

Communications Workers of America



Local 4501 Communicator



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27 Euclid Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43201 Phone: (614) 294-5265 Fax: (614) 294-6562

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Local 4501 Officers

President, Richard A. Murráy Email: RAMurray@cwa4501.org
Executive Vice President, Kevin Kee, Email: 779Kee@gmail.com
Treasurer, Cinthia Stewart, Email: CStewart@cwa4501.org
Secretary, E. Mae Adams, Email: Madams@cwa4501.org
Vice Pres., (SOS) Paula Dill

Board Members: Anthony Brown, Wayne Crawford, Christal Harris, Nicholas Harris, Mericle Long, Dennis Woodson

Local 4501 Communicator

Michael Secrest (msecresi@cwa4501.org). Editor/Contributor. Writes all articles not specifically attributed to others.

President Richard Murráy contributes a quarterly message and oversight
Dennis Woodson keeps our Facebook current and serves with **Lolita Thomas, Mae Adams, Sheila Collins** and Michael Secrest on the Communications Committee,

Cynthia Stewart cstewart@cwa4501.org writes political and voter empowerment articles, and more

WHAT THE SAM HILL IS GOING ON IN YOUR AREA? Tell us

STAFF, STUDENTS AND FACULTY

You now have more in common than just making OSU great. Making it just!



President Murráy

Under the plan developed with the **Wall Street financial-services firm Morgan Stanley,**

(Remember them?) OSU wants to privat-

ize your parking for the next 50 years. The winning firm would be granted the ability **to double the parking revenue during the first decade** of the contract. Who do you suppose will pay for that?

Ohio State would receive an upfront payment of at least \$375 million and the winning team would receive a \$30 million-a-year revenue stream for as long as 50 years. President Gee said that the university is \$5

billion short of reaching its goals to attract better students and brighter faculty members and becoming one of the top universities in the country. He said the university is in the midst of a \$2.5 billion comprehensive fundraising campaign, but it needs another \$2.5 billion, at a time when state and federal money for higher education is shrinking.

So, Dr. Gee, that makes OSU still short \$2.125 billion. **Perhaps you'll rent out the football program for the next 50 years.** Or, perhaps you'll listen to

OSU wants to privatize your parking for the next 50 years. And will permit for the doubling of fees over the next ten years. Who'll pay for that?

your former senior vice president for Business and Finance, Bill Shkurti who said that to privatize the operation would be a mistake and that there is good money to be made by OSU by not contracting.

President Gee and two of his right-hand men, Provost Joseph A. Alutto and Chief Financial Officer Geoffrey Chatas, spoke to professors and staff members about why the school is exploring leasing the parking operation **and privatizing other units.** They said the university would

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From front

save \$200 million to \$300 million by eliminating the expenses of the parking operation, including about 70 full-time employees. After saying that the displaced workers could find work in other departments or with the contractors, Chatas said he doesn't know whether workers for a private operation would continue to receive health-care

and retirement benefits. Where have I heard that before? Oh yeah. John Kasich, Scott Walker and our conservatives in Congress. Balance the budget on the backs of the working class, who are perceived as too weak to fight back. The Koch brothers have apparently bought a lot of influence for their measly \$27,000 contribution to

OSU. Or, perhaps, as I speculated years ago, we are witnessing the birth of a new political star on our horizon. How does Senator Gee sound, or even President Gee. That, at least, sounds familiar. And I wish him all the luck and happiness he deserves in his future endeavors. I just hope he wishes the same for OSU employees.

So we beat State Issue 2. It's Over, right?

First, I want to thank all of you for your unwavering opposition to H.B. 5 and support of State Issue 2.

Do you believe for one minute that we have heard the last of our conservatively ambitious governor? Let's put it this way. Kasich is so obsessed with his own power that he is recruiting people to run against members of the Ohio Republican Central Committee because some are opposed to his firing Ohio GOP chairman Kevin DeWine.

DeWine and Kasich are not close and it is clear that DeWine would back Jon Husted for governor in 2014. But

Dewine was unanimously appointed by the 66 member Republican State Central & Executive Committee of Ohio.

Kasich's power has so gone to his head, I'm surprised there is enough left to power his heart.

