Wisconsin Ave. Suite 2300 | Milwaukee, WI 53202



Waukesha 1-800-559-5599	Appleton 1-800-472-9334	Sheboygan 1-866-888-3620
Racine 1-800-682-3434	Green Bay 1-800-757-8644	Stevens Point 1-800-248-0171
Kenosha 1-800-388-8222	Lake Geneva 1-800-275-1729	Rhineland 1-800-369-5990
Madison 1-800-822-1690	West Bend 1-800-242-7205	Wausau 1-800-248-0171

Visit us on the web at www.habush.com

AFGE 0003
VETERANS
WANTED:



Zablocki Medical Center

5000 West National Avenue Milwaukee, WI

Medical Care In:

Primary / Secondary / Tertiary

Outpatient Programs:

Substance Abuse Rehabilitation
Psychiatric Rehabilitation
Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

Special Programs:

Interventional Radiology
Cardiac Surgery
Comprehensive Cancer Care
Spinal Cord Injury Unit

1-888-469-6614

Future

From Page 1

state Senate candidate Leah Vukmir to lobby for that effort in Madison.

• **Private companies** will develop coffee shops open to the public to replace 14 high school cafeterias around the city and Walker will let students 12 and up work in these facilities in exchange for education credits that can be used as part of graduation requirements. At a salary of \$200,000 a year, he put recently defeated legislator Jeff Stone in charge of this privatization initiative.

"We have to put schools on a responsible management footing and prepare students through practical experience with the hardships awaiting them in the real world," said the mayor. "Milwaukee needs an image as a cheap place to work."

He also spoke candidly about the political turn-arounds that helped him win office and confound even conservative pundits.

The seeds were planted in 2010 when Walker sought the Republican primary endorsement in the race for governor. He ran under the slogan:

BIRTHERS AND BIRCHERS UNITE IN MY ANTI-ANY-TAX CAMPAIGN!

That didn't gain the necessary traction in northern Wisconsin, leading the candidate to fire the high-priced PR firms recommended by Michael Steele and Sarah Palin.

"I thought rather naively that what I had done to Milwaukee would have an appeal in the rest of the state," Walker later admitted, "but what I learned was that whatever you did to Milwaukee didn't amount to a hill of beans in getting votes from the outside."

So he lost to Mark (What

Me Worry?) Neumann, who then also lost. "I think we underestimated the popularity of Obama's health care reform," admitted Joe Wilson, the newly emigrated South Carolinian who became the chairman of the Wisconsin Republican Party, in explaining the remarkable 2010 Democratic sweep of federal and statewide offices.

The ever resourceful GOP rebounded, however, in the final months of the outgoing Democratic governor's tenure. Jim Doyle had announced in 2009 that he would not seek re-election but, despite opposition from many Milwaukee Democrats, he atypically kept a campaign pledge - this one to Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett.

He introduced legislation to change the state laws and state Constitution to allow a direct mayoral takeover of MPS, eliminating the voters' historic direct elections of the public school board.

GOP members of the Senate and Assembly surprisingly reversed ideology and switched sides to give Doyle enough votes. They were bolstered by a supportive legal opinion from the outgoing GOP attorney general, Van Hollen.

Even more important was the strong indications from the now conservative-dominated Wisconsin Supreme Court, whose Annette Ziegler and Michael Gableman were largely elected by big money from Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce and race-tinged ads from rightwing groups.

Through back channels, the court indicated to the GOP that a majority would allow property tax relief as a mayoral prerogative in Milwaukee, so that not just improved classroom performance would be used to measure government "Race to the Top" stimulus funding for public schools.

Another stunning development came from Barrett, who had clearly lost progressive backing in the city but was still expected fight for his job. Unexpectedly he accepted an offer from the Obama administration and took a federal judgeship in Oregon.

Walker then resigned as county executive, moved from Wauwatosa to Milwaukee and reversed his opposition to federal stimulus money by pledging to use his new school powers to "virtually eliminate property taxes for city homeowners."

His only notable opposition was the acting mayor and former head of the Common Council, Willie Hines, who had also supported mayoral takeover of the schools. Easily defeated in the April 2012 election, Hines muttered something about "chickens coming home to roost" and "unintended consequences of political maneuvering."

Now facing a gathering storm of organized opponents, Walker dismisses calls that he should work with all sides of the school issue - parents, students, teachers and professional educators as well as the business community. "That's like trying to put lipstick on a pig," he said. "The electorate decided they want mayoral dictatorship, not leadership."

"The truth is, the public doesn't want any debate among rival ideas on the school board.



Union members were among hundreds sending Congress back to pass health care reform at a major rally run by union groups and Organizing for America on August 29 in the parking lot outside Summerfest. Among the speakers were Lt. Gov. Barbara Lawton and Rep. Gwen Moore. **See story at www.milwaukeeelabor.org.**

That's why there was such low voter turnout in school board races. The public wants action, less spending and to heck with what works."

