

STEEL VOICE



UNITED STEELWORKERS LOCAL 1999

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Elections: The Myth of the Small Donor

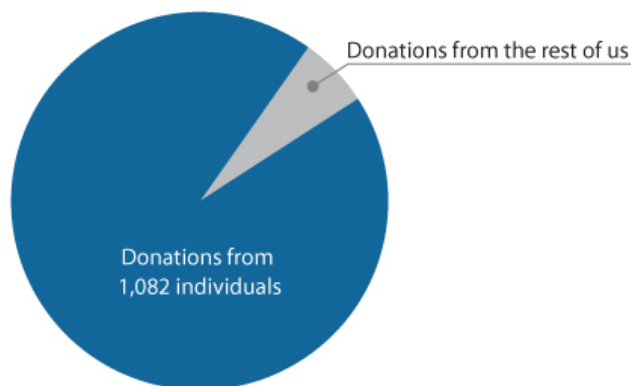
“There is simply a better payoff by courting seven-figure donors,” said Matt Schlapp, a former White House political director for George W. Bush, in a Politico story Tuesday.

The story, “Election 2012: The Myth of the Small Donor,” details the meteoric rise of the mega-donor. Multimillion-dollar donations from people like Sheldon Adelson, Frank VanderSloot and the Koch brothers are “quickly diminishing one of the few avenues—outside of voting—for average folks to shape elections, help determine candidates’ viability and affect the course of the country.”

As this election quickly becomes the most expensive in history, the voice of regular voters is being drowned out by massive cash dumps from the 1% and corporations who funnel money through super PACs and 501(c)(4) “social welfare” groups



94% of all individual donations to super-PACs in the 2012 cycle came from just 1,082 people.



Sources: Demos and US PIRG analysis of Federal Election Commission and Sunlight Foundation data
MOTHERJONES.COM

that don’t have to report the source of their funds.

What are super PACs? What are 501(c)(4)s? And are they too complicated to understand, let alone fight against?

We can win, once we understand what we’re up against.

The Supreme Court has, in a series of decisions, particularly in 2010’s infamous *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* (FEC), undermined past efforts to keep corporations and the rich from buying our democracy. These decisions overturned laws that banned the use of corporate general

treasury funds for independent expenditures and certain broadcast “electioneering communications,” whether spent directly or indirectly through 501(c)(4) groups.

Much of the money being spent in the election is coming from super PACs. Super PACs are committees that can raise and spend unlimited sums for independent expenditures but may not donate directly to a candidate. Super PACs must disclose the source of their funds to the FEC.

501(c)(4) groups, named for the

⇒ See MYTH, Page 17.

My View

Bruce Reed, Local Union Representative



Brothers and Sisters:

The Local Union has cycled through the grievance training programs for the newly elected grievers at its Units with new committees. The sessions were well attended and we are hopeful they provided useful information and guidance.

The Local will have griever and Steward training sessions later in the year, after the vacation period is over in our shops. The training sessions, as in the past, will be during the week. We will have two sessions a week apart, with no lost

time paid. The time slots will be geared to have one session early afternoon for the night workers and another session in the evening for the day workers. We are hopeful to have a good turnout for the training, please watch for a Union Notice when the sign-up period will be. While it will not be a requirement to sign-up, it is helpful to know about how many are coming so we can have enough materials. We as a Local Union and District 7 as a whole, have endorsed the candidates that have committed to stand up for labor if they are elected. It is obviously very important that we pay close attention to the upcoming elections and vote for the candidates that will support us and not the ones that have, and will continue to attack us. By now everyone is aware of the right to work for less law that was passed in the last legislative session in Indiana. It is time to stand up for ourselves and elect people that support the middle class and working people. It is time we elect people that will work for us, rather than the moneyed interests of the corporations and "out of state interest groups". I will continue to quote **Dr. Martin Luther King: "OUR WEAPON IS OUR VOTE"**, let's use our weapons.

I am listing some of the endorsed

candidates, if you have questions or want to know who is the endorsed candidate in your district please call the hall and we will give you the information.

Governor / Lieutenant Governor:
John Gregg / Vi Simpson

U. S. Congress / District:
Tara Nelson CD4
Scott Reske CD5
Andre Carson CD7

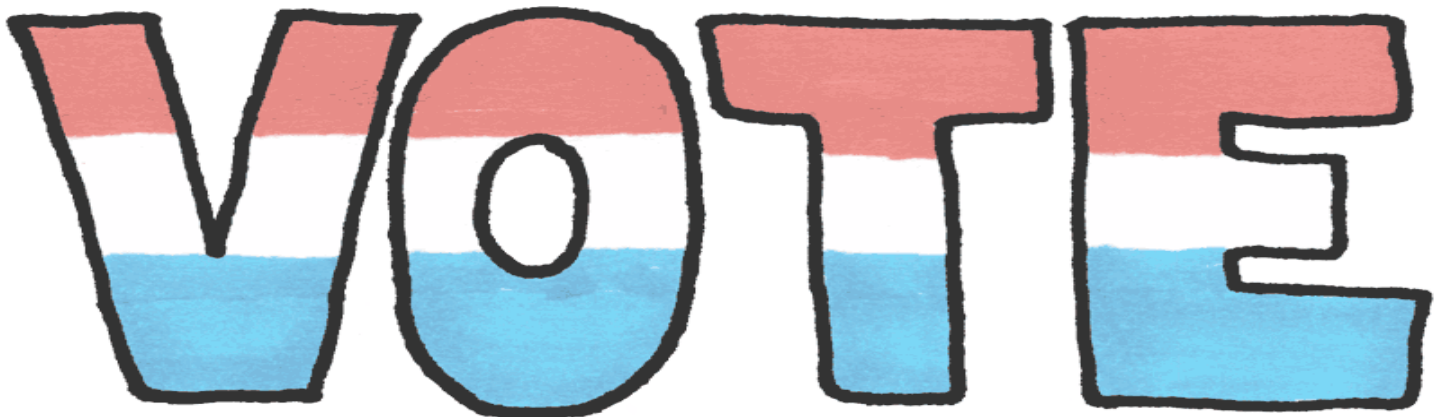
U. S. Senate: **Joe Donnelly**

Superintendent of Public Instruction: **Glenda Ritz**

Indiana State Senate / District:
Tim DeLaney HD30
John Barnes SD32
Jean Breaux SD34
Mark Waterfill SD35
Mary Ann Sullivan SD36

