

Local 592 Tribune

Dedicated to Working People Everywhere

Bruce Bade, Editor
Larry Brauer, Education Chair

www.uaw592.com

Jan-Feb 2004

Dan Hynes—Friend of Labor

By Chris Remhof

U.S. Senate candidate Dan Hynes recently came to Rockford and Freeport to meet with and support members of organized labor. Hynes made a stop at the Rockford Labor Temple to open his new campaign office for Northern Illinois and talk about his support for working people.

He met with members of the building trades and the UAW and has been endorsed by the AFL-CIO,



decreases in benefits, seniority, vacation, etc. Local 2157 decided to go back to work without a contract and were locked out by their employer.

Dan Hynes listened to Local 2157 President Steve Bushey explain the situation and talked with rank and file members about their struggles and needs. Hynes expressed disgust that a company which is making a profit

and not struggling financially would force those kinds of cuts on their workers and then lock them out when they wanted to return to work. "This is a calculated attempt to bust a union and I'm here to listen and help in anyway that I can," said Dan Hynes as he spoke with the UAW members.

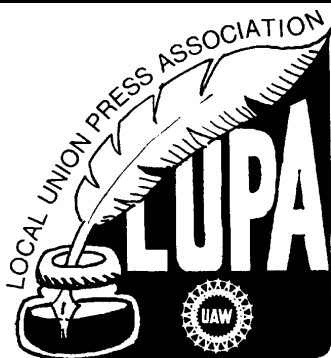
Hynes is currently the Illinois Comptroller serving his 2nd four year term. The Democratic primary is March 16th and there are seven candidates seeking the nomination. To learn more about Dan Hynes visit his website at www.danhynes.com.

the umbrella organization of Illinois's unions. "I'm proud to stand with union members and working families. Washington needs our voice to be heard and I'll take that message to our nation's capital as your next U.S. Senator," said Hynes in Rockford.

The next stop was to the Steelworkers Union hall outside Freeport to meet with locked out UAW members at Anchor-Harvey. Local 2157 struck Anchor-Harvey in the fall after its contract proposal included 20% pay cuts, massive increases in health insurance premiums and equally massive

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2003 Rockford Manufacturing Adopt-a-family results

At the end of October 2003 RMFG (Rockford Manufacturing) employees decided to adopt a needy family for Christmas. The family received was part of the HS Steak Club's list of families, which comes from various church organizations in the Rockford area. The family is a single mom with an 11-year-old son and a 13-year-old daughter. Headed by Roberta Oslund and Nikki Goodin, RMFG pulled together through various fund-raisers and donations to collect \$638. They started the first week of December off with a candle fund-raiser that raised \$238.

During the second week of December various items were donated for a raffle. Tom Diverdi and Lonnie Jennings donated a

knife, Gloria Ford donated an angel plate and wreath and Gary Palmer donated a ceramic snowman. A total of \$105 was raised from the raffle of these items.

During the last week before Christmas shut down they held a 50/50 raffle where Sharon Penn won \$170 and \$170 was donated to the fund. A special thanks to Barry Higgs Jr. for going out of his way to sell a ton of tickets.

UAW Local 592 was very generous with a donation of \$250 of which \$125 was given to 2nd and 3rd shifts to aid in their fund raising efforts for a family they adopted through the Salvation Army. On December 23rd a group of RMFG employees, which included Roberta,

Nikki, Barry and Rick Florschuetz, headed out to the grocery store where they bought close to \$200 worth of food and household items.

Gifts that were purchased for the kids included winter boots, hats, mittens, clothes, games, music and toys. With all the gifts and food, they delivered them to the family. It was very rewarding to see their faces as they opened each gift.

The group saved the biggest surprise for last and brought in a 27-inch color TV. The mom was overwhelmed with happiness and not a dry eye was seen after that. A huge THANK YOU is to be sent to everyone who helped make this family's Christmas one to remember.