A few things to keep in mind:

First of all, if you saw his election-night speech, his choice of words sounded conciliatory, but were not. He congratulated his opponents (**us**) on a well run campaign and said he had heard our voices. But what did he get from our message? That he hadn't offered the right cuts, not that he was on

the wrong track. This and other comments plainly show that **he is intending to bring the same reckless ideas back in smaller lumps** to try to make it more digestible. But we won't swallow it. It is just as clear that **he will continue to bankrupt the state** and then expect the working class to shoulder the burden of paying for corporate welfare. He warned local governments that "there is no bailout coming" because "we have to be very careful with our money" This while **he continues to push corporate tax cuts down our throats.**

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from our message? That he hadn't offered the right cuts, not that he was on

push corporate tax cuts down our throats.

OSUEAP The Ohio State Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

Feeling overwhelmed with the demands of work and family? Or, do you have a family member dealing with a crisis? Your Plan for Health provides the Ohio State University EAP to help you and your dependent family members deal with the stresses of daily life. The Ohio State EAP, available 24/7/365 for Ohio State benefits-eligible faculty, staff, and family mem-

bers provides life assistance for a wide array of personal, work-related, and daily living challenges such as stress, marital/family challenges, depression, anxiety, substance abuse, legal consultation, identity theft support, financial consultation, childcare and eldercare locators, and much more. All EAP services are confidential and personalized to fit your specific need

and are provided by the Ohio State University Health Plan, Inc. For more information, call 1-800-678-6265 or go to www.cwa4501.org and click on links. Go to Ohio State University Health Plan and it will take you straight to the OSUEAP page. **It's a benefit you earned.** If you need it, use it.

US HOUSE BILL 3094

To amend the National Labor Relations Act with respect to representation hearings and the timing of elections of labor organizations under that Act. H.R. 3094, the "Workforce Democracy and Fairness Act," would amend the National Labor Relations Act for two purposes. One is to set parameters for National Labor Relation Board (NLRB) decisions of which employees in a com-

pany need to be included in a bargaining unit that is seeking union representation. This means conservatives could manipulate the NLRB to achieve smaller union, that is to say, weaker units. It would also give employers a greater amount of time to counter worker unionization efforts. What this means to workers wishing a union is that man-

agement would have more time to harass and threaten workers into voting against unions in their work place. All Ohio Congressional Democrats voted against and all republicans voted for the bill, except Rep Steven LaTorette, who represents Ohio's 14 Congressional District. Thank you, Representative Torette, for your conviction on behalf of workers.

This is the beginning of what I hope to be a long line of articles about unionism and the struggle those before us fought to earn and we in turn are now being asked to fight to hold on to. All of us, union and non-union, have benefited for over a century from the struggles of working people, yet Ronald Reagan and his ilk have convinced you that you will be better off if these gains evaporate.

from **THE LABOR EDUCATOR** a very short list of our accomplishments working together

Unions have been around for more than a century, and they've done more good for America's working people — union and non-union — and have gotten less credit for it than any institution in the United States.

In producing their remarkable achievements, unions had to overcome selfish, stubborn employers and their conservative allies, both in and outside of Congress.

As far back as 1828, thanks to unions, America's children have **the right to a free elementary school education** (editor's note: The Working Men's Party in Philadelphia, the first workers union in the United States, was founded in 1828, and saw free public education as a way out of poverty). **Wealthy people at**

American Middle Class. In 1935, they played a principal role in creating **Social Security**, at a time when few workers had pensions to help them in retirement.

That same year, the **National Labor Relations Act** was born, giving workers the right to be represented by a union in collective bargaining with their employer. Workers no longer had to face their boss all alone in asking for a wage increase or some other benefit and risk the possibility of being fired.

The passage of the Wages and Hours Act in 1938 led to the 40-hour workweek, supplanting a system where workers toiled for 60 hours or more in a six day workweek, mostly without overtime pay. (Unions had made the 8-hour work-

they could win better wages and benefits.

Unions, in coalition with consumer groups, compelled Congress to pass the **Pure Food and Drug Act** (1906), which companies fought against, calling it government meddling. An intense lobbying campaign by the American Federation of Labor (AFL) created a **workers' compensation law** in 1917, covering compensation for accidents on the job in 30 states. In the past 90 years, the law has benefited millions of workers who were temporarily or permanently disabled.