Indiana House of Representatives / District:
Peggy Welch HD60
Ed Delaney HD86
Christina Hale HD87
Karlee Macer HD92
John Bartlett HD95
Justin Moed HD97

In Solidarity
Bruce



**STAND
UP
FIGHT
BACK!**

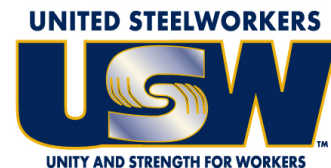


Solidarity Rally & Canvass

Join us for a Rally with Local Candidates for Indiana Senate & House. After the Rally we will be going and knocking our Brothers and Sisters doors. Come and enjoy some Solidarity and help to take back our Statehouse.

- ▶ Saturday August 25, 2012
- ▶ 9:00 AM Rally
- ▶ 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Canvass
- ▶ USW Local 1999 Union Hall
218 South Addison St. Indianapolis

For more information contact
Kelly Ray Hugunin @317-522-7472
Email hugunin@tds.net or
Edwin Johnson @ 317-640-9218
Email edwinjohnson54@gmail.com





Registration - Not Enough

You Must Vote!!!!

Chuck Jones, President

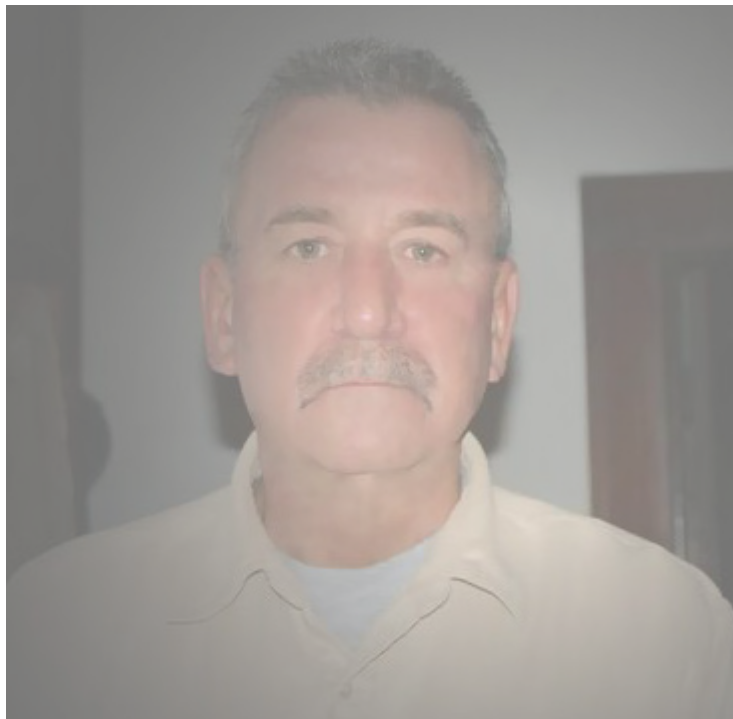
The ability to vote exists as one of the most cherished Constitutional Rights that many fought for, marched for, and died for over the centuries. It should not be taken for granted. Voting in any type of election, from local elections to Presidential elections provides a way for you to voice your opinion, by voting for candidates that support the issues that are important to you. Your job, your health, your future, the general over all well-being of you and your family.

We push for voter registration every year, but even with the incline in registration, voter turnout has declined over the decades. Registered voters are needed to participate in elections. If you cannot attend your polling site, you can submit an absentee ballot.

The importance of this cannot be stressed enough.

With the new Right to Work Law, now in affect, Our Unions are under attack.

The real data shows that once "Right-to-Work" laws are enacted, they lower wages and benefits for all workers. Workers in so-called



"Right-to-Work" states earn far less than their counterparts in Non-Right-to-Work

states.

Republicans generally favor Right to Work laws- personal freedoms and all that- while unions and their Democratic allies generally oppose them; they contend that it creates a free-rider problem where employees can reap the benefits of working at a unionized company without paying dues.

We have been attacked by the Republican Party in the state house and by the current governor. This must change and it can be done voting and voting for the candidates that will support our needs and the needs of our families.

I am not willing to set back and accept this Right to Work Law. I will fight to get this Law repealed.

It is past time for us to **Stand Up and Fight Back!**

↳ **Solidarity Rally @ Military Park July 28, 2012.**

Hundreds of trade union activists attended the Summer Solidarity Rally at Military Park. Those attending enjoyed music provided by several local bands. Nancy Guyott President of the Indiana AFL-CIO kicked off the speaking portion of the rally followed by USW District 7 Director Jim Robinson. Later candidates Joe Donnelly, John Gregg, and Vi Simpson addressed the crowd. The food and solidarity was enjoyed by all.

Son of Former IFPTE President Wins 2 Golds and a Silver in the 2012 Olympics

By Jackie Tortora

Nathan Adrian, 23, of Bremerton, Wash., took home his first individual gold medal in the 100-meter freestyle swim in the London Olympic Games last week, winning by a "fingertip," beating Australian favorite James "The Missile" Magnussen.

The Seattle Times reported:

The margin of victory—one-hundredth of a second—was the tightest at the London Olympics.

Perhaps the swimmer's work ethic can be traced to his upbringing in a union family. Adrian's father, Jim, is a retired nuclear engineer for the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and former president of the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE) Local 12. His mother, Cecilia, is a nurse in the Bremerton school district.



Cecile Adrian and Jim Adrian, parents of USA swimmer Nathan Adrian

Adrian also received a silver medal as the lead off swimmer for the 4×100-meter freestyle relay team and a gold medal as the anchor for the medley relay team in Michael Phelps' final swim.