Written by Nikki Goodin

Rockford MELD Expands Program Services for Dads

by Rodney Prunty

*From the desk of Earle Rowe
your UAW Local 592 Employee
Assistance Program Representative
966-8059*

The following is a special message from MELD which is a non-profit agency which serves young families, expectant teens and at-risk youth.

Since the inception of the program in the fall of 2000, the Rockford MELD Young Dads Program has provided education, information, and support to over 100 young dads under the age of twenty-one and their children. The success of the program is due to the comprehensive services that the young dads have received through weekly support groups, which provide information related to building healthy relationships, child development, paternity & child support, as well as education and employment goal setting. Each group is facilitated by males that were at one time, young dads themselves. This serves as an

effective role modeling and mentoring tool. The Workforce Development program assists with GED tutoring and provides paid work experience and/or on-the-job training for eligible participants. In July of 2004, Rockford MELD will offer support services for dads between the ages of 21-25. The older dads will receive group support, as well as employment opportunities as needed. Rockford MELD strongly believes in strengthening families by providing services to BOTH parents, and in the process, empowering them to be the best parents they can be.

*Rodney Prunty is Supportive
Services Supervisor for MELD.*

*For questions contact MELD
at 965-8336 or their web site at*

www.rockfordmeld.com

UAW Local 592 Tribune
112 N 2nd St. Rockford, IL 61107

Our Editorial Policy

Published by Local 592 with the interest of it's membership, to further the aims and programs of Local 592 and to promote policies of the International Union UAW.

The views and opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Education committee or UAW Local 592.

We welcome articles from our members as long as are constructive and contribute to the welfare of this union and its members. All articles must be signed and include a phone number. UAW Local 592 reserves the right to edit all articles.

WOMEN WORKERS' HISTORY

Chapter 81: Frances Perkins

When women workers leaped to their death from the windows of the burning Triangle Shirtwaist Co. on March 25, 1911, a horrified Frances Perkins watched below. "I felt I must sear it not only on my mind but on my heart as a never-to-be-forgotten reminder of why I had to spend my life fighting conditions that would permit such a tragedy," Perkins later wrote. She was nearly 32 at the time of the disaster, which claimed 143 lives.

Perkins, who had been secretary of the New York Consumers' League, in 1912 became chief investigator for the New York State Factory Commission. She made a point of educating politicians on the conditions that workers faced on the job.

"We used to make it our business to take Al Smith (governor of New York and Democratic nominee for president) to see women, thousands of them, coming off the ten-hour night-shift on the rope walks in Auburn. We made sure that Robert Wagner personally crawled through the tiny hole in the wall that gave egress to a steep iron ladder covered with ice and ending twelve feet from the ground, which was euphemistically labeled 'Fire Escape' in many factories."

Perkins successfully campaigned for factory safety legislation and reduction in working hours. She became the first woman to hold a major political office in New York when Gov. Smith appointed her to the State Industrial Commission in 1919. Ten years later, Governor Roosevelt appointed her State Industrial Commissioner, with responsibility for administering the state's labor and workers compensation laws.



In 1933, Perkins became the first woman ever to serve in a presidential cabinet when newly-elected President Franklin D. Roosevelt appointed her U.S. Secretary of Labor. Industrialists and labor officials alike grumbled about Roosevelt's choice. Said AFL Pres. William Green, "Labor can never be reconciled to the selection." Perkins wasn't "one of the boys."

Retiring Members of Local 592

As members retire from our local union, the officers, committeemen, stewards and the membership of UAW Local 592 would like to thank and wish the best of luck and many happy years of retirement.

Gary Barnhart	Greg Holtapp	Phil Sandberg
Tyson Beasley	Doug Hoover	Terry Skogsberg
Ron Bevan	Charles Johnson	Dennis Smith
Robert Brown	Bob Kilgore	Charles Spray
Ray Cozad	Russel Krepfle	Mike Squires
Paul Davis	Jaun Martinez	Gary Stoltz
Russ Deschaine	Tim Nelson	Ray Summers
Doc Dismuke	Steve Oslund	Bill Taylor
Mevin Dunn	Sharon Osmus	Bob Thingvold
Barry Fagerstrom	Jim Owens	Earl Upton
Richard Fiedler	Gary Peacock	Alva Van Houten
Elaine Fosler	Don Pierce	Dale Vanstone
Dennis Gulotta	Bev Redfern	Doris Wenger
Barry Higgs Sr.	Francis Rinaldo	

Letters from our members.