"That's why I won," Walker assured the editorial board. "The mayor has all these issues that are at the front of public concern -- property taxes, clean drinking water, fighting all that inner city crime and lawlessness, garbage pickup, holding wages down so business can thrive, clearing

snow off the streets, lighting the holiday tree and keeping Summerfest inexpensive."

"Somewhere on that list will always be a proportionate concern for public education. Let's just keep it in perspective."

Asked if he saw any irony in a Marquette University dropout now being in charge of Milwaukee public schools, Walker grinned: "Life's a funny old dog, isn't it?"

U.M.A.
Specialties

WORKWEAR ON WHEELS
BRINGING WORKWEAR TO YOU



WORKWEAR ON WHEELS

21100 Capitol Drive
Pewaukee, Wisconsin 53072
Phone (262) 373-0777 • Fax (262) 373-0778



BRINGING WORKWEAR TO YOU

Workwear on wheels can bring the store to you! Our workmobile is a traveling store. The trailer is designed to bring workwear to you. We Deliver What You Need for Your Job.

If your industry demands special safety workwear; Workwear on wheels delivers. The Workwear on Wheels Safety team is ready to work with you and your company to set up worker protection programs of all types. We can work within your guidelines or help you set up a program specifically for your company. For more information call: **262-373-0777**



Regular Sizes \$140.00
Your Price: \$112.00



600-denier, heavyweight 100% polyester shell
ANSI Class E, Level 2 compliant
3M® Scotchlite® reflective material

carhartt

Field-Tested
ANSI Class 3, Level 2 compliant
Thermal-lined
Regular Sizes \$85.00
Your Price: \$68.00
Big & Tall Sizes \$94.00
Your Price: 75.20

6-ounce, lightweight, 100% polyester
ANSI Class 2, Level 2 compliant
Moisture management
and anti-odor properties
Regular Sizes \$39.00
Your Price: \$31.20
Big & Tall Sizes \$44.00
Your Price: \$35.20

Field-Tested
300 denier, 100% polyester
ANSI Class 2, Level 2 compliant
3M® Scotchlite® reflective taping
Regular Sizes \$40.00
Your Price: \$32.00
Big & Tall Sizes \$44.00
Your Price: \$35.20

Polyester/spandex blend
Pull-down face mask
One size fits all
Regular Sizes \$16.00
Your Price: \$12.80

Lined Duck Bib Overall
UR02 \$98.50
\$70 After 20% off
Union Made in USA

Men's FR HRC 2 Zip-Front
Hooded Sweatshirt
FR02001Y
Your Price: Regular \$65.00
Big & Tall \$85.00

Women's Short Sleeve Ringer
WK019 MDT
Logo T-Shirt
Your Price: \$20.99

Men's Short Sleeve Logo T-Shirt
K195PCB
Your Price: \$16.99

Men's High Visibility Class 3
Waterproof Breathable Jacket
Your Price: \$120.00

Duck Detroit Jacket
UJ01 \$73
\$58 After 20% off
Union Made in USA

Quilted Flannel Active Jac
UJ140 \$93
\$74 After 20% off
Union Made in USA

Duck Traditional Coat
UC03 \$113
\$90 After 20% off
Union Made in USA

THE ORTHOPEDIC INSTITUTE OF WISCONSIN

General Orthopedics/Joint Replacement
Joint Reconstruction/Arthroscopic Surgery
Spinal Surgery/Fractures
Sports Medicine/Work Related Injuries

Jeffrey Butler, MD
James Stone, MD
Daniel Guehlstorf, MD
Steven Trinkl, MD

William Pennington, MD
Jamie Edwards, MD
Thomas Perlewitz, MD
Eric Pifel, MD

Joshua Neubauer, MD

Immediate Appointments Available

Mention this ad.

Suite 102 2901 W. KK River Pkwy. Milwaukee, WI 53215 414-384-6700
Suite 310 2323 N. Mayfair Rd. Milwaukee, WI 53226 414-771-5080
Suite 200 3111 W. Rawson Ave. Franklin, WI 53132 414-325-4320

www.TheOrthoInstitute.com

2810230



SAFETY-LIME T-SHIRTS WITH RETROREFLECTIVE MATERIAL COMPLIANCE (ANSI/ISEA-107-2204)

UNION MADE PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS

Look for the Union Label!