After his heart-racing sprint when he snuck up on Magnussen, Adrian told reporters:

I kind of touched well and [thought], 'Oh, sweet, I've won.' Then there's 10 to 15 seconds, [and] 'Holy crap, this is the Olympics....I've been watching this since I was a kid.' □

Richard Mourdock, Republican Indiana Senate Candidate, Compares Chrysler Bailout To Slavery

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Senate candidate for Indiana Richard Mourdock is again comparing slavery to modern politics, this time likening it to President Obama's Chrysler bailout.

The Republican state treasurer argued during his primary contest against Sen. Richard Lugar that the climate now is like that before the Civil War, with Obama and Democrats in the role of slave owners.

principle that Abraham Lincoln decried in his famous debates with Stephen Douglas.

Mourdock, speaking to a PAC convention organized by the Tea Party group FreedomWorks on July 26, said that Lincoln's argument was about the principles of right and wrong. What was wrong was the "divine right of kings ... that would give power to someone so that they might say to someone else, 'you

demanding tribute from his subjects, or if it was offered as an apology by one race of men for enslaving another race of men, it was, he said, the same tyrannical principle," Mourdock added, before saying that was the principle that the Obama administration exhibited in 2009 when it bailed out Chrysler, leaving some pension funds -- including two in Indiana -- holding losses.

"It is once again that message coming from Washington, D.C., that even people like those pensioners I represent can work and sweat and toil and earn and save, so that someone else can be given their assets," Mourdock said. "It is the same tyrannical principle as in 1858 -- but now it's 2012."

A shorter version of the speech can be seen below. The full version is here.

Democrats complained to the Evansville Courier & Press that Mourdock was using slavery and the Civil War for political gain, but a day later Mourdock said he was making no such comparisons.

"No, that wasn't the issue at all," Mourdock said, according to the Courier & Press. "It was about government's actions and taking property." □



Late last week, Mourdock made the comparison even more direct, telling a crowd in Dallas that Obama's Chrysler bailout showed the same

work, you sweat, you toil, you earn bread -- and I shall eat it."

"Mr. Lincoln said if it was a prince

Steelworkers Make Professional Grade Cookware in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania

Cooking enthusiasts know that great pots and pans will get hot quickly, stay hot and disperse heat uniformly across their surfaces so that food cooks evenly. All-Clad Metalcrafters' high-end cookware, made in Canonsburg, Pa. by 240 members of United Steelworkers (USW) Local 3403, does all three.

Local 3403 Vice President Jeff Sumney, who also spent six years as the unit chairperson, said that bonded metals are what distinguish All-Clad cookware. Bonded metals are sheets of different metals that undergo All-Clad's distinctive process of cladding: Local 3403 members layer the metals, heat them and then run them through mills to press them together to form a single sheet.

The particular metals vary based on the line of cookware, but nearly all have a stainless steel surface and a core of another metal like aluminum that effectively disperses the heat. Lower quality pans lack this sophisticated layering.

Stainless steel is a useful cooking surface because it's easy to clean and it isn't reactive, which means it never imparts any flavors to the food. However, stainless steel's low conductivity means it doesn't transfer heat as effectively as other materials.

Combining stainless steel with other metals makes for more ideal cooking conditions.

While aluminum is common, the

most effective core is copper, said Sumney. Though it is expensive, copper-core cookware is indisputably the best for heat transfer, which makes All-Clad copper-core cookware a popular choice for professional chefs.

Once the metals are bonded, the sheets are then cut into "blanks," circles that can then be formed into the various pots and pans. Everything from French skillets to stock pots start as discs of bonded metal that Local 3403 members put into presses that apply roughly 150 tons of pressure to form the specific pans.

The pans are buffed and hand inspected before another set of Local 3403 members individually attach handles to each.

Sumney said that while the handles and other unbonded materials are now made in China, all of All-Clad's bonded cookware is made in the United States out of American-made metals.

All-Clad was founded in 1971 by John Ulam, a metallurgist who originally began experimenting with layering and bonding metals in the 1940s for use in a variety of industries, including the U.S. Mint. The company is now owned by the French Groupe SEB which purchased All-Clad in 2004.

All-Clad cookware can be found at department stores like Macy's and Bloomingdale's or at more specialized stores like Williams Sonoma and Bed, Bath and Beyond. □





REGISTER TO **VOTE**

Voting doesn't simply decide who gets into office, it tells elected officials who they need to represent.

Elected officials will decide the price and quality of your family's healthcare, the state of our school systems, whether we have good paying jobs, how fairly distributed your taxes are and the security of our nation.

If you don't vote, the officials won't make the decisions that are best for you; they'll be making them for the people who elected them...

Citizens in the upper income brackets are more likely to be registered (85.9%) and vote more regularly (81.3%). As a result, their interests are going to be protected over those of lower income households, which vote at a rate as low as 48.3%.

While many of us may think that our one vote does not count, here are a few examples of when one vote really did make a difference in U.S. Politics:

- In 1977 the mayor of Ann Arbor, Michigan was elected by one vote.
- Marcus Morton was elected Governor of Massachusetts in 1839 by one vote out of 102,066 votes cast.
- In 2000 George W. Bush won Florida's electoral votes to give him the victory in the presidential election by 537 votes out of 5,861,785 votes cast.



Unit 00 Rexnord

Hello Union Brothers & Sisters,

Things are going pretty good over here; orders are down a little, which has caused a few 4 day work weeks in some areas. Some of the people on 4 days have been able to move to other areas.

The grievance load is low thanks to the Department Stewards taking care of issues in their departments.

The company has informed the people at our Downers Grove, Illinois plant that it will be closing and their work will move to Indy. Just for a heads up this was a non-union plant. Without the effort of all the union brothers and sisters it might not have been possible for our plant to have received that work. I want to thank everyone for all their efforts. With the move of Downers Grove to Indy there will be 16 new jobs created throughout the plant. To put in applications for these jobs go on line to www.Rexnord.com and at www.monster.com.