To all my Local Sisters and Brothers,

I don't know just how to Thank everyone for the collection. It seems the day I am having a moment that it is hard to accept, another blessing comes. You all are one of those blessings.

Your families should all be proud of you for stepping into my life. May you all have a blessed New Year. May God Bless you as he has me.

Your Local Sister,

Cherry Keegan

Fashion Show and Dance

The UAW Rockford Area Civil Rights will be presenting their annual fund-raiser.

This years fund-raiser will be a fashion show along with dancing. There will be refreshments served also. The show will be at the UAW hall, 112 N 2nd St. on March 13th 2004. 6:00 PM For tickets see Bill Kiddell, or Bettye Collins.

BARGAINING COMMITTEE REPORT

Larry Brauer Recording Secretary

We have only one member out on inverse layoff. This sounds like a very good thing, however considering all of the retirements we have experienced that are not being replaced we are down considerably in numbers since returning from the lockout.

We have one arbitration hearing scheduled for February 18th on a discharge. We have five additional grievances that we are currently waiting for lists of arbitrators, they are as follows.

DS1-03-03 Kelly Services performing our work.

DS1-04-03 Disregarding of the layoff procedure.

DS2-01-03 Subcontracting of light fixtures in Bond Room.

DS3-05-03 Moving of B-1 Ballscrew during lockout that has not been brought back.

DS4-04-03 Excessive overtime and abuse of farm-in at Plant 1 Toolset/Toolcrib.

Additionally there are four grievances appealed that we have not requested lists for at this time. Grievances currently being discussed include, Group Universal Life Policies, and several on combining jobs or changing job descriptions. As always we are hopeful that management will be providing us with a favorable response

to these problems.

During the recent contract negotiations the company and the Union agreed to identify what job related education would be needed to receive qualified status and matrix points for class B or class two job postings. Currently, Lance Anderson, Mike Hughes, and Larry Brauer are in discussions with the company to make this process a reality. We expect to have this ready in the very near future.

If you have not received your 1099 form yet contact Larry Brauer pager 983-1185, or Jeff Bronson at 962-0600.

