



Local Lodge 1746

# insight

357 Main St.— East Hartford, CT. 06108 — Telephone: 568-3000

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## “Thanks” for Taking Care of Us Joe!

President Bush's failed economic policies have brought the United States to the brink of a depression. While Bush and his cronies at the treasury department look to pass a bill that could potentially cost taxpayers in the neighborhood of \$700 billion dollars while ignoring the real problem, the fat cats on wall street and the CEO's who are lining their pockets off the blood and sweat of ordinary citizens, **only one Connecticut member of Congress stood up to them saying no way!**

Congressman Joe Courtney Democrat from the 2<sup>nd</sup> congressional district which covers most of eastern Connecticut voted against the proposed bailout saying, “the Bush administration and Treasury Secretary Henry M Paulson Jr. have trouble moving their focus beyond “a square mile of New York City.” Courtney also stated, “At the end of the day, it was a bill that didn't do enough for taxpayers and the middle class. It's as simple as that.”

While others in the Connecticut delegation were not comfortable with the bill that was defeated by a margin of 228 – 205 Joe Courtney is the only one member of congress from Connecticut who's vote was to protect the ordinary citizens in his district. If you are a member who lives in the second congressional district you are fortunate to be represented by one of the best members of congress in the country. Joe Courtney is not a follower he is a leader and he showed his leadership when he voted on this important bailout package.

Congressman Courtney spent all Sunday night studying the bill before Monday's historic vote saying, “This is the time when you really have to look at your oath of office and your obligations to your constituents and do what you think is right.”

While we all realize that some type of bailout is necessary to keep our markets from collapsing as a result of Bush and his buddies eight years of gluttonous behavior consisting of overpaid CEO's and golden parachutes at our expense, it is reassuring that Connecticut Congressman Joe Courtney is in Washington doing what he was elected to do, protect the interests of the people who put him in office.



Congressman Joe Courtney and District 26 DBR Everett Corey

***Thanks Joe!!! We will remember you on election day!***

**Don't forget to VOTE on November 4<sup>th</sup>**



## Machinists Endorse Obama



The Delegates to the Machinists 37<sup>th</sup> Grand Lodge Convention endorsed Senator Barack Obama for President of the United States. Although Senator Obama was unable to be at the convention he did say a few words to the delegates via a satellite.

Obama told the delegates, “As we speak this morning your brothers and sisters in Washington State, Oregon and Kansas are preparing for a new day’s shift on the picket line. And even though I can’t be with them or with you today – I stand with you. I stand with you because what you’re fighting for isn’t unreasonable – what your fighting for is a fair shot at the American dream. It’s the idea that your government shouldn’t stand idly

by while your job is shipped overseas. That your family should have health care when you get sick. That you should be able to put your kids through college even if your not rich. And that after a life time of hard work, you should be able to retire with dignity and security.”

Those are some refreshing words brothers and sisters from a candidate who is willing to take on the task of cleaning up the mess the Bush administration is leaving. While Senator Obama was addressing the delegates he talked about change saying, “Change is a President who’s walked on picket lines; who doesn’t choke on the word “union”; who lets them do what they do best and organize our workers; and who will finally make the Employee Free Choice Act the law of the land.”

Organized labor has been under attack for the last eight years, good paying union jobs are going overseas, wages are decreasing, prices are increasing and brothers and sisters it is time for it to stop. All of us our feeling the pinch of the Bush presidency and four years of McCain will be more of the same that is why the Machinist Union is endorsing Senator Barack Obama for President of the United States. Please join your fellow Machinists and vote for the only candidate that cares about working people on November 4<sup>th</sup>.

See all remarks to convention delegates from Senator Obama at, [http://www.goiam.org/uploadedFiles/09\\_12\\_2008\\_Obama\\_Remarks.pdf](http://www.goiam.org/uploadedFiles/09_12_2008_Obama_Remarks.pdf)



## Coat Check

As the cool weather approaches and you find yourself combing through your closet for just the right coat to fend off the early chill, please take an additional moment to glance around and see if hanging among your favorites is a coat or two that you no longer use. **October 27** marks the first day of this year’s Annual Coat Drive to benefit patrons of local charitable agencies throughout Connecticut. The Coat Drive at Pratt in East Hartford is a signature event held here in recent years. It is the result of a collaborative effort between Local 1746 and the Company, forged with the express purpose of collecting outerwear for its dissemination by community organizations in Connecticut to those unable to purchase adequate jackets, coats and scarves for themselves in anticipation of our harsh New England winters. As fuel prices drive all of our living expenses ever higher, funds for basic necessities such as warm clothing are increasingly more impossible to come by for many families within our own communities. Our Annual Coat Drive has consistently provided hundreds of gently-used coats and jackets to just such families across Connecticut. Its previous success is a simple testament to the generosity of Pratt employees, many of whom have donated not only used, but also newly-purchased coats, jackets, hats, and scarves to those less fortunate.

**This year’s Coat Drive will run from October 27- 31.** Collection boxes will be stationed throughout the East Hartford campus. Please remember the Drive when you pull out your winter wear, or when you seek to replace jackets for your children and grandchildren this year. There are countless many more children who would welcome last year’s coats *this* winter.



## Why "TAPS" is played at the funeral of deceased military.

If any of you have ever been to a military funeral in which taps was played this will make it more meaningful to you. We in the North America have all heard the haunting song, "Taps". It's the Song that gives us that lump in our throats and usually tears in our eyes. But, do you know the story behind the song? If not, I think you will be interested to find out about its humble beginnings. Reportedly, it all began in 1862 during the Civil War, when Union Army Captain Robert Ellicombe was with his men near Harrison's Landing in Virginia. The Confederate Army was on the other side of the narrow strip of Land. During the night, Captain Ellicombe heard the moans of a soldier who lay severely wounded on the field. Not knowing if it was a Union or Confederate soldier, the Captain decided to risk his life and bring the stricken man back for medical attention.

Crawling on his stomach through the gunfire, the Captain reached the stricken soldier and began pulling him toward his encampment. When the Captain finally reached his own lines, he discovered it was actually a Confederate soldier, but the soldier was dead.

The Captain lit a lantern and suddenly caught his breath and went numb with shock. In the dim light, he saw the face of the soldier. It was his son. The boy had been studying music in the South when the war broke out. Without telling his father, the boy enlisted in the Confederate Army.

The following morning, heartbroken, the father asked permission of his superiors to give his son a full military burial, despite his enemy status.

His request was only partially granted

The Captain had asked if he could have a group of Army band members play a funeral dirge for his son at the funeral. The request was turned down since the soldier was a Confederate. But, out of respect for the father, they did say they could give him only one musician. The Captain chose a bugler. He asked the bugler to play a series of musical notes he had found on a piece of paper in the pocket of the dead youth's uniform. This wish was granted. The haunting melody, we now