S, M, & L = \$18.90
XLARGE = \$19.90
2XLARGE = \$20.90
3XLARGE = \$21.90
4XLARGE = \$22.90

We Guarantee The Union Label

- Union Embroidery
- Union Screen Printing
- Union Artwork
- Union Promotional Merchandise
- Union Safety Wear
- Union Apparel
- Union Carhartt
- Union Flame Resistant

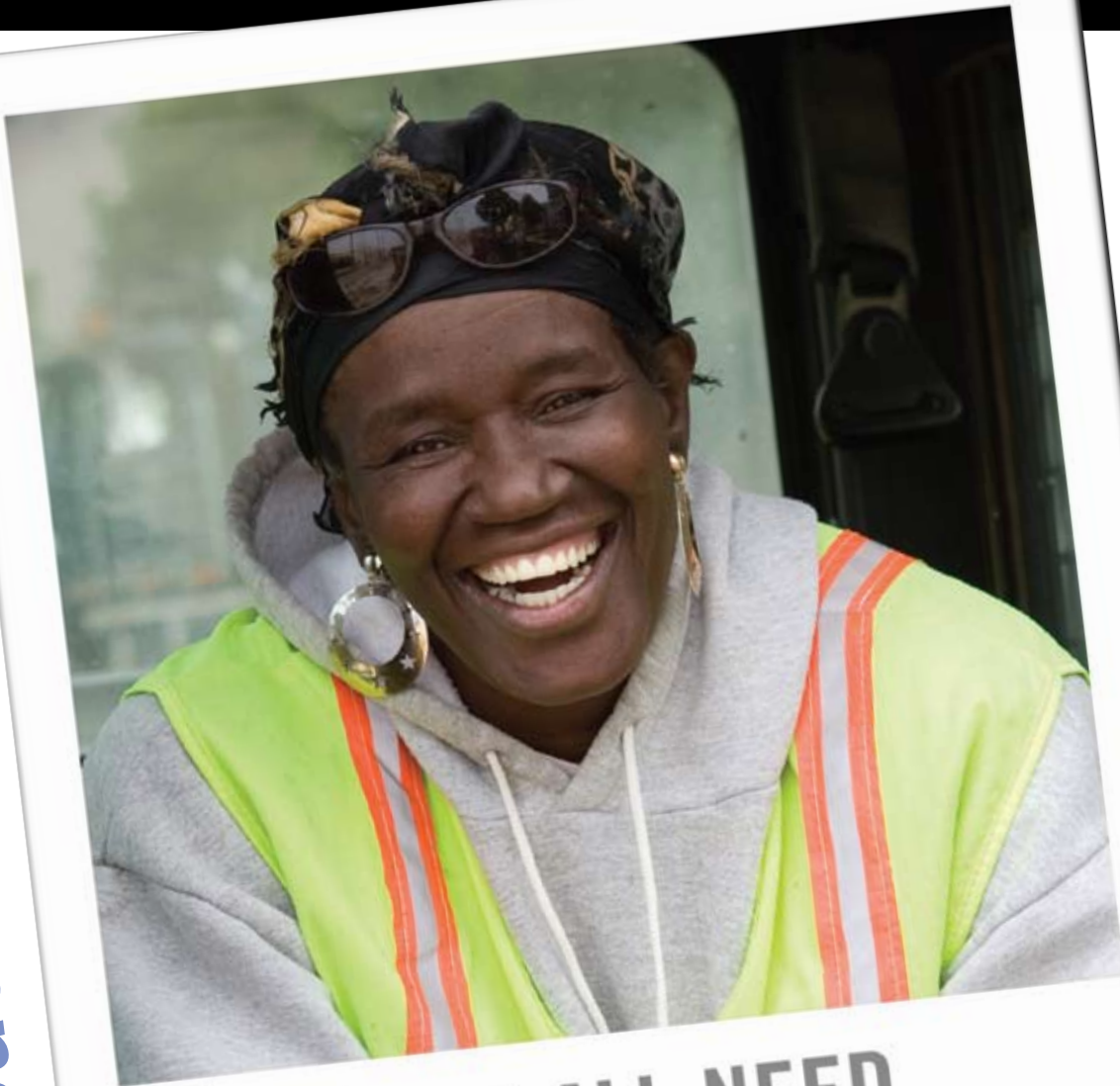


262-373-0777



UNITED WAY BUILDS INDEPENDENCE

reasonstogive.org



REASON **51** WE ALL NEED HELP AT TIMES.



We gratefully acknowledge the sponsor of this ad:



Minnie isn't proud of everything in her past. Choices she made left her without a job and no postsecondary education. That's why she turned to United Way-supported Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership/BIG STEP. Job training classes provided her with the tools to succeed. She completed the road construction program and has worked as the only woman on an all-male work crew.

MINNIE ENJOYS BEING A ROLE MODEL FOR OTHERS WHO WANT TO CHANGE THEIR LIVES.

She mentors institutionalized women and feels proud that her three grown children can look up to their mother again.

LIVE UNITED GIVE.



100 YEARS