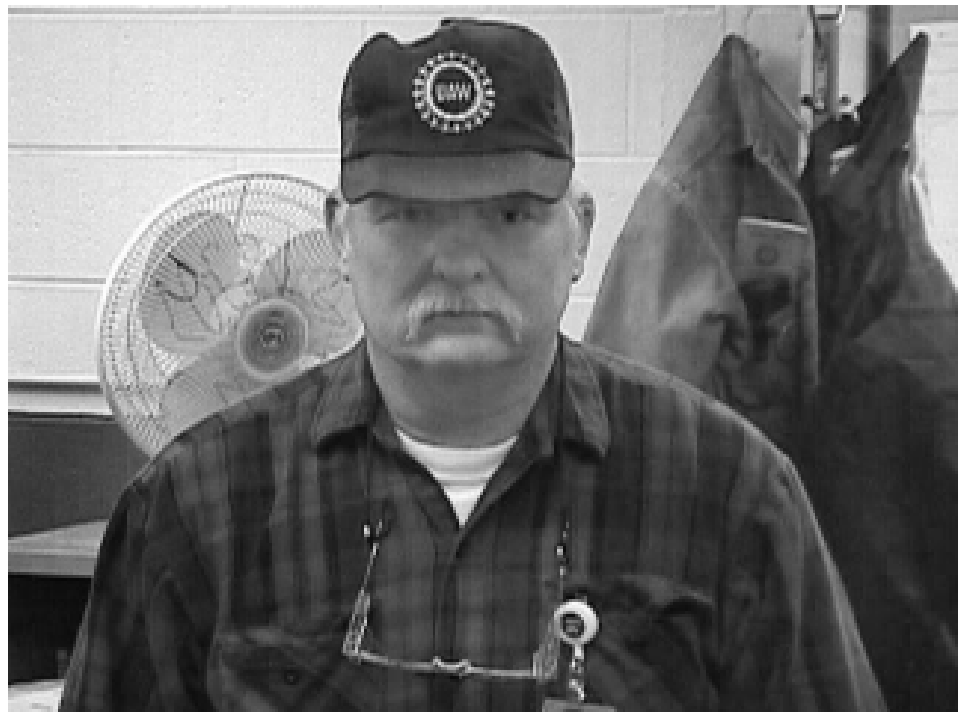
Veterans Committee Report

Congratulations to Greg Mittelsteadt, he was the winner of the pool table that was raffled off at the January membership meeting. We sold \$900.00 worth of tickets.

On behalf of the Veterans Committee I would like to thank everyone who supported the raffle. The money raised will go towards Vets. Homes and other Veterans programs. A big thanks goes out to Mark Bjork for donating the pool table for us to raffle. It is through the efforts of everyone who participated that made this raffle a success.

Lance Anderson

Chairman Veterans Committee



The lucky winner of the pool table was Greg Mittelsteadt, Dep 555

February: Black History Month

Timeline of important events in African-American history

Sept. 13, 1663: The first documented attempt at a rebellion by slaves takes place in Gloucester County, Va.

July 2, 1777: Vermont is the first state to abolish slavery.

Jan. 1, 1808: The federal law prohibiting the importation of African slaves goes into effect. It is largely circumvented.

July 1849: Harriett Tubman escapes from slavery. She returns to the South at least 20 times, leading more than 300 slaves to freedom.

Jan. 1, 1854: Ashmun Institute, the precursor of Lincoln University, is chartered at Oxford, Pa.

July 17, 1862: Congress allows the enlistment of African Americans in the Union Army. More than 186,000 blacks serve in the army during the Civil War; 38,000 die in service.

March 1, 1875: Congress passes a civil rights bill that bans discrimination in places of public accommodation. The U.S. Supreme

Court overturns the bill in 1883.

May 18, 1896: The U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Plessy v. Ferguson* affirms the concept of "separate but equal" public facilities.

July 11-13, 1905: The Niagara Movement (the forerunner to the NAACP) is established. Among its leaders are W.E.B. DuBois and William Monroe Trotter.

1922: The Harlem Renaissance, a golden age of black literature and art in the U.S., begins and lasts until 1929.

Aug. 9, 1936: Jesse Owens wins four gold medals at the summer Olympics in Berlin, Germany.

Sept. 22, 1950: Ralph J. Bunche wins the Nobel Peace Prize, for his work as a mediator in Palestine.

1973: For the first time in history, African-American mayors are elected in Los Angeles (Thomas Bradley), Atlanta (Maynard Jackson) and Detroit (Coleman A. Young).

Jan. 29, 1989: Barbara Harris is elected the first woman bishop of the Episcopal Church.

1993: Toni Morrison becomes the first African-American woman to win the Nobel Prize in Literature.

—UAW-LUPA

QUOTES

"When people get caught up with that which is right and they are willing to sacrifice for it, there is no stopping point short of victory."

-- The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.,
April 3, 1968, Memphis, Tenn.

"With a union, black people can approach their employers as proud and upright equals, not as trembling and bowing slaves. Indeed, a solid union contract is, in a very real sense, another Emancipation Proclamation."

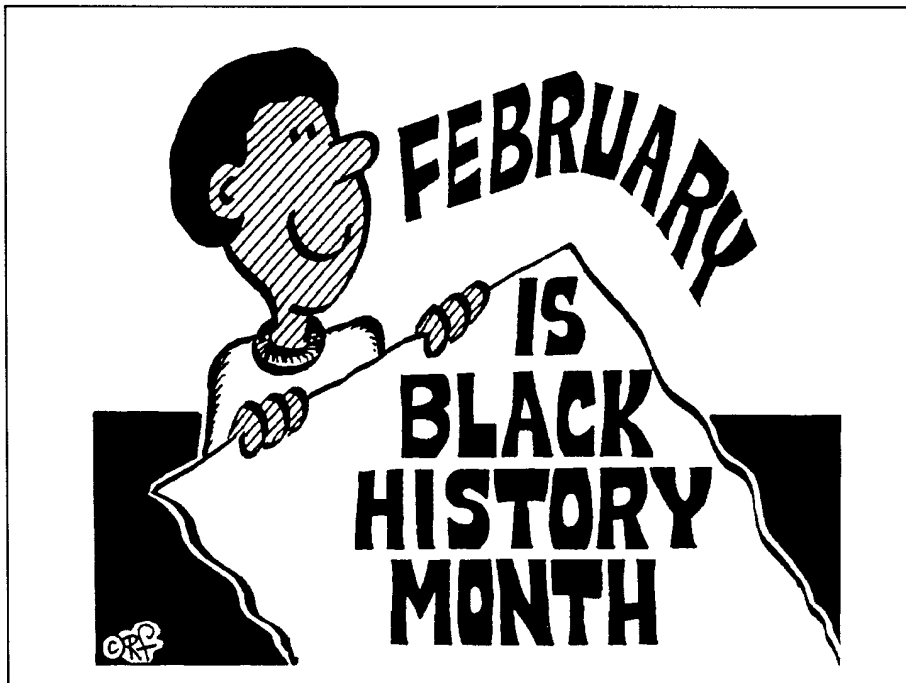
"Salvation for a race, nation or class must come from within. Freedom is never granted; it is won. Justice is never given; it is exacted."

-- A. Philip Randolph, founder
of The Brotherhood of Sleeping
Car Porters in 1925.

"When you get into a tight place and everything goes against you until it seems that you cannot hold on for a minute longer, never give up then, for that is just the place and time the tide will turn."

-- Harriett Beecher Stowe

—UAW-LUPA



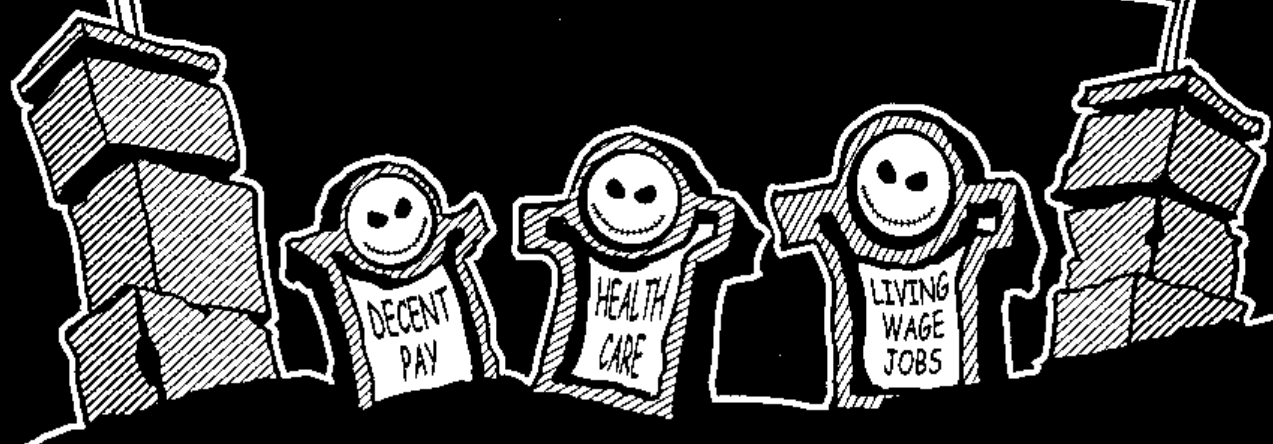
—R. Flores, Workers Communication Press/UAW-LUPA

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