



# SOUNDINGS

May - August 2017

**LOTS OF LAUGHTER AND ENERGY ON THE OBSTACLE COURSE, SLIDE AND BOUNCE HOUSES PROVIDED FOR THE 8TH ANNUAL MDA-UAW LOCAL 571 SOLIDARITY DAY PICNIC HELD IN WASHINGTON PARK.** [See Page 7 for more.](#)



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# FROM THE OFFICERS



MDA-UAW Local 571

## Soundings Newsletter

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Newsletters are published tri-annually. Deadlines for submissions are due the end of the 2nd week of April, August and December.



*From Left to Right: Officers Treasurer Robert Faraci, 2nd Vice President David M. Reagan, President William E. Louis, 1st Vice President Kenneth Rowland, Recording Secretary Martha Fletcher and Financial Secretary Bill May*

## LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Every year Region 9A holds a Leadership Conference, and every year along with the conference there is a rally. This year, the conference began with a Union action at Plymouth, Ma. on a Sunday afternoon, in support of our Sisters and Brothers in Local 2320, Society of Allied Museum Professionals, who are pursuing their first contract.

The employer is not offering a fair wage and benefit package, and we are sure they heard the voices of the Region 9A members at the rally loud and clear. There was newspaper coverage and petitions were signed

by locals and tourists alike in support of the SAMP members.

We wish them luck in their pursuit of "Living Wages for Living History". On Monday, the conference began in earnest with a plenary session for all attendees. The theme of this year's conference was "Runaway Inequality", and we were given a great presentation by Les Leopold, author of the book of the same title.

Les took us through a timeline with graphs showing the decline of wages in the U.S. relative to productivity, which began in the late 1970's and coincided with a weakening of banking regulations, on Wall Street in particular. Those declines came as business leaders worked to implement Financialization, a system in which profits is the only goal and workers are considered as overhead.

There is a call to action for a populist movement to return the gains experienced by corporations to the workers who helped make the businesses profitable. Members who would like to get involved should contact the Union office.

Another theme at the conference was how to help our UAW Brothers and Sisters in Puerto Rico. The economy of the island is in dire straits, and the government has chosen to impose caps on wages and reductions of retirement benefits and other cuts aimed mostly at Union workers.

They have largely ignored corruption issues and debt servicing as the root causes of the huge deficit. We stand in solidarity with the union and non-union workers who had no part in bringing about the economic crisis but are bearing the brunt of the burden.

In Solidarity, 1st Vice President Kenneth Rowland

## UPDATE ON SEED MONEY

If there is anyone who has not received their seed money for the high-deductible insurance plan, please call anyone from the Benefits Committee (Ed Nevins 7-2563, Jim Newman 3-2558 or Mark Ciliano 7-2563) or the Union Hall at 448-0552. We are working with the Company to have all the issues resolved.

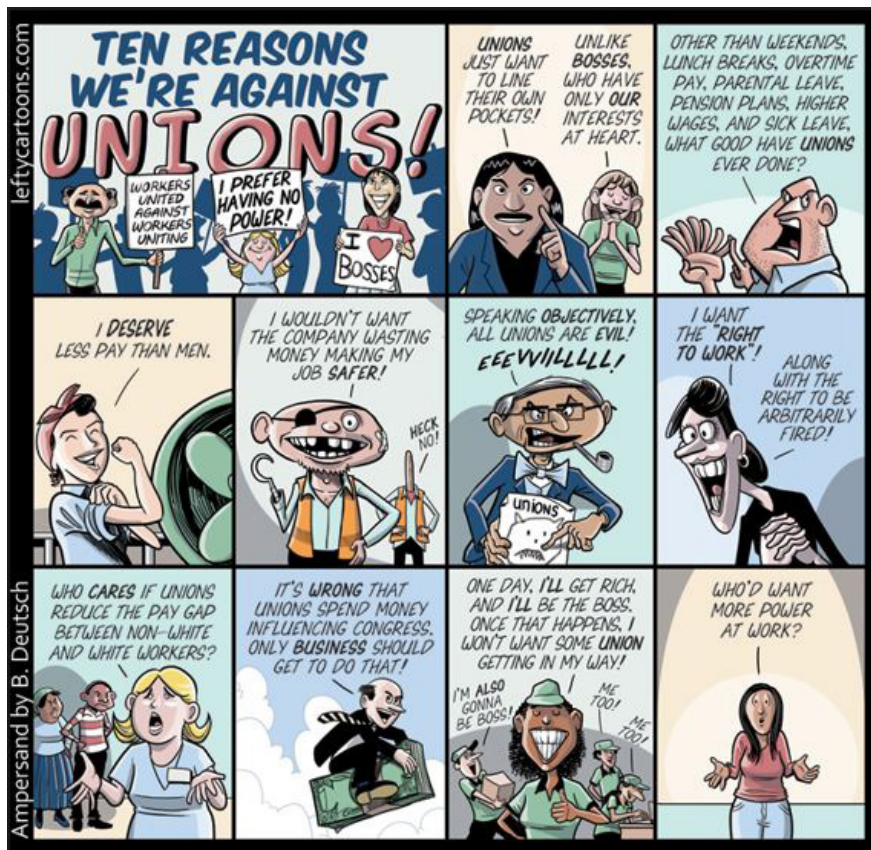
## EMAIL BLASTS

On a monthly basis, emails are sent out to members to keep them informed with notices, upcoming events or pertinent information that needs to get out in a timely manner.

Most members are appreciative of this, but there are some members who do not wish to receive these notifications. Because of the influx of new hires, the lists are updated frequently and sometimes a name may remain that shouldn't be there.

I sincerely apologize if this may offend some people, and if you are on this list - please call or email the hall and we will rectify it immediately.

In Solidarity,  
President William E. Louis



Amper sand by B. Deutsch



## CONFERENCES YOUR LOCAL ATTENDED

AUGUST LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE, CAPE COD, MA  
BMDA NEGOTIATION PREPARATIONS, BATH, ME

## 2017 UPCOMING EVENTS

SEP 09 23RD MDA GOLF TOURNAMENT, CEDAR RIDGE  
EAST LYME, CT  
OCT 06 MDA-UAW CAMP OUTING, NATURES CAMPSITES  
VOLUNTOWN, CT  
DEC 09 ANNUAL HOLIDAY DINNER DANCE, MOHEGAN SUN  
UNCASVILLE, CT

- FOR ANY EVENT -

Please call the Union Office to confirm within the deadlines!

**CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS ACCEPTED. NO CASH**

We will strive to make sure we can properly accommodate everyone.

## JOHN F. SAFFOMILLA AND E. ROY COLVILLE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNERS



Pictured above from left to right: Virginia Doyle, Drew Preston, Meagan Power, John Madden, Jillian Zuidema, Makenzie Mahar, Morgan Smith. Not in attendance was Olivia Tolley.

On July 7th, the recipients for the scholarship awards were treated to a Dinner at Tony D's along with their families.

Member Joseph Doyle's daughter Virginia will be attending the University of Rhode Island, Retiree Bill Crandalls grandson Jack will be attending Southern CT State University, member Michael Mahars daughter Makenzie will be attending the University of Vermont, member Robert Power's daughter Meagan will be attending Plymouth State University, member Danzelle Preston's daughter Drew will be attending Temple University, member Thomas Smith's daughter Morgan will be attending Bay Path University, member Alison Tolley's daughter Olivia will be attending Sacred Heart University and member Todd Zuidema's daughter Jillian, will be attending Central CT State University.



Dr. Sullivan (who judged the entries) talks about the process and life expectations to the scholarship recipients.

Good Luck Graduates, on your new life's adventure in College!

## MDA-UAW LOCAL 571 2017 MEETING SCHEDULE

EVENT	DATE	TIME	PLACE
Executive Board	May 01	3:30 PM	Groton Inn & Suites
Executive Council	May 01	4:30 PM	Groton Inn & Suites
Executive Board	Jun 05	3:00 PM	Ocean Beach
General Membership	Jun 05	4:30 PM	Ocean Beach
Executive Board	Jul 10	3:30 PM	Union Office
Executive Council	Jul 10	4:30 PM	Suspended
Executive Board	Aug 07	3:30 PM	Union Office
Executive Council	Aug 07	4:30 PM	Suspended
Executive Board	Sep 11	3:00 PM	Ocean Beach
General Membership	Sep 11	4:30 PM	Ocean Beach
Executive Board	Oct 02	3:30 PM	Groton Inn & Suites
Executive Council	Oct 02	4:30 PM	Groton Inn & Suites
Executive Board	Nov 06	3:30 PM	Groton Inn & Suites
Executive Council	Nov 06	4:30 PM	Groton Inn & Suites
Executive Board	Dec 04	3:00 PM	Ocean Beach
General Membership	Dec 04	4:30 PM	Ocean Beach

## AUDIT

From August 14th-18th, Trustees Paul Smith, Wayne Burgess and Eric Straub performed the required 6-month biennial audit of the Union Hall to ensure our books are balanced and all financial requirements are met. Everything was in order with no discrepancies.

## STATE BUDGET DISCUSSIONS

On April 4th, State of Connecticut Sate Comptroller Kevin Lembo visited Local 571 along with Region 9A Director Julie Kushner, MTC President Ken Delacruz and MDA President William Louis to discuss Connecticut's budget and what we can expect now and in the future.



Comptroller Kevin Lembo, Region 9A Director Julie Kushner, MTC President Ken Delacruz and MDA President William Louis at the Union Hall

In an update on August 1st, the Comptroller said the state is now on track to close the 2017 fiscal year with a small surplus – but warned that it's based on volatile revenue, including the inheritance and estate tax, and program cuts that may have long-term economic ramifications.

In a letter to Gov. Dannel P. Malloy, Lembo said this small \$35.7 million surplus – an improvement of \$142.9 million from last month – may be good news in the short term, but potentially problematic in the long run.

"Today's small gain could be tomorrow's great pain when state program cuts, particularly those to early childhood programs, produce long-term economic problems," Lembo said. "This small surplus is no measure of success, but simply the result of one-time volatile

*BUDGET continued on Page 15*





# FROM YOUR COMMITTEES



## ELECTION COMMITTEE

Officer Ken Rowland



Newly elected Councillors Mike Cichon, Bob Andrade and Velma Williams are sworn in.

## COUNCILLOR ELECTIONS

Elections were held on August 3rd for Building 221. Robert Andrade won that area for Councillor.

Elections were held on August 3rd for Tower B. Velma Williams won that area for Councillor.

## OFFICER ELECTION

Elections were held on June

29th for Recording Secretary. Martha Fletcher won the seat for Recording Secretary. Congratulations and Welcome to the Team!



## JOINT APPRENTICESHIP COMMITTEE

Officer Ken Rowland

## UNION HELPS DEVELOP DESIGN PIPELINE

On July 17th, the first class of prospective MDA Designers began their training at Ella Grasso Tech in a program developed as part of the Design Pipeline. The Pipeline training is intended to give students a head start in their workplace skills, and is the first step to employment which can lead to the Design Apprenticeship. Eighteen students are participating in the training, which was developed jointly by Electric Boat and the MDA-UAW Local 571.

Apprenticeship Representatives Velma Williams and Joe Marmaud attended meetings at the Eastern Workforce Investment Board office to help develop the Pipeline training program along with 1st Vice President Ken Rowland. We worked along with the Training Department and Design Managers to develop the curriculum and coordinate the training facilities and instructor roster.

[APPRENTICE continued on Page 6](#)



## WOMENS COMMITTEE

Officer Martha Fletcher



## 2017 WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

On August 6th, Pam Gonski, Velma Williams, Shelby Dubois-Jenness and Elizabeth Strader attended the Women's Conference at Black Lake.



## VETERANS COMMITTEE

Officer Bill May

## FREEDOM TRAIL

On Saturday, May 20th, the Veterans Committee sponsored about 60 members and families who boarded the bus for Boston at 7:00 am for the Freedom Trail Walking Tour.



One of the sights along the way is Faneuil Hall (Quincy Market). It has been a market place and meeting hall since 1743 where Samuel Adams, James Otis and others, gave speeches encouraging independence from Great Britain.

The walking tour covers 2.5 miles which includes 16 historical sites starting at **Boston Common**. First stop is the **Massachusetts State House** which was originally John Hancock's cow pasture. Next is **Park Street Church**, founded in 1809 with a 217 foot steeple and became known for supporting human rights, abolitionist causes and is the location that "My Country 'tis of Thee" was sung for the first time.

[BOSTON continued on Page 6](#)



## CHAPLAIN COMMITTEE

Officer Martha Fletcher

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW CHAPLAIN

"When joining the Local 571, I was looking for an opportunity to serve my fellow brothers and sisters. I have been involved with my local church for many years and see this as another opportunity to serve others. I have a Bachelor of Science Degree in Communications with a minor in Psychology.



Will Hopkins and his son Benjamin

I am here to help, to talk through things, or just to listen. When someone has a need, I am available to meet with them, talk with them through rough times and even pray with them if requested. Everyone has those times in their life when they need someone who will be there to listen, I will be that person. Every conversation is held in confidence and will be kept that way. Please feel free to reach out to me if you have a need. I am here to help! Thanks, Will Hopkins"



## RECOGNITION COMMITTEE

Officer Dave Reagan

## RECOGNITION DINNER

Each year, members and officers volunteer their time and energy to outside events and activities, which is off the clock, unpaid time and in return they receive a dinner and gift in appreciation for all they do. This years dinner was held at the Groton Inn & Suites on Saturday June 17th, with 84

[VOLUNTEER continued on Page 12](#)





# OUR MEMBERS



## RETIREEES

04/01/17	Chappell, Gary F.
04/01/17	Ford, Roderick D.
04/01/17	Mack, Susan P.
04/01/17	Wilson, Renate M.
04/08/17	Biancarosa, John D.
04/22/17	Babb, Lee C.
04/27/17	Leroux Jr., Armand L.
04/29/17	Courtemanche, Dennis A.
04/29/17	Desantis, Thomas P.
04/29/17	Flanagan, Paul L.
04/29/17	Rocawich, Brian G.
04/29/17	Schiessl, James
05/06/17	Benoit, Ellen
05/06/17	Mingoia, Mary Jane
05/13/17	Hall, Gary S.
05/16/17	Clay, Patricia
05/20/17	Deming, Robert C.
06/01/17	Gray, William R..
06/03/17	Bradshaw, Robert
06/03/17	Heon, Dennis A.
06/07/17	Updegrave, Dennis J.
06/09/17	McClung, Robert C.
06/14/2017	Laudone, Stephen Mark
06/17/17	Homsher, Aaron C.
06/30/2017	Brevard Jr, Kenneth G
07/01/17	Erardy, Michael J.
07/08/2017	Rios, Ronald R
07/08/2017	Tate Jr, Kenneth V
07/29/2017	McElhinney, Philip J
7/29/2017	Priddy, Gary Richard
08/18/17	Basile, Joanne
08/31/17	Gladue, Joe
08/31/17	Feix, Robert

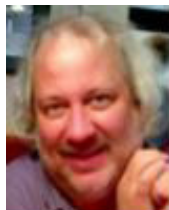
**CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR ALL:**  
NOTICES - UPDATES - PICTURES  
ARTICLES - COPY OF NEWSLETTERS

The MDA-UAW Website can be accessed through EB's Home Page. As always, use care and responsibility during working hours when on the web.

## IN MEMORIAM

*We are deeply saddened by the sudden loss of our Union brothers.  
Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families.*

### DOUG RADICIONI



Doug worked in design at Electric Boat in Groton for many years and was very musically inclined; he enjoyed playing all instruments, especially the guitar. He had so much love to give to those around him, including all animals. Rest in Peace Doug, you will be missed.



### ROBERT "BOB" CAFFARY

Bob worked in Design at Electric Boat from 1961 to his retirement in 2014. He had a great recall of facts and figures and was an asset

to the design community. Bob was a US Army Veteran, and in 2015 was presented with an award commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War. Bob will be greatly missed by his family and those knew and worked with him. Rest in Peace Bob, you certainly will be missed.

*Please contact the Union Hall to have someone you know remembered or pay a special tribute to.*

## NEW HIRE CLASSES

New Hire Classes are held at the Union Hall. If you are a new hire and haven't attended these classes, contact your Councillor or Grievance Rep to sign up and attend.



## REMEMBERING OUR MEMBERS

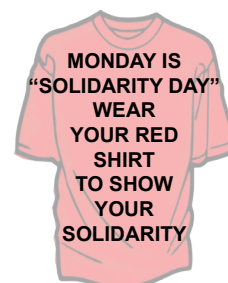
*"When you were born, you cried and the world rejoiced. Live you life in a manner so that when you die the world cries and you rejoice."*  
~Native American Proverb

Doug Radicioni  
10/14/66 – 05/10/17

Bob Caffary  
08/07/38 – 08/30/17

## 2017 RETIREE LUNCHEONS

- SEP 08 Venice Restaurant, Westerly RI
- OCT 13 Richmond Country Club, Richmond RI
- NOV 10 River Ridge Country Club, Griswold CT
- DEC 08 Ocean Beach, New London CT



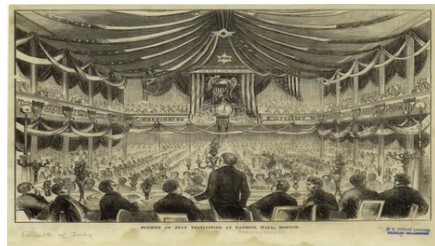
## GET INVOLVED

If you would like to volunteer or get involved in any of our committees, events or volunteer efforts, contact the Union Hall at 860-448-0552.





*BOSTON continued from Page 4*



*An old postcard depicting Faneuil Hall packed with people gathered to hear speakers*

Onto the **Granary Burying Ground**, holding over 2300 markers and where many revolutionary war heroes are buried, including 3 that signed the Declaration of Independence.

**King's Chapel and Kings Burying Ground.** Kings Chapel, before the Revolution, was the first Church of England

under the English Government. After the Revolution it became a Unitarian Church. King's Chapel Burying Ground was Boston's first burying ground that holds, among others, the first woman to step off the Mayflower.

Moving onto the **Benjamin Franklin Statue & Boston Latin School**, which is the oldest public school in America. Ben Franklin's statue currently marks the school's original location.

The **Old Corner Book Store** was the center of American book publishing. Works were published from Longfellow, Stowe, Emerson and Thoreau and other prominent American and British authors who often gathered here.

**Old South Meeting House** which was the organizing point for the beginning of the revolt to the imposition of huge taxes imposed on the American people that our founders would not stand for. On December 16, 1773 over 300 tons of taxable tea sat in holds of 3 ships. If the tea was unloaded, a tax would have to be paid to England. Five thousand colonists crowded into the meeting house to decide what to do. After failing to have the tea sent back to England, Samuel Adams addressed the crowd stating "This meeting can do nothing more to save the Country" which was rumored to be a secret signal to the Sons of Liberty, who dressed as Mohawk Indians, to march down to Griffin's Wharf and destroy 340 crates of tea by dumping them into the harbor. This famous event became known as the Boston Tea Party.

The **Old State House** is the site of the Boston Massacre, where 5 men were murdered on March 5, 1770 by the British which was the beginning of the Revolutionary War.

**Faneuil Hall**, often referred to as *The Home of Free Speech* and *The Cradle of Liberty* and hosted America's first town meeting. It was here that Americans first protested against the Sugar Act and the Stamp Act, setting the doctrine that would be known as "NO TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION".

The next stop on the Freedom Trail is **Paul Revere's House**, and the oldest remaining structure in downtown Boston. It was here when he made his famous messenger ride to Lexington. Throughout the 19th century, the home served as a boarding house and tenement for Sailors and Irish, Jewish and Italian immigrants.

The trek then takes you down the walkway to the **Old North Church**, where Paul Revere met with Robert Newman to tell him how to signal the advancement of British troops toward Lexington and Concord. Newman then met with Sons of Liberty Captain Pulleene and Thomas Bernard. Newman and Pulleene climbed the stairs and the ladders in the



*Photo Courtesy of Mel Hicks*

steeple 8 stories with the two lanterns, just long enough for the patriots in Charlestown to learn what was being immortalized by the phrase "One if by land, Two if by Sea" in Longfellow's poem. A phrase that has lived in infamy. British occupied Boston at that time, but the American spirit of Liberty lived on and fought - they would not give up our land to the British.

**Copp's Hill Burying Ground**, the final resting place of merchants, artists and craftspeople who lived in the North End and Boston's largest Colonial burial ground dating back to 1859. Buried here is Robert Newman, who was with Paul Revere on his midnight ride along with Edmond Hart, builder of the USS Constitution. Countless free African Americans are buried in Potters Field on the Carter Street side of the site. You can even see the grave of Captain Daniel Malcolm's tombstone which are riddled with the marks of vengeful British bullets.

**Bunker Hill Monument** was the location of the first major battle of the Revolutionary War on June 17, 1775 and predicted the character and outcome of the rest of the war. It took a force of 3000 red coats to dislodge the Colonial Militia from a hastily constructed Redoubt atop Breed's Hill in Charlestown. It is said that "Don't fire until you see the whites of their eyes" is said to have been uttered by William Prescott. While technically a British victory, the battle of Bunker Hill proved that Colonial forces could fight effectively against the British. The cornerstone of the monument was laid in 1825 by Revolutionary war hero Lafayette on the 50th Anniversary of the battle. The 221 foot granite monument would not be finished until 1882.

And last but not least, is the **USS Constitution** which was named and commissioned by George Washington after our Constitution. Public adoration affectionately named this vessel "old ironside" by defeating 5 British ships and several merchant ships in battle and won her acclaim for her name. Very few ships have ever had that kind of adoration.

After a beautiful day and a great time, everyone returned home around 7:00pm that evening. What a great day!

*APPRENTICE continued from Page 4*

Design Pipeline funding is provided by the Eastern CT Manufacturing Pipeline, a program funded by the US Department of Labor-Workforce Innovation Fund in partnership with the CT Department of Labor and the Eastern CT Workforce Investment Board. The program allows unemployed and under-employed workers and Veterans to be trained in advance to reach employment standards established by EB and other companies in the area which are partners in the program.

The students are taught NX Basic, Large Assembly, PMI, Blueprint Reading, Drafting Basic Math and Workplace Skills. The 5 week program is taught by EB employees, many of whom are MDA members, and successful completion qualifies the student for employment at EB. The students have the advantage of being trained to a large degree at no expense to the company. The Union has an opportunity to come to the training and speak with the class about the benefits and responsibilities of being a member.

All in all the program is a win-win situation for the students, the company, and the MDA-UAW Local 571. The first class of 18 is scheduled to graduate August 18th. We are looking forward to welcoming the graduates here at EB and greeting the new MDA members. The second class of the ongoing training begins Sept. 11th.



# SOLIDARITY DAY PICNIC



## 8TH ANNUAL SOLIDARITY DAY PICNIC

On Saturday, August 12th, the MDA held it's 8th Annual Solidarity Day Picnic in Washington Park, Groton CT. Catering was done by Tony D's who served hot dogs, hamburgers, clam chowder, corn on the cob and steamers. Chester's BBQ was also there with a roasted pig and potato salad. There was a dunk booth and 2 bounce houses, one for the little ones and a larger slide/obstacle course for the older kids. Ben and Jerry's ice cream truck completed the meal. Extra tents were set up with additional seating for the more than 350 members and their families who attended.



See more pictures from the Solidarity Picnic, go to the [MDA-UAW Website](#) under Photo Albums







# UMASS LOWELL RALLY



## UMASS LOWELL: IT'S TIME TO PAY ADJUNCTS A LIVING WAGE

On June 6th, President William E. Louis, 1st Vice President Ken Rowland, Financial Secretary Bill May along with members Tim Carlson, Velma Williams, Liam Zarkos, Aaron Pearson, Joe Husereau, Rob Palmer and Carol Mauro gathered for a rally outside one of the University of Massachusetts facilities to protest unfair practices against its adjunct professors.

UMass made a \$61.5 million purchase of Perkins Park which expands its East Campus and helps to advance the university's presence in the city of Lowell.

How they spend their money reflects their values. UML clearly (and rightly) values its students' housing needs. But to fully appreciate UML's values, it's important to note how it **does not** spend its money.

UML stands in isolation from its sister schools Amherst and Boston in failing to adequately compensate its adjunct faculty by refusing to establish parity with these two campuses: UML adjuncts not only earn significantly less than the other two schools, they also do not receive health or retirement benefits like the other two schools. At UMass Amherst, the minimum amount an adjunct is paid per course is \$6,500. The adjuncts in Boston make at least \$5,000 per course. At UMass Lowell, adjuncts make a minimum of \$4,400 per course. If the pay difference is not enough evidence, it's worth noting that Lowell adjuncts do not receive health benefits or a pension or social security. Adjuncts must pay out of pocket for health insurance, unlike their colleagues throughout the rest of the UMass system.

Debbie White, a Lowell Adjunct Faculty stated "Our "benefits" are that we may choose to enroll in a voluntary retirement program (which we fully fund; more taken out of our already-low salary) and we are permitted to enroll in

one course per year at UML". She went on with "UML students need and deserve housing options, as well as a committed faculty, and UML understands that. I am not sure why it doesn't understand that its adjunct faculty needs and deserves a living wage."

The Lowell administration offered a 2.5 percent pay increase per year, however this did not meet the adjuncts' needs. The administration failed to offer health insurance or pension. Lowell is the only UMass that does not offer these benefits to their adjunct faculty.

For over 10 years, adjuncts have worked without a raise, and in the history of UMass Lowell, no adjunct has received one benefit - ever. Any adjunct, for any reason, can be fired for no reason.

Julia Malakie with the Lowell Sun made a short video, and one of the clips was an interview with Tess George, adjunct professor of communications. She said "Our students have been quite supportive, actually" when asked about her situation, she said "I make about 4,000 a class, which is about 16,000 year, for about 1/2 a year. In order to make ends meet, she has her own business and also teaches for another college.

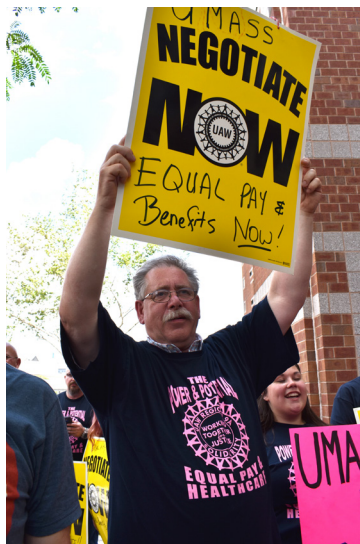
They have no benefits like sick, personal, vacation or health insurance. They have no retirement. They get no benefits at all. They get paid somewhere around 16K a year compared to their counterparts making over 100k a year.

We are seeing a trend across the country that more and more university's are cutting back on tenure professors and many are using more adjunct professors. It's not a bad thing - adjunct professors are really good professors - it's not a good thing when they are not integrated into the school, it's a bad thing when they're paid unfairly"

**To date,  
these  
issues are  
unresolved.**



*Region 9A Director, Julie Kushner speaking to union members, community and faith leaders and calling on UML Chancellors to end the over 2 year old stalemate.*





# 2017 LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



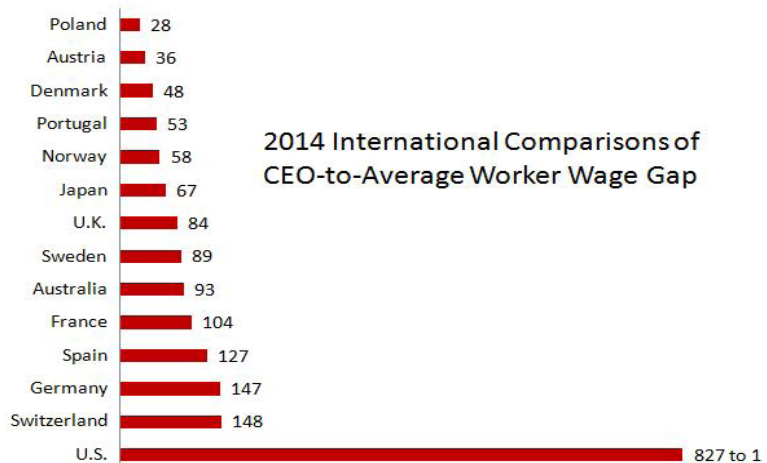
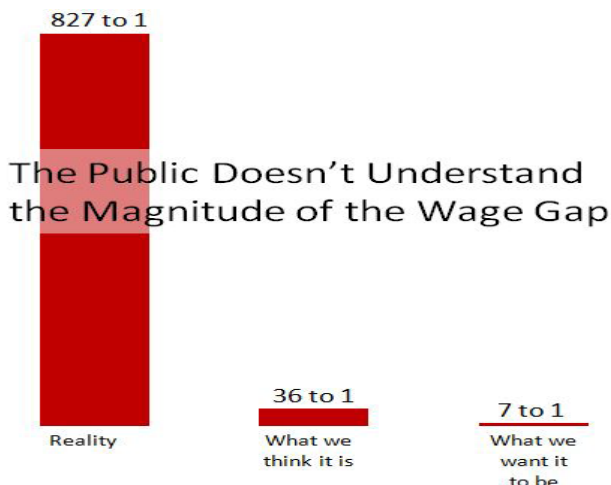
## LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE AND SAMP RALLY

The yearly Region 9A Leadership Conference was held Sunday, August 27 through Thursday, August 31st. UAW President William E. Louis, 2nd Vice President Ken Rowland, Recording Secretary Martha Fletcher, Trustee Wayne Burgess and retirees Dan Hall, Don Digidio and Ron Arner attended the Leadership Conference in Cape Cod MA. UAW Speakers from the IEB (International Executive Board of the UAW) included President Dennis Williams, Vice President Cindy Estrada and Financial Secretary Gary Casteel, Jose Melara and Julie Kushner. A special award given to one of our retirees Judi Page for her dedication and service to Union Activities.

### THE WAGE GAP IS MUCH BIGGER THAN WE THINK

This years conference was on Reversing Runaway Equality. Author and speaker Les Leopold was there the whole week to talk on Runaway inequality. Runaway inequality is now America's most critical economic fact of life.

In 1970, the ratio of pay between the top 100 CEOs and the average worker was 45 to 1.



Today it is a shocking 827 to one! During that time a new economic philosophy set in that cut taxes, deregulated finance, and trimmed social spending. Those policies set in motion a process that greatly expanded the power of financial interests to accelerate inequality.

The general public has no idea how large the wage gap has become. We estimate the wage to be 36 to 1 - even lower than it was more than 40 years ago. While it should really be somewhere around 7 to 1.

Les explained exactly how the process by which corporation after corporation falls victim to systematic wealth extraction by banks, private equity firms, and hedge funds. He discussed how financial strip-mining puts enormous downward pressure on jobs, wages, benefits, and working conditions, while boosting the incomes of financial elites.

But Runaway Inequality does more than make sense of our economic plight. It also shows why virtually all the key issues that we face--from climate change to the exploding prison population--are intimately connected to rising economic inequality.

*LEADERSHIP continued on Page 13*





## The Day



New London, Conn., Sunday, February 22, 1987

Serving Southeastern Connecticut Since 1881

6 Sections 76 Pages 75¢ a copy Vol. 106, No. 231



EB security guard and dog

### Security clearances tighter at EB

Lawyers criticize agency's investigation methods

By Maria Hileman  
Day Staff Writer

GROTON — Last fall, Peter Jones' supervisor at Electric Boat submitted his name for an upgraded security clearance that would allow him to work aboard submarines under construction.

The Defense Investigative Service denied Jones' bid for the "red" security clearance, then went on to recommend lifting his lower-level clearance, citing a cocaine arrest for which the charges were later dropped.

Peter Jones is a made-up name

for a marine designer who has held security clearances at four East Coast defense plants since 1974. He told the investigators about the cocaine arrest, figuring he owed them candor.

He figures differently now. "These guys are like old-fashioned Presbyterians," said Jones, who asked that his real name be withheld because he managed to clear himself and is still working at EB.

"You have two beers and they suspect you have an alcoholism problem. Being totally honest didn't pay off. I finally convinced

them it was an experimental use of cocaine, but for a while my career was at stake."

By insisting on a hearing and packing it with favorable witnesses, Jones managed to keep his clearance — and his job. "If I had to do it again, I'd have had a lawyer and wouldn't have gone into any detail," he said.

Other defense industry employees haven't been as quick-witted or as fortunate as Jones, losing their jobs in a nationwide crackdown on

Security/A5



McQuarrie



Sosville

#### ON PAGE A5

■ Daniel McQuarrie and William Sosville say treatment for substance abuse cost their jobs.

■ A new rule places more burden to report suspicious workers.

### Rules aim at specific problems

GROTON — A Department of Defense directive places more responsibility than ever on EB managers and workers to report unfavorable information about one another.

The requirement covers a broad range of problems, from psychiatric treatment and alcohol abuse to what the Pentagon directive calls "bizarre or disgraceful misconduct."

Defense contractors are obligated to report adverse information that suggests an individual's access to classified information may not be clearly consistent with the national interest.

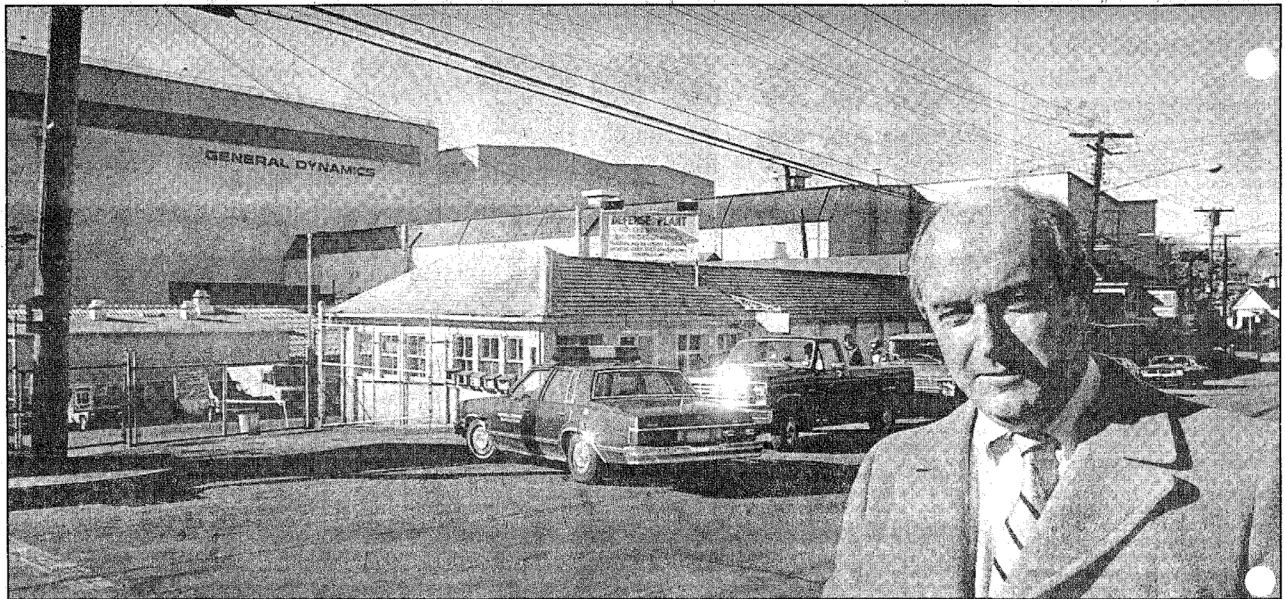
Failure by EB to report cases deemed significant by the Defense Investigative Service could result in an unsatisfactory security rating, shutting the shipyard out of future contracts.

The crackdown, which is nationwide, has brought criticism from targets of DIS investigations, union officials and lawyers. Critics say the government has unfairly targeted workers with problems such as alcoholism or indebtedness as a means of reaching a mandated number of clearance reductions.

"I wouldn't know classified information if I fell on it. They go to the bottom and make the poor guys on the bottom take the rap just because they're embarrassed by the spy cases," said Daniel McQuarrie, a former EB carpenter who lost his clearance and his job in May 1986 for alcohol and drug abuse.

The heightened security awareness flows directly from

Continued in Column A



Gordon Alexander

New London attorney James Courtney, standing by the main gate at Electric Boat, is representing security clearance hearings for about a dozen workers

### Security clearance cases rising at EB

From A1

security clearances that grew out of spy scandals, especially the Navy's Walker family spy case in 1985.

New policies resulting from the spy scandals call for stricter enforcement of federal guidelines and encourage — even require — employees at defense plants to report unfavorable information about each other.

Lawyers in southeastern Connecticut who have experienced a heavier caseload of clients with security clearance problems say it is not decisions to revoke clearances that trouble them, but how the investigations

Continued in Column B

**"What came out of the espionage cases was that far too much information was being protected and too many clearances were going out. What you're seeing is an attempt to literally reshape the whole program."**

Dale Hartig, DIS spokesman

"The mistake I made was going to 'The Farm,' plain and simple," said

Continued in Column C

and in a setting where he does not expect it to be used against him," said attorney

Continued in Column D

investigative staff operating out of an office next to the Groton post office, issues security clearances for employees at EB and the Naval Underwater Systems Center in New London.

The DIS procedure for reviewing security clearances, as described by some of those investigated, their lawyers, union and company officials and a DIS spokesman, goes like this:

Through various methods such as tips from supervisors and other workers, interviews with neighbors and friends, and examinations of police logs and other documents, the DIS finds out

Continued in Column E



Continued from Column A

Continued from Column B

Continued from Column C

Continued from Column D

Continued from Column E

events of 1985, dubbed "The Year of the Spy," when 13 people were arrested for espionage in the United States, the record for any year.

"No one really likes it," one EB management source said of the mandate to report on workers. "Some managers are really upset about it. But we are left with no choice. This has come down from on high, and we are taking it seriously."

The Pentagon's adverse information directive requires EB to report the following situations to the company's Industrial Security Department and the DIS: involvement in criminal activities, bizarre or notoriously disgraceful conduct, treatment for mental/emotional disorders, excessive use of intoxicants, use or possession of illegal drugs or controlled substances, including marijuana, heroin, cocaine and hashish, and excessive indebtedness or recurring financial difficulties.

A May 1986 memo on adverse reporting from EB Security Director Ronald A. Smaldone says employees also should report arrests for any serious violation of law, including drunken driving.

The increased scrutiny at EB and other defense plants is a foretaste of what promises to be a year of heightened discussion in Washington of national security.

Congressional hearings are to begin soon on ways to further tighten security clearance procedures for the military and for defense contractors.

—Maria Hileman

are triggered and the process the DIS uses once it begins a security investigation.

At least 50 EB workers approached four lawyers in the region about their security clearances in the last six months of 1986. The lawyers surveyed are those who handle a significant percentage of cases related to EB.

Many EB workers interviewed asked that their names not be used. Daniel McQuarrie, though, agreed to tell his story. McQuarrie, 34, is now receiving his final weeks of unemployment compensation after losing his clearance — and, inevitably, his job — last June.

McQuarrie, who had been a carpenter at EB since 1980, admits he drank heavily on weekends. In May 1984, he voluntarily enrolled in an alcohol rehabilitation program at Stonington Institute in North Stonington, his second try at conquering his drinking problem.

EB assured him that going to "The Farm" (Stonington Institute used to be called Starlight Farms) would have no effect on his job. But six months after he returned to work he found a note clipped to his time card notifying him of an appointment with a DIS agent.

At the interview, McQuarrie objected to signing a form allowing release of his medical records. The DIS investigator told him he could be fired if he refused to cooperate.

"After I signed it, he put his hand on my shoulder and told me it took a lot of guts to go to Stonington Institute. He acted like my friend. I walked out feeling proud of myself. When I saw him there at the hearing to testify against me, I felt such a sense of betrayal," McQuarrie said.

Two months after his hearing in June 1986, he was fired by EB. Today, McQuarrie is convinced his try at rehabilitation cost him his job.

William R. Sosville lost his job at EB in October.

Sosville. "You can be the biggest drunk at EB and not lose your job, but if you go for help and don't make it, it's all over."

The government's position is that security clearances are a privilege and not a right. In practice, this means defense employees do not receive the full array of constitutional guarantees.

By and large, the lawyers say, the results of cases that go to hearing are fair, and more people maintain clearances than lose them. A security source at Electric Boat said "a very small percentage" of workers reported by managers — often for alcohol-related problems such as drunk driving arrests or domestic disturbances — actually have their clearances pulled.

In some instances, though, there have been abuses, these lawyers say.

"The biggest flaw I can find is the use of statements by workers as confessions. . . . They tell (a worker) he could lose his clearance and his job, but they don't give him the flip side — that he has the right to a lawyer and that what he says can be used against him," said Frank N. Eppinger, a Groton attorney who has represented 15 EB employees with clearance problems, including McQuarrie.

Stephen C. Embry, whose Groton law firm was contacted for legal advice about security clearances by about a dozen people in the latter part of 1986, said he believes that even if the results of the hearings are generally fair, the procedure needs to be examined. "We don't allow people to be drawn and quartered anymore either," Embry said. "Sure, there are times when a guy loses his clearance who deserves to. But do we want to condone a system that allows a person to incriminate himself this way?"

"The fault I find is the use by the government of statements that are voluntarily given by an employee in a setting that he's been asked to cooperate

James Courtney of New London, who since June 1986 has interviewed more than 25 people with clearance problems. He is handling the appeals at hearings for about half of them.

In June 1985, Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger ordered a 10 percent reduction in security clearances nationwide. Since then, the number of clearances has dropped from 4.4 million to 3.5 million.

The cutback has been about 16 percent at most defense contractors, with a 12 percent reduction in clearances at EB. Though EB would provide no figures, the 12 percent equates to about 2,000 workers in Groton and Quonset Point, R.I., who have lost clearances or whose level of clearance has been reduced.

The DIS said the cutback at EB has not been as deep as at other contractors because of the strategic importance of submarines to the nation's defense.

Even so, Metal Trades Council spokesman William Fagan said the security crackdown intensified more during mid- and late 1986 than he has seen in 20 years at EB.

In many defense plants, workers can be given alternate jobs if they fail to maintain security clearances. But such opportunities are virtually nonexistent at EB: The only positions at EB that do not require clearances are a few at the Midway Oval facility and in the employees' benefits office.

Moreover, workers and employers now are being urged to tighten security through a new program called adverse reporting.

DIS spokesman Dale Hartig said a Nov. 13, 1986, directive to contractors requires them to report to the DIS if an employee refuses rehabilitation or treatment when offered by the company. The company also must report if the employee fails to complete or is unsuccessful in such a program. The DIS, which has an 11-agent

whether there is reason to question a worker.

How the DIS gets the name of a specific worker is seldom clear. In most cases, EB refers names suggested by supervisors and workers through a security hotline. EB and the DIS will disclose how any particular cases were instigated or how they were disposed.

The employee is given a four-part Privacy Act advisement, called Form Letter I, advising him of provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974. The document outlines the executive authority under which the DIS operates, gives the purpose of the interview, outlines how the information can be used, and makes clear the voluntary nature of disclosure of information.

The problem, lawyers say, is that workers seldom read or thoroughly understand the document. Most of those interviewed did not recall reading the document. They said they did not realize their jobs were at stake. Most did not consider seeking legal advice, and several of those interviewed said they were discouraged from consulting attorneys.

"I asked the agent if I should get an attorney," said McQuarrie. "He said I could, but it wouldn't make any difference. I would still have to sign the releases and cooperate."

Hartig said DIS policy is not to advise an interviewee about his right to a lawyer. "That's up to them," he said. "We don't encourage it. If they want to bring one, that's their right. A lawyer or union official may sit in on an interview, but can only advise the person."

Said the attorney Embry: "Usually a guy comes in and tells me what he's already told the DIS, and I realize immediately that he's sunk. It's one thing for an agent to ask if someone has ever been convicted of a felony, and another to ask if he ever did anything that could get him convicted."

## Workers say honesty cost their jobs

By Maria Hileman  
Day Staff Writer

GROTON — William R. Sosville thought he was helping himself. Now he thinks his voluntary enrollment in an alcohol treatment program cost him his job at Electric Boat.

"I'm no saint," said Sosville, shaking his head sadly. "But I'm no communist either. Nobody ever told me that if I went to 'The Farm' my job was on the line. Alcoholics need a job too. Things were starting to look up for me, but now I've hit the bottom of the barrel."

Sosville, 37, of Groton, lost his job of 13 years as a painter at EB in early October when the Defense Investigative Service lifted his security clearance. The government's position is that he had failed to demonstrate a long-term commitment to staying away from alcohol and that it was not in the interests of national security to let him work at EB.

Sosville is convinced his decision to go to Stonington Institute in North Stonington, formerly known as Starlight Farms, for alcohol rehabilitation in June 1984 "backed off the DIS investigation."

Although he admits to having

a relapse when he left Stonington Institute, Sosville says it had been six months since he had been drinking heavily when the DIS agent called him in for an interview.

He admitted to the agent he still drank socially — a violation of the no-alcohol principle recovering alcoholics must live by. He also had a drunk driving arrest during the relapse. The DIS determined that Sosville had failed to meet the criterion of staying clear of alcohol for two years since his treatment.

There was no evidence his consumption of alcohol had caused recent problems at work, and his general foreman testified he was a good employee, according to the DIS statement.

Losing his job plunged Sosville into depression, and he began drinking hard again.

"I know my job will never come back," Sosville said during an interview in December in his Groton apartment. "But I just want to let other people know that this is how it is if you try to help yourself. I never gave my country's secrets away. I never went in drunk and never let alcoholism affect my job. Everybody at EB drinks, even with their bosses. But it's only

when you go for help that they get you."

Daniel McQuarrie of New London, a former EB carpenter who also lost his clearance for alcohol problems last year, said he decided to seek help when problems at home began mounting. All the problems he divulged in group sessions at Stonington Institute came back to haunt him during his DIS hearing, he said.

"The nurses made notes of everything," McQuarrie said. "They encouraged you to tell the truth. I talked about my marital problems, smoking pot when I was a kid, fist fights, using cocaine."

"After I was released and returned to work I thought everything was OK. But it wasn't. All my medical records came back, in their terms, at the hearing. I hadn't even thought of that stuff since I was at Stonington Institute, and I had to try to defend myself against it," he said.

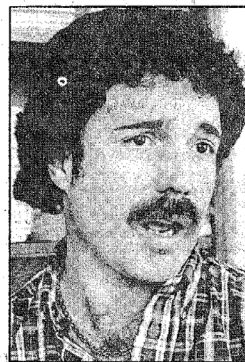
Some union stewards have said they think twice before advising union members to enroll voluntarily in treatment programs now that the government has begun focusing on alcohol and drug problems among holders of security clearances.

Although it is impossible to trace how the DIS gets its initial information in cases such as Sosville's and McQuarrie's, the government's crackdown on enforcement of the "adverse reporting" requirement in the Industrial Security Manual makes it the responsibility of the contractor, EB, to inform the DIS when an employee fails to recover after going through a drug or alcohol treatment program.

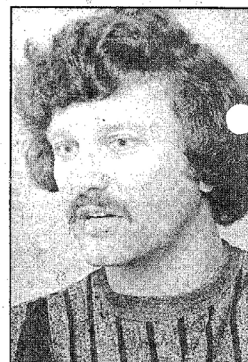
The security department at EB has an extensive security education program and operates a hotline through which any employee can report on another.

In a letter to security department representatives in mid-1986, EB Security Director Ronald A. Smaldone said EB recognizes that company-sponsored programs for treatment of alcoholism and drugs guarantee a certain degree of confidentiality.

"Membership, per se, in such a program need not be reported as adverse information, but both the employer and employee must understand that such participation may not provide any sort of shield or immunity from the report requirement should, in spite of enrollment in such a program,



Daniel McQuarrie



William R. Sosville

the individual maintain a pattern of excessive usage where it's clear that professional performance and judgment are being impaired," Smaldone said.

Kenneth Shortman, the director of EB's Employee Assistance Program, said there is no direct relationship between his office and the DIS. Shortman handles drug and alcohol problems in the shipyard.

"I cannot relate any information in my office or outside of my office about a client unless the person signs a release form," Shortman said.

"I realize some of the union people feel there's a connection between me and the DIS on reporting, but there is none."

An EB security official, who declined to be identified, estimated that slightly more than half the cases reopened for security clearance reviews by the DIS are the result of information from the company.

Dale Hartig, a spokesman for the DIS, said alcoholism is increasingly being considered security clearance reviews. "Alcoholism promotes loose tongues," he said.





# WOMAN IN THE WORKPLACE



*Gail Kinney from the United Labor Agency speaks on Women in Manufacturing and Design opportunities at the Boilermakers Hall.*

Today, women in manufacturing have the same opportunities as men—whether it's operating a complex machine, designing a product, or managing the operations of an entire company. Yet between 2010 and 2011, according to a study by the National Women's Law Center, men gained 230,000 jobs in manufacturing while women lost 25,000 jobs.

Today, only about 30 percent of Americans who work in manufacturing are women, and 15 percent of students enrolled in manufacturing degree programs are women.

Women can make a critical difference in an industry in dire need of qualified skilled workers -- and they have the same opportunities as men to succeed and excel in the new world of manufacturing.

## CAREERS AND APPRENTICESHIPS

A strong manufacturing sector is essential to our nation's economic success and to our ability to raise wages and provide family-supporting jobs. But decades of devastating trade policy and attacks on unions have taken their toll. The loss of factories doesn't only devastate local communities, but drains the engineering and research jobs that power innovation. The United States must invest in critical manufacturing sectors and technologies and invest in people to meet the needs of the economy.

## APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS

Apprenticeship programs integrate systematic on-the-job training, guided by an experienced master-level practitioner in an occupation, with classroom instruction. The federal government, in cooperation with the states, registers apprenticeship programs that meet federal and state standards. The best programs—which provide multiple industries with highly skilled workers who earn family-sustaining wages—are registered with government agencies, operated by sponsors representing labor and management organizations and funded through collectively bargained contributions to tax-exempt trust funds.

These include Building and Construction Trades Apprenticeship Programs, Manufacturing Training and Apprenticeship Programs.

Eastern CT Manufacturing Pipeline 6-7 week program basic math, blueprint reading and hire more woman in manufacturing and the trades. Gail Kinney grant writer from Ma - Me, NH, MA and CT helps set up Building Pathways Program for unemployed, underemployed people. Each company sets up program for each need for each course.

Many different folks gathered at the Boilermakers Union Hall on July 24th from different unions all over CT to listen about all the aspects that goes into designing a nuclear submarine here at Electric Boat; how we do that, from the Designers in the MDA (Marine Draftsman Association) down to the MTC

## AFL-CIO WOMEN IN THE WORKPLACE

On July 24th, a joint effort from the MTC and the MDA held part one of a two-class series for Joint Pathways and women in the workplace.

Since the advent of the women's movement in the 1970s, women have made great strides in achieving equality in the workplace.

(Metal Trades Council) who build the ships.

Women from all over the State of CT attended, including a bus driver from West Haven who wants to pursue a different path, a medical assistant in billing from Cheshire and a young woman from North Stonington who worked at Duncan Donuts for 2 years and wants a better career.

Part of the day included a tour of the Nautilus and Museum as well as an overview from MTC President Ken Delacruz and MDA President William E. Louis. This is part one of a two-part series.

## THE MANUFACTURING SKILLS INVENTORY FOR GENERAL MANUFACTURING COVERS FOUR BASIC SKILL AREAS:

**Basic Measurements:** Topics include reading measurements in quarters, halves, eighths, and sixteenths, and reading measurements in millimeters and centimeters.

**Shop Math:** Topics include adding numbers, converting decimals to fractions, determining dimensions, converting measurements, and working with fractions.

**Spatial Reasoning:** Measures the participant's ability to view an object in their mind and manipulate it. Topics include folding shapes, merging shapes, stacking blocks and figure comparison

**Safety in the Workplace:** The focus is on specific occupational hazards and regulations related to material handling in an active workplace and warehouse environment.

**Welding:** If you are interested in welding training, please make sure you are scheduled for a Manufacturing Skills Inventory session that includes the welding assessment. Topics include: welding terms, welding symbols, and welding safety

## THE MANUFACTURING SKILLS INVENTORY FOR DESIGN/DRAFTING COVERS SIX BASIC SKILL AREAS:

**Basic Reading Comprehension:** Measures the ability to draw important information from written material.

**Math & Reasoning Skills:** Covers topics such as percentages, multiplication, fractions, word problems, patterns and comparisons.

**Mechanical Reasoning:** Topics focus on understanding simple machines, mechanical principles, pulleys, gears, levers, and pendulums.

**Print Reading – Manufacturing:** Topics include dimensioning, specialized print reading, drawings and prints, materials, welding symbols and drawing views.

**Spatial Reasoning:** Measures the participant's ability to view an object in their mind and manipulate it. Topics include folding shapes, merging shapes, stacking blocks and figure comparison

**Microsoft Excel:** Topics include the ability to create and develop a basic Excel workbook, including the most commonly used commands for formatting cells, navigation through the application, using formulas, and changing the overall appearance of the spreadsheet.

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[VOLUNTEER continued from Page 4](#)

individuals recognized for their a combined total of almost 500 community hours.

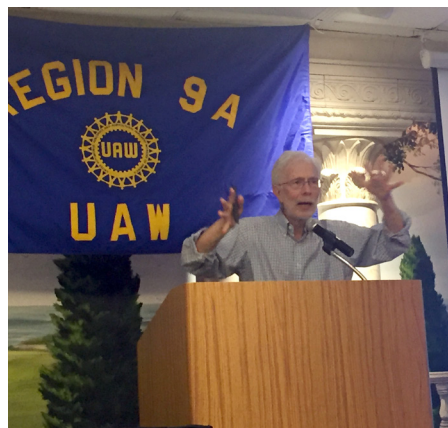
These functions include collecting food at Stop and Shop and Casino's, Central Labor Council, Boy Scouts, United Steel Workers picket, Jobs for Justice in DC, United Way Day of Caring at Coogans Farm, Region 9A Albany Rally, New Hampshire Primaries and all our Elections.





LEADERSHIP continued from Page 9

Most importantly, Runaway Inequality calls upon us to build a common movement to tackle the sources of increasing income and wealth inequality.



Les Leopold speaks on Runaway Inequality to members of the Leadership Conference in Cape Cod Massachusetts.

As the author makes clear, the problem will not cure itself. It will take enormous energy and dedication to bring economic justice and fairness back to American society. Read more on this in the book *Runaway Inequality: An Activist's Guide to Economic Justice* by Les Leopold.

## THE RALLY

Around 150 people gathered in Massachusetts to the Leadership Conference prior to the conference, Union members joined together at the First Parish

Unitarian Church in the town square and walked to the nearby Pilgrim Memorial State Park to rally supporting the UAW Region 9A Local 2320 Society of Allied Museum Professionals (SAMP).

Plimoth Plantation employees in several departments, including historic interpreters, Craft Center artisans and others, have unionized, saying they're not being paid enough for what they do, working conditions are poor and chronic understaffing is causing potential safety hazards, among other complaints. Plimoth Plantation has employed a known anti-union law firm to negotiate on its behalf. After six months of negotiation, it is clear that management has no intention of reaching an agreement. This is not right. All workers have a right to fair treatment, quality working conditions and a safe environment.

The Society of Allied Museum Professionals, the union that represents Plimoth Plantation workers, is demanding improved working conditions for employees. Vice Chairperson of the union Erin Gillette explained that job security is one of the groups' main demands.

"One of the biggest things we came for, rallied for is job security. We're all seasonal employees and the museum is open to the public from March until November. In November most of us are laid off with no guarantees that we will be invited back in March when we re-open," said Gillette.

Historical interpreter Douglas Blake hopes that the workers will be more appreciated for the work that they do.

"A lot of times when people hear, oh pilgrims, for instance, they say that is not really a job or that sounds fun. We all unionized and we work very hard and the people that work at the plantation are very dedicated, so we wish we can just be respected," said Blake.

It seems to me they almost think that our jobs are very expendable," Vice President Erin Gillett said. "They don't really see us as valued members of the museum and not as skilled workers. When we burn out, they just replace us with someone and overwork them until they burn out. Management is not willing to invest money, time or resources in creating an employee who is skilled and knowledgeable and wants to stay for a long time."

Gillett said the union questions short staffing, particularly how it impacts tending to open fires when an employee needs to leave the post for a few minutes. She said last summer adequate drinking water was not available for

employees, and an employee was reprimanded for leaving their post to use the bathroom. The union also questions the safety of some of the buildings in the English Village.

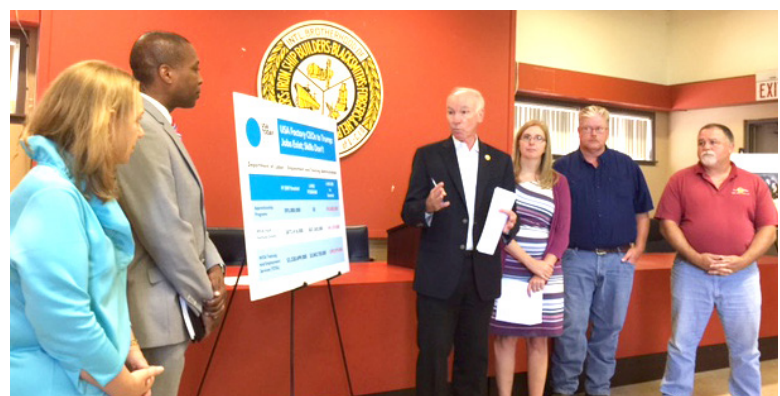
"We are looking for better pay," Gillette said. "Many of us have college degrees. We're very educated and we train and study extensively, and feel that this isn't a job just anyone can do. We're paid minimum or just a little above minimum. Our job is both mentally and physically challenging."

Founded in 1947, Plimoth Plantation, a Smithsonian Institution Affiliate, reported \$8.2 million in revenue and \$7.6 million in expenses for the year ending Dec. 31, 2015, according to its most recently available federal tax filing.

The union says they will also continue to negotiate with museum management in hopes of receiving a fair contract. Currently, SAMP membership includes 50 of the organization's 177 employees. The National Labor Relations Board conducted a union vote last December, at which time there were 77 people in the bargaining unit.

In a side note: One of their main attractions, the Mayflower II, located at Plimoth Plantation, is dry-docked in Mystic Seaport for repairs, and scheduled to return in 2019.

Excerpts from WATD and wicklocal.com. Wage Statistics from 2014 Department of Labor.



From Left to Right: Maura Dunn, Head of HR at Electric Boat, Dept of Labor Commissioner Scott Jackson, Congressman Joe Courtney, xx, MTC Vice President Pete Baker, and MDA President William E. Louis listen to Courtney speak on monies potentially being cut for apprentice training in the State of Connecticut.

## JOE COURTNEY

On July 21st, CT Congressman Joe Courtney visited the Metal Trades Council's Union Office to discuss the lack of funding and support from the current administration towards Apprenticeship Programs. In 2017, a total of \$3.4 Billion was allocated towards WIOA Training and Employment Services - which \$95 Million went to Apprenticeship Programs. 2018 will see a decrease of \$296 Thousand overall with \$0 Dollars toward Apprenticeship Programs.

Courtney will go to DC to stress to colleagues the importance of these programs and not to cut them. The State Apprenticeship Programs are unique in the fact that students attending these classes are job-ready when they graduate: exactly what employers are looking for in skill sets and get hired immediately.

Charts and Information from RunawayEquity.org





## COOGANS FARM VOLUNTEERS

A day at the farm: The yearly excursion to Coogans Farm in Mystic was held on May 13th. Lots of hard work and fun made cleanup a great success. The fresh vegetables that are produced each year are much appreciated by the families who utilize the Mobile Food Pantry from United Way.

In 2014, the Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center, United Way of Southeastern Connecticut and the Robert G. Youngs Family Foundation signed an agreement that created the Giving Garden at the Coogan Farm Nature & Heritage Center, 162 Greenmanville Ave., Mystic. The Robert G. Youngs Foundation provided the seed money and continues to support the Giving Garden. The Nature Center owns Coogan Farm. Coogan Farm is a member of Northeast Organic Farming Association of Connecticut (CTNOFA).

## BOSTON FREEDOM TRAIL

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BOARDING HOUSE  
BOOK STORE  
BOSTON COMMON  
BOSTON LATIN SCHOOL  
BRITISH  
BUNKER HILL  
BURYING GROUNDS  
BUS TRIP  
CHAPEL  
COPPS HILL  
COW PASTURE  
FANEUIL HALL  
FOUNDERS  
FRANKLIN  
GRANARY  
HANCOCK  
HARBOR  
KINGS CHAPPEL  
MASSACHUSETTS  
MEETING HOUSE  
MONUMENT  
OLD NORTH CHURCH  
OLD STATE HOUSE  
OTIS  
PARK STREET CHURCH  
PATRIOTS  
PAUL REVERE  
POETS  
REDOUBT  
STEEPLE  
TAXES  
TEA  
VETERANS  
WASHINGTON

Answers to the puzzle is in the online version only, found on the last page in the Soundings Newsletter.

Click link to follow: <http://region9a.uaw.org/local571>.





*BUDGET continued from Page 3*

revenue and potentially damaging cuts to early childhood education.”

Lembo pointed to research by the W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, which found that universal preschool provided early in life has – in the long run – more than twice the projected annual impact on state job growth than direct business subsidies.

“This could be a big problem in Connecticut where state budget constraints have derailed millions of dollars to fund a long-term high-quality preschool plan, even as the state borrowed tens of millions of dollars to deliver incentive packages to the two largest hedge funds in the world.

“The facts tell us this: when we prioritize the game of picking corporate winners and losers over early childhood education, then everyone loses,” Lembo said. “Connecticut must keep a close eye on the long-term ramifications of short-term fixes.”

Overall, Fiscal Year 2017 saw revenue decline from initial budget projections, Lembo said. The income tax is expected to fall \$532.2 million short of the budget plan and the sales tax is expected to fall \$136.8 million below expectations.

On the spending side, following deficit mitigation efforts, net expenditures are estimated to be \$181.6 million below the budget plan. State payroll is running almost seven percent below last year’s level and general agency operating expenditures were down by over 10 percent.

“Connecticut’s overall budget performance is ultimately dependent upon the performance of the national and state economies,” Lembo said. He pointed to latest economic indicators from federal and state Departments of Labor and other sources that show:

After strong first-quarter employment growth, the employment situation in the state became more erratic. The final quarter of 2016 posted a net loss of jobs.

Preliminary data for June 2017 show that Connecticut added 7,000 jobs during the month to a level of 1,694,200, seasonally adjusted. During the last period of economic recovery, employment growth averaged over 16,000 annually.

Connecticut has now recovered 84.0 percent (100,000, or an average of 1,136 jobs per month) of the 119,100 seasonally adjusted jobs lost in the Great Recession (3/08-2/10). The job recovery is into its 88th month and the state needs an additional 19,100 jobs to reach an employment expansion.

Connecticut’s unemployment rate for June was up slightly from last month now at 5 percent. Nationally, the unemployment rate was 4.4 percent in June.

All of the employment and labor force data must be considered in light of the erosion in the state’s total population over recent years. According to U.S. census data, Connecticut saw a decline in population of 8,278 residents between July 1, 2015 and July 1, 2016. Connecticut was one of only eight

states to experience a decline in population during this period. Connecticut has now posted three consecutive years of population decline.

In June, the Census Bureau reported that the state’s population age 65 and over grew from 14.2 percent to an estimated 16.2 percent of the total population between 2010 and 2016.

That’s an increase from about 508,000 to 577,000 people. Nationally, the 65 and over population represented 15.3 percent of the total. This aging of the population has important implications for state tax revenue because as the baby boom generation retires, the labor force participation rate in states is expected to decline and, with it, income and spending.

Most people earn less and spend less during retirement, suggesting that an aging

population could reduce government revenue, particularly from sales taxes and individual income taxes.

These sources of revenue make up more than 75 percent of total state government revenue in Connecticut.

## WAGE AND SALARY INCOME

Average hourly earnings at \$30.67, not seasonally adjusted, were up \$0.63, or 2.1 percent, from the June 2016 estimate. The resultant average Private Sector weekly pay amounted to \$1,030.51, up \$21.17, or 2.1 percent higher than a year ago.

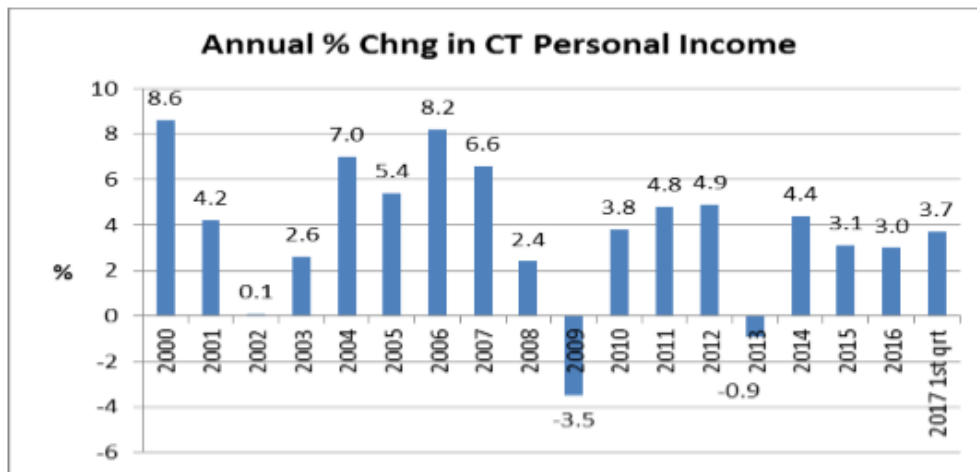
The 12-month percent change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, U.S. City Average, not seasonally adjusted) in June 2017 was 1.6 percent.

The Bureau of Economic Analysis reported that Connecticut’s personal income grew by 3 percent between 2015 and 2016. This ranked Connecticut 33rd nationally in 2016 income growth.

A June 27 report from the Bureau showed Connecticut personal income increasing at an annualized rate of 3.7 percent in the first quarter of 2017.

This ranked Connecticut 37th nationally in personal income growth.

For full whitepaper, go to <http://www.osc.ct.gov/public/pressrl/2017/August2017FinancialStatus.pdf#page=2>







## MDA-UAW LOCAL 571

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Recording Secretary	
Martha Fletcher .....	860-448-0552
Financial Secretary	
Bill May .....	860-448-0552
Treasurer	
Robert J. Faraci .....	860-448-0552
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Wayne Burgess .....	860-501-7736
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Dan Hall .....	860-448-0552
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Karen Heroux .....	860-448-0552

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Paul Smith .....	Bldg 801 .....	860-867-3057
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Joe Husereau .....	Bldg 1, 1A, 1B, 7, 8N .....	860-433-4098
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	129, 130, 184, 260	
	Coates, Hospital, Machine	
	Shop, Robinson, Cloud 9	
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FOR ANY ISSUES CONTACT YOUR GRIEVANCE REP OR YOUR NEAREST COUNCILLOR.  
FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF COUNCILLORS, PLEASE VISIT THE FOLLOWING MDA-UAW LOCAL 571 WEBSITE:  
[WWW.REGION9A.UAW.ORG/LOCAL571](http://WWW.REGION9A.UAW.ORG/LOCAL571). ALSO "LIKE" US ON FACEBOOK: MDA-UAW LOCAL 571.

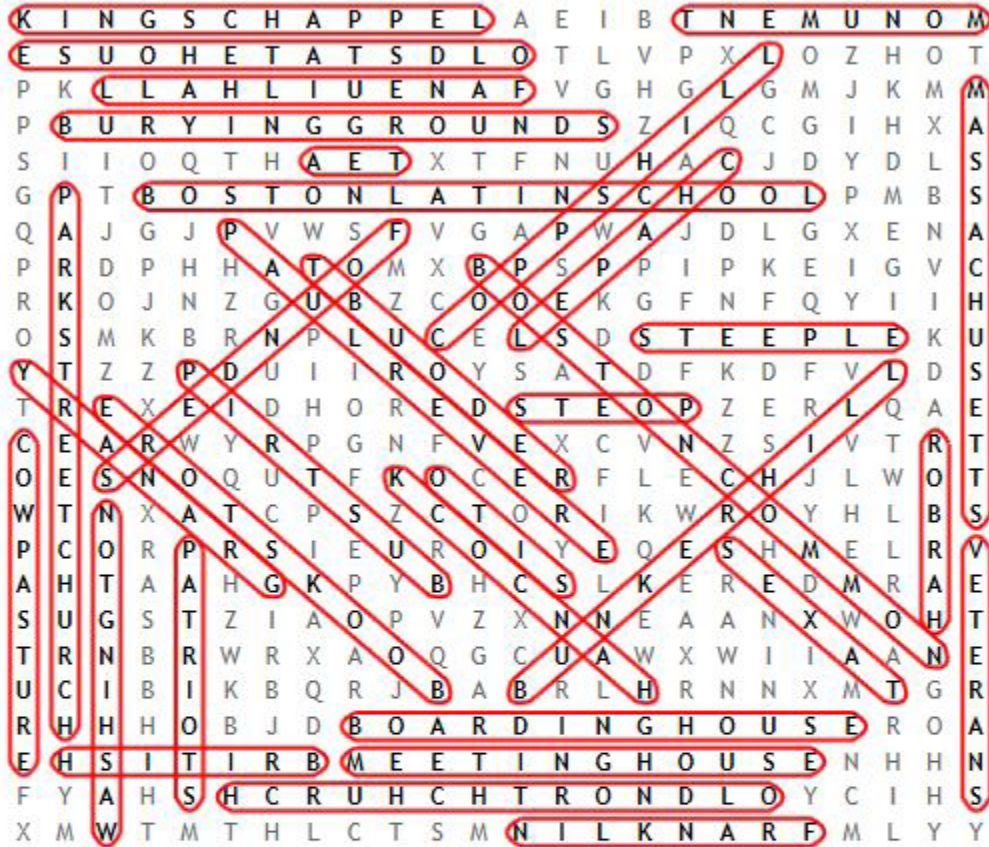




Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## BOSTON FREEDOM TRAIL



BOARDING HOUSE  
BOSTON LATIN SCHOOL  
BURYING GROUNDS  
COPPS HILL  
FOUNDERS  
HANCOCK  
MASSACHUSETTS  
OLD NORTH CHURCH  
PARK STREET CHURCH  
POETS  
TAXES  
WASHINGTON

BOOK STORE  
BRITISH  
BUS TRIP  
COW PASTURE  
FRANKLIN  
HARBOR  
MEETING HOUSE  
OLD STATE HOUSE  
PATRIOTS  
REDOUBT  
TEA

BOSTON COMMON  
BUNKER HILL  
CHAPEL  
FANEUIL HALL  
GRANARY  
KINGS CHAPPEL  
MONUMENT  
OTIS  
PAUL REVERE  
STEEPLE  
VETERANS