Since I took over as President on May 21 the transition has been smooth. Thanks to the help from Brian Bousum, Chuck, Bruce, & Jim, they have been very helpful, I want to personally thank them for everything. I just wanted to let everybody know at the plant that if they need anything, my office is down by Dept. 103 out on the shop floor.

Thanks to all
Don Zering

Unit 09 Quemetco

Work is still steady here at Quemetco. There has been plenty of overtime to go around with there having been several furnace rebuilds.

AJ Williams has become our new Plant Manager replacing George Rezabek who will be retiring at the end of the year. We are seeing changes already with the new management.

One thing that we have seen change is how managers are being allowed to use the cameras to monitor employees. We have had one discharge due to a manger reviewing camera footage to check on work performance. Another was kicked out of the Employee In Training (EIT) program. Both have pending grievances.

I know a lot of our members are upset that this is going on. I am not happy about it myself. But what concerns me more than the managers watching our members, is the fact that we have union brothers who are willing to take pictures of their co-workers and turn those pictures over to management. Why is it that some of our brothers think that throwing someone else under the bus will make things better for them when they are getting written up? We need to have each others backs now more than ever.

In Solidarity,
Kelly Ray Hugunin

Unit 13 Diamond Chain

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to start off by welcoming all the new employees to the United Steelworkers Union and Diamond Chain. There have been some questions about what the Union does and how does it benefit me. What the Union does and how it benefits the bargaining unit members are intertwined. The two most important things that the Union does is 1. negotiate a contract for all members of the Union; 2. work to make sure to see that the agreement (contract) is followed by the company. If the company violates the agreement, then the Union has a grievance procedure to allow us to settle our differences by an impartial umpire called an "arbitrator" whose ruling will be binding and final.

Some of the other things we do is to take a look at new work rules, regulations or policy. If the Union feels any of these are unreasonable as implemented, then the Union has the right to grieve such rule, regulation or policy. Some of the above was taken directly from language in our contract on page 57 and 58. The Union also looks at safety at the plant and whether or not the company is being compliant with OSHA regulations. Sometimes you all don't like to wear your safety glasses, earplugs, or use safety devices on machines. You can be written up for violating any of the

⇒ See CHAIN, Page 13.

Steelworker Endorsed State Candidates

U.S. SENATE:
Joe Donnelly (D)

GOVERNOR/LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR:
John Gregg/ Vi Simpson (D)

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION:
Glenda Ritz (D)

U.S. CONGRESS:
Congressional District
01 Pete Visclosky (D) (I)
02 Brendan Mullen (D)
03 Kevin Boyd (D)
04 Tara Nelson (D)
05 Scott Reske (D)
06 Brad Bookout (D)
07 Andre Carson (D)
08 Dave Crooks (D)
09 Shelli Yoder (D)

INDIANA STATE SENATE:

State Senate District
02 Lonnie Randolph (D) (I)
03 Earline Rogers (D) (I)
07 Brad Thompson (D)
08 Jim Arnold (D) (I)
10 John Broden (D) (I)
12 Jim Ball (D)
16 Tom Keen (D)
24 Charles Bender (D)
28 Michael Adkins (D)
30 Tim DeLaney (D)
32 John Barnes (D)
33 Greg Taylor (D) (I)
34 Jean Breaux (D) (I)
35 Mark Waterfill (D)
36 Mary Ann Sullivan (D)
37 Jim Cahill (D)
50 Vaneta Becker (R) (I)

INDIANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

House District
01 Linda Lawson (D) (I)
02 Earl Harris (D) (I)
03 Charlie Brown (D) (I)
05 Jerod Warnock (D)
06 Pat Bauer (D) (I)
07 David Niezgodski (D) (I)
08 Ryan Dvorak (D) (I)
09 Scott Pelath (D) (I)
10 Chuck Moseley (D) (I)
11 John Hart (D)
12 Mara Candelaria Reardon (D) (I)
13 Mark Straw (D)
14 Vernon Smith (D) (I)
15 Thomas O'Donnell (D)

16 Rich Ludington (D)
19 Shelli VanDenburgh (D) (I)
22 John Bonitati (D)
23 Kerry Worthington (D)
24 Shane Evans (D)
26 Rick Cornstuble (D)
27 Sheila Klinker (D) (I)
30 Chuck Sosbe (D)
31 Katie Morgan (D)
33 Andy Schemenaur (D)
34 Sue Errington (D)
35 Melanie Wright (D)
36 Terri Austin (D) (I)
40 Sam Follis (D)
43 Clyde Kersey (D) (I)
45 Kreg Battles (D) (I)
46 Jim Mann (D)
47 Chris Grider (D)
52 Charles Odier (D)
54 Tom Saunders (R) (I)
55 Dave Moeller (D)
56 Phil Pflum (D) (I)
57 Todd Day (D)
60 Peggy Welch (D) (I)
61 Matt Pierce (D) (I)
62 Jeff Sparks (D)
64 Mark Norton (D)
66 Terry Goodin (D) (I)
67 Tom Cheek (D)
68 Jake Hoog (D)
70 Terry Miller (D)
72 Sharon Grabowski (D)
73 Sandra Blanton (D)
74 Mike Schriefer (D)
75 Kevin Derr (D)
76 Trent Van Haafte (D)
77 Gail Riecken (D) (I)
79 Mike Snyder (D)
80 Phil GiaQuinta (D) (I)
81 Win Moses (D) (I)
82 Mike Wilbur (D)
83 John Good (D)
84 Lee Jordan (D)
85 Evan Smith (D)
86 Ed DeLaney (D) (I)
87 Christina Hale (D)
92 Karlee Macer (D)
93 Ryan Guillory (D)
94 Cherish Pryor (D) (I)
95 John Bartlett (D) (I)
96 Gregory Porter (D) (I)
97 Justin Moed (D)
98 Robin Shackelford (D)
99 Vanessa Summers (D) (I)
100 Dan Forestal (D)

(D = Democrat/ R = Republican/ I = Incumbent)

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- **Mortgage assistance**—Help if you become unemployed, disabled, on strike, or locked out.
- **Grant money**—Hospital care, disaster relief and college savings grants.



Call **1-800-848-6466** or visit
UnionPlus.org/Mortgage



Workers at Siemens Maryland Plant Being Targeted

Workers in a North East, Maryland Siemens' plant who recently signed affiliation cards with the (USW) have become targets of the company's anti-union philosophy. The company has launched a full-blown union-busting campaign, hiring an anti-union consultant, Ken Cannon, who advertises "40 years of experience supporting managements' efforts to remain union free."

This action comes on the heels of Siemens signing a Global Framework Agreement with its General Works Council, the German Metalworkers union IG Metall, and the IndustriALL Global Union on July 25 where the company pledged to respect workers' right to

choose a union. (See <http://www.industrialunion.org/industrial-signs-gfa-with-siemens>). The Agreement states that "Members of employee organizations or unions will be neither advantaged nor disadvantaged on account of their membership."

In a recent letter to employees, Siemens' Director of Operations, Joe Didwall, stated: "Siemens does not believe a union is in the best interest of our employees here in North East. The reason is two-fold: Unions haven't delivered on their promises and unionized employers can have difficulty being competitive in today's global economy." The General Manager, Izadore Hossler, told workers "if

organized we will lose customers in the south as they don't want to do business with a union facility."

Cannon has been conducting meetings with employees at which he has told them that he is making \$1,000 per day, some \$173,000 per year and does not need the money, but does this work for fun. He told the employees he wins all of his campaigns and has never had an unfair labor practice filed against him. He told the employees he will be there for the next 30 to 45 days, going around the plant to talk to them one-on-one. Cannon has told some employees that "if you don't agree with the Union, they will fire

⇒ See TARGET, Page 15.

⇒ CHAIN From Page 10.

above mentioned items. The Union wants you to go home intact and in the same condition in which you came in.

We have a Local Union meeting on the 3rd Sunday of every month and every other month a Union meeting for Diamond Chain employees held right after the Local meeting. At the local meeting we hear reports on finances of the local, treasury report, legislative report, reports from other units in our local, and reports from the International. Then there is old business/new business. At our meeting for Diamond employees, we start with a reading of the minutes from the last meeting, grievance report, safety report and whatever else is going on at Diamond Chain that may effect you. This is where you have the opportunity to ask

questions. If we don't have an answer, then we will get it for you.

In this sluggish economy, we here at Diamond Chain have been hiring and working alot of overtime including some 7 day weeks. Diamond Chain has in the past year been rearranging the plant to move most of our operations to the first floor, which has all but been completed. The conveyor line in the Customer Service Center is new for packing chain, a new gas generator has been purchased and installed in the heat treat department and the company is having a cookout which will be catered in by Jugg's and served to all employees by management.

Some of you may not know but, Kathy Enochs, elected Unit Vice President and Atilla Martin, elected Unit President, were both terminated. The Union filed a

grievance and an agreement for both to retire was reached. The details of the agreement are confidential but apparently agreed on by both Kathy and Atilla. At the last Union meeting, the executive board voted to accept the nomination of Mike Hensley to fill the position of Unit Vice President. Mike was previously the Unit President. The executive board will vote to fill the position of Unit President at the August meeting.

In closing, I would like to say it's been a hot summer and it's been really hot in the plant with more to come. Be sure to stay hydrated, watch out for your co-workers and just be safe!

In Solidarity,
Marc Roberts

Illinois Shooting Contest Raises \$50,000 for Conservation

By Mike Hall

Illinois union members raised more than \$50,000 to support the Union Sportsmen's Alliance's (USA's) conservation mission with their First Annual Illinois Sporting Clays Shoot last weekend at the Max McGraw Wildlife Foundation in Dundee, Ill.

The shooting competition was sponsored by the Illinois AFL-CIO, Chicago Federation of Labor (CFL) and the Chicago and Cook County Building and Construction Trades Council (CBTC). Says Illinois AFL-CIO President Michael T. Carrigan:

Not only did labor come together to raise thousands of dollars to support conservation efforts, but union members from various communities around the state got the chance to connect on a lifestyle level outside of the workplace, not only as brothers and sisters, but as sportsmen and women.

The 20 teams were made up of more than 100 union members and their friends and families.

Many people confuse sporting clays with skeet shooting. But they are quite different sports. Skeet shooting takes place at one shooting lo-

cation designed to a specific set of measurements with specific-sized targets that are launched pre-set trajectories.

But a sporting clays course includes as many as 15 shooting stations over a course of at least 35 acres, where targets of different sizes are launched in a great variety of tra-

jectory. Tony DeJohn, son of Ironworkers Local 63 executive board member Michael DeJohn, won the youth shooter award. (Click here for all the scores.)

The Illinois event, part of the USA's 25-city sporting clays and trap shoot tour, will travel to 17 states in 2012. Along with raising funds to support



jectories, angles, speeds, elevations and distances. Sometimes it is referred to as "golf with a shotgun."

Jon Chapman from Operating Engineers (IUOE) Local 150 took home top honors for an individual shooter while Heather Gayle from the North Central Illinois Labor Council/Bank of Labor team won the women's

the USA's conservation mission, the tour also introduces skilled union volunteers to the impact they can make on conservation projects in the communities where they live, work and play. For more information or to find out how you can get involved, visit www.unionsportsmen.org/events. □

Louisville, Kentucky: Reynolds Wrap Aluminum Foil Capital of the World



There is only one place in the world that makes Reynolds Wrap aluminum foil: the Reynolds plant in Louisville, Ky. So what that means is the 325 Steelworkers who work there manufacture the entire world's supply of Reynolds Wrap aluminum foil.

As Jack Coates, who served as president and business agent of United Steelworkers (USW) Local 155 for nearly 17 years until this June, explained, from annealing—baking the aluminum in huge ovens—to packaging the finished product, the members of Local 155 engage in every step of making Reynolds Wrap. They also make off-brand aluminum foil, with occasional contracts with companies like CVS, Walmart and Sam's Club. So truly, USW Local 155 supplies the world with aluminum foil.

For the entire 65 years Reynolds has fabricated aluminum foil, there's been a Reynolds Wrap factory in Louisville. The headquarters and production remain an iconic part of Louisville's landscape, although the

factory is now owned by the Rank Group and no longer by the Reynolds family.

To make Reynolds Wrap aluminum foil, Steelworkers take 30,000 pound coils shipped from Hot Springs, Ark., and temper them in annealing ovens to make the metal workable. When the aluminum comes out of the ovens, it is suitable for milling. Steelworkers then run the aluminum through six sets of rollers to flatten it to the appropriate thickness for home use: usually .6 mils (or .006 of an inch) for standard household foil. It goes to the ovens a second time to bake off any chemicals that might contaminate food and is then cut, spooled and boxed.

Newly elected Local 155 President Rick Rigney said that the USW members at Reynolds have also started making foil from recycled aluminum. The process is essentially the same, but the giant coils they receive have been made using 80 percent less energy. In the end, the wrap—made in part from recycled



stadium seats, car components, cookware, gutters and more—is interchangeable with the foil made from virgin materials.

All Reynolds Wrap aluminum foil—be it regular or recycled—is not only made in America but made by Steelworkers in Louisville, Ky. □

↳ TARGET From Page 13.

you.”

“This is a classic union-busting operation,” said USW International President Leo W. Gerard. “It is completely inconsistent with the company's stated principles and with International Labor Organization Conventions as well as U.S. law.”

The USW represents about 850,000 workers in the United States, Canada and the Caribbean in a wide variety of industries, ranging from glassmaking to mining, paper, steel, tire and rubber to the public sector, service and health care industries. □

Study: Voter Fraud Scare Is A Fraud

Yet another study shows that supposed rampant “voter fraud” is nearly nonexistent. The Washington Post reports on a study today that finds one voter fraud case for every 16 million prospective voters.

An analysis of 2,068 reports of alleged election fraud over the past 12 years by News21 shows that in-person voter impersonation on Election Day, which has prompted 37 state legislatures to enact or consider tougher voter ID laws, was virtually nonexistent.

News21, a Carnegie-Knight investigative reporting project, found 10 cases of alleged in-person voter impersonation since 2000. With 146 million registered voters in the United States, those represent about one for every 15 million prospective voters.

Yet those who seek to restrict voting rights have done so in the name of ending voter fraud. As a result, 16

states have passed restrictive voting laws. At least 180 bills restricting voting have been introduced in 41 state legislatures since the beginning of 2011, after the 2010 elections shifted control of 20 state legislative houses from Democrat to Republican. Thirty-four states introduced voter ID requirements that would effectively disenfranchise more than 21 million eligible voters who don’t have the required IDs—mostly people of color, low-income voters, students, seniors and people with disabilities.

In short, the real fraud being perpetrated is by those who want to take away one of most fundamental democratic rights.

Voting restriction supporters say the laws are needed because of “voter fraud”—but that’s “smoke without a fire,” says Brennan Center for Justice’s Wendy Weiser.

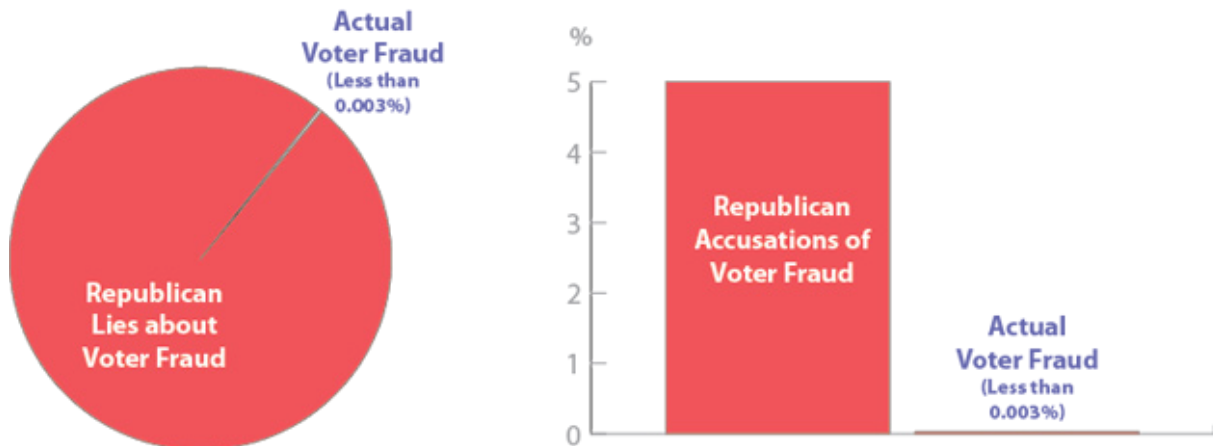
Between 2002 and 2005, the Justice

Department made the investigation and prosecution of voter fraud a top priority. Out of the hundreds of millions of votes cast during that period, the department brought only 38 cases, only one of which involved impersonation fraud.

As Clarissa Martinez De Castro, National Council of La Raza director of civic engagement, puts it: The real problem is not that too many Americans are participating in the electoral process. Rather, “there are not enough.”

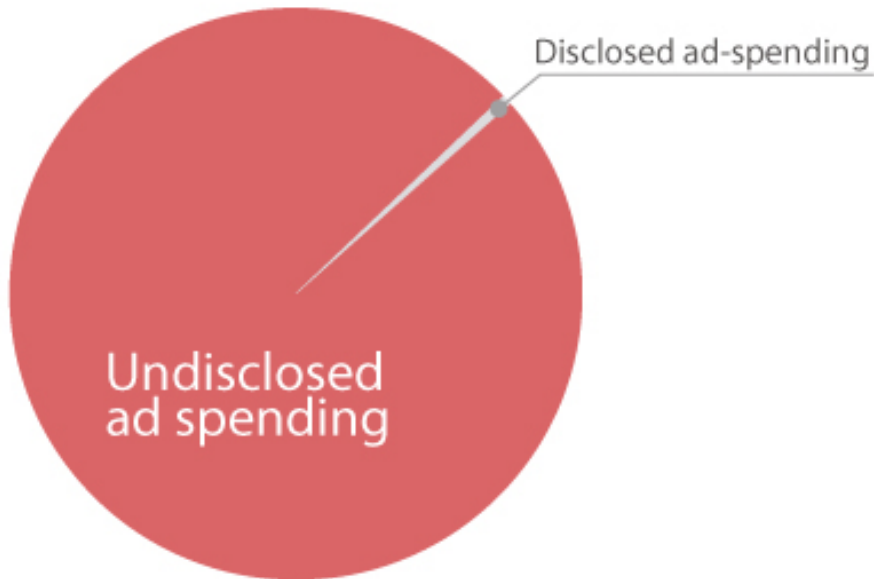
The AFL-CIO My Vote, My Right website offers hands-on information on voter registration, voter ID laws and steps to take to protect your right to vote on Election Day. Find out what you need to know to make sure your vote counts this year. Get information on voter registration, your voting rights by state and more at the AFL-CIO’s MyVoteMyRight.org. □

Republican Accusations of Voter Fraud vs. Actual Evidence of Voter Fraud



Sources: Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law; Wisconsin Attorney General Van Hollen 2-year study on Election Fraud for 2008 Election.

The top five dark-money nonprofit groups have spent \$53 million on ads. They disclosed just \$420,920—or 0.79%.



Sources: Demos and US PIRG analysis of Federal Election Commission and Kantar CMAG data
MOTHERJONES.COM

↔MYTH From Page 1.

section of the Internal Revenue Code that creates them, are social welfare organizations that may not have political activities as their main purpose but may otherwise engage in limited political activities. These groups may accept unlimited amounts of money and need not disclose the source of those funds, which may explain why corporations are doing their political spending through these entities. There has been recent criticism about the use of 501(c)(4) groups to funnel secret money to super PACs and the potential abuse of the form by some groups.

The Politico piece points out “[i]n an election purportedly being driven by the economic concerns of the

middle class, the top 0.07 percent of donors are more valuable than the bottom 86 percent,” with Romney’s campaign and related super PACs receiving “only about 7 percent of their \$362 million from donors who gave \$200 or less” while 2.4 million Obama supporters have donated an average of \$55 each. And remember—that ignores the 501(c)(4) groups, which are widely believed to be disproportionately funded by the megawealthy and corporations.

The concluding quote of the piece from 74-year-old retired teacher Larry Stevens sums up the situation pretty well:

It really just pisses me off that the Koch brothers and the super PACs

and Karl Rove and Crossroads are trying to buy this election with massive amounts of money.... We have to do what little we can to fight them back, and combined, collectively, maybe it will make a difference.

Despite the big money in this election, regular working people can make a difference—people power is the one thing that can beat money power. You can stand up to the money avalanche by volunteering with your local union, central labor council or Workers’ Voice for neighborhood canvasses, phone banks and other actions—and you can help make sure voting rights are protected for all by visiting the AFL-CIO’s My Vote, My Right site at <http://www.aflcio.org/Legislation-and-Politics/Voters-Right>. □

Romney's Independence Day Advice: Buy Foreign

By Leo Gerard

America commemorated its Independence Day last month with food, festivity and fireworks. To supply these events, Mitt Romney recommends: Buy foreign.

Americans naturally think the patriotic choice would be to buy American. But for Romney, capitalism trumps patriotism. Romney goes where the money is. He made big bucks as CEO of Bain Capital by investing in a series of companies that specialized in shipping American jobs off shore. For him, it's fine to kill an American job as long as he can make a buck on it.

Americans must decide then. Do they pledge allegiance to money-grubbing? Or do they pledge alle-

giance to the United States of America? If it's the United States, then on this Independence Day, we should have demonstrated patriotic pride by deliberately buying American. Searching for that "Made in USA" label. Picking the product that creates American jobs, the one that is an investment in an American company and the American economy.

Romney's decisions over his business and political career clearly illustrate that for him the most important symbol isn't the American flag. It's the almighty dollar. As the CEO of Bain Capital, he could have invested in any sort of company. He chose several that helped corporations move or expand off shore. In fact, Romney was, as the Washing-

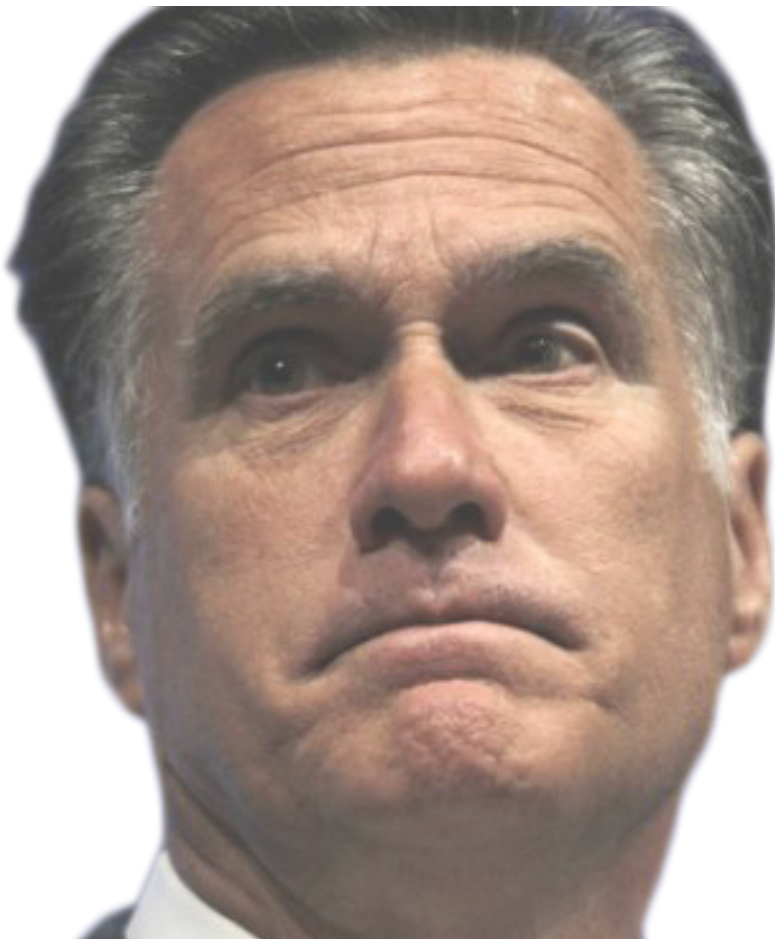
ton Post put it, a pioneer in this area.

Romney took that "buy foreign" philosophy with him to the Massachusetts governor's mansion. There he specifically permitted state contractors to move work overseas. He vetoed legislation to forbid the practice. Romney thwarted lawmakers' attempt to stop a contractor from using state tax dollars to move work from America to India and Bangladesh. As a result, unemployed Massachusetts residents who called the state government for information on food stamps got connected to foreign nationals performing jobs that unemployed Americans could have had.

Some American CEOs deliberately do the opposite of Romney. They find ways to buy American. Iconic American companies Starbucks and Google are examples. Last week, Google released a wireless home media player, the Nexus Q, that is made in America. The New York Times said "the most intriguing feature" of the player is the inscription on the bottom: "Designed and Manufactured in the U.S.A." It's fascinating, the Times explained, because:

"It has become accepted wisdom that consumer electronics products can no longer be made in the United States."

Google, always an innovator, decided that accepted wasn't wise. Starbucks did too.



⇒ See BUY, Page 19.

↳ **BUY From Page 18.**

Starbucks stopped buying its mugs overseas. It located a tiny pottery manufacturer in Ohio and gave the business to that firm – American Mug and Stein Co. As a result, American Mug added eight workers. That’s how American jobs are created: one American Mug at a time.

The mugs are part of Starbucks’ Indivisible project. The sale of Indivisible merchandise supports the Starbucks “Create Jobs for USA Fund,” which helps small businesses.

Similarly Starbucks decided to build a factory in Augusta, Ga., to make its Via instant coffee and ingredients for its Frappuccino drinks. That will create 140 American jobs.

Congress was scheduled to vote on two measures that would, like Starbucks and Google, create American jobs. One is the Bring Jobs Home Act, which would end tax loopholes that, inexplicably, reward companies for firing Americans and moving their jobs overseas. At the same

time, the Bring Jobs Home Act would give tax credits to companies that shift work from overseas back to the United States.

The other measure is the United States Call Center Worker and Consumer Protection Act. It would prohibit federal grants and tax breaks to companies that send call center jobs overseas. It also would require those firms to tell customers where their calls are being directed and provide the option of a U.S. call center. This would prevent companies from getting millions in tax subsidies based on promises of U.S. call center employment that are quickly broken when the centers lay off the American workers and move their jobs overseas.

Romney does not approve of the Bring Jobs Home Act. That’s clear from the pledge he signed with Washington lobbyist Grover Norquist to protect tax loopholes. In fact, Romney would go further to encourage companies to offshore manufacturing and jobs. He promised to eliminate all taxes on foreign profits.

But then, Romney’s a quarter billionaire who owns a \$100,000 horse and installed a car elevator in one of his mansions. To him, it’s all about profit and not at all about patriotism.

To working people, however, the Bring Jobs Home Act and the call center act make sense. Working Americans don’t want to pay corporations to move jobs overseas. American taxpayers don’t want to subsidize call centers that quickly close American operations and offshore the jobs

ABC News anchor Diane Sawyer makes buying American easy by listing American-made products by state.

And, of course, buy American-made sparklers to celebrate. There’s still one company manufacturing them in the United States. It’s Diamond Sparklers in Youngstown, Ohio. Phantom Fireworks stores stock them.

America just isn’t independent if it’s dependent on foreign manufacturers for its Independence Day celebrations. □



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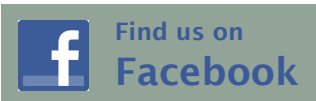
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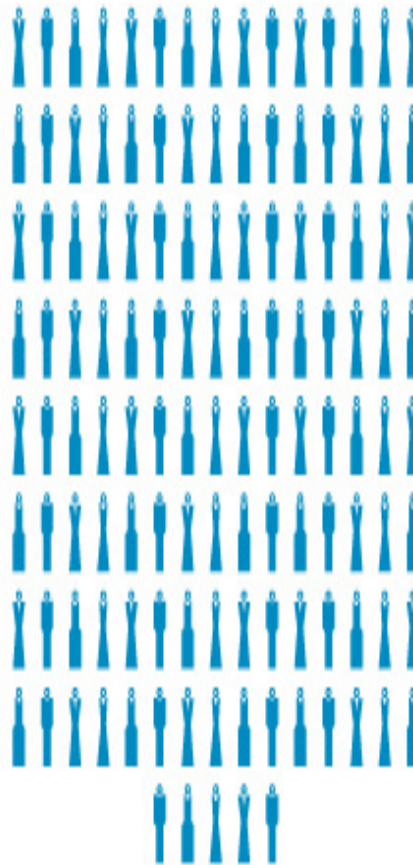
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UNDER MITT ROMNEY'S TAX PLAN

It would take
125 AVERAGE FAMILIES WITH KIDS
paying an additional
\$2,000 IN TAXES

To pay for
ONE \$250,000 TAX CUT
for someone making more than
\$3 MILLION A YEAR



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