The AFL-CIO was in the forefront in the battle to pass the **Civil Rights Act of 1965**. In Title VII, the Act prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender, race, religion or

out of poverty). **Wealthy people at that time said that workers should pay the same for education, as they paid for the food, clothing and other necessities for their children.**

During the dark days of the Great Depression, unions fought for and won several of the greatest landmark victories that helped build an

(Unions had made the 8-hour workday their top priority for decades.) Hundreds of thousands of working women and ethnic minorities joined the newly-born Committee for Industrial Organizations (CIO) in 1939. They found that **unions could protect them against discrimination and harassment and**

the basis of gender, race, religion or national origin.

The Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) of 1970 was a milestone in the AFL-CO's continuing campaign to protect the health and safety of its members in the workplace.

What is the American way?

Above is listed only a few of the gains that the American people have won and enjoyed over the last century. The question now coming to the fore in this election campaign is this: **Is this what America is about, or is America about eliminating these gains in the name of rugged individualism?** Without these gains, would you, as an American in the dwindling and weakening middle class, be better off?

The feeling that the **food you ate and the drugs you were prescribed were good for you**; the knowledge that **if you get hurt on the job**, you will not be without a paycheck; the fact that if you have to work 60 hours a week, you will get overtime for 20 of those hours; OSHA trying to keep you safe, in spite of management's desire to get the job done, regardless; Social Security and Medicare for yourself, your parents and your grandparents;

and so much more.

Are these the American way, or should they be removed so the American way can once again take hold in America? **Conservatives referred to such acts as left wing social engineering** (and worse) when they were introduced, and it is apparent that they still do today. **Feed the rich and we will all prosper.** We tried that a decade ago.

How was it for you?

IN MEMORY

Give them rest with the devout and the just, in the place of the pasture of rest and refreshment, of waters in the paradise of delight; whence grief and pain and sighing have fled away.

On November 3rd, **4501 CWA Steward Stephanie Johnson, transportation at OSUMC**, lost her grandmother, *Harriett Houston*.

December 1st, **Secretary of State member Claudia Galbreath** lost her father, *Robert W. "Bob" Umbstaetter*.

In early January, **Emmons Payne, Delivery Worker at OSUMC**, lost his wife *Barbara Ann Payne*.

In early March **Theresa Hardgrove**, recently retired from **OSUMC Department of Dietetics and Nutrition**, lost her mother. *Mildred Louise Holliday*. **Theresa** served your union for many years, most recently as our **first 4501 CWA Lead Chief Steward at OSUMC**.

And in late April, **Dwaine Jones of Student Life** lost his sister, *Stacy Johnson*

Prayer for the grieved: *"May the LORD bless you and keep you; May the LORD make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; may the LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace."* Numbers 6:24-26

GOOD AND WELFARE

On behalf of *the Potts family and myself*, thank you to everyone at the **SOS office** for the beautiful cards, thoughts and prayers and the generous donations made on behalf of my sister *Julie Potts* to Riverside Animal Care Center. I am truly blessed to work with such wonderful and caring people. Thank you from the

mal Care Center. I am truly blessed to work with such wonderful and caring people. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Amber Toppings

Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted
Communications Division

States That Increased Spending Have Had Greater Economic Growth

By Doug Cunningham

Harsh state budget cuts have been pushed by Republicans with the claim that cutting will grow the economy and jobs. Economist Adam Hersh at the Center for American Progress Action Fund says data shows that's not true. In fact, states that maintained or increased their spending have seen more economic growth, lower unemployment and more jobs creation. Hersh looked at 24 states that cut spending and 25 that expanded government spending by an average of 11 percent. Hersh says states that increased spending on average showed a 1.4 percent rise in private employment, lower joblessness and a half percentage point of real economic growth. States that cut spending, on average, saw a one percent hike in unemployment, a 2.1 percent drop in private employment and a 2.9 percent real economic contraction rather than growth.

SECOND LEVEL GRIEVANCE/RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES ROSTER

DEPT	STEWARD	ARTICLE / ISSUE	HRNG	DECISION	CWA ACTION
T&P	Davis/Murray	Noncompliance with call in procedures	10/27/11	AFFIRMED	NFA
OSUMC	Willis	Safety; lockout/tagout	2?28/12	Denied	NFA

*CONSIDERING FOR ARBITRATION **NO FURTHER ACTION ***RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES #SEE O.U.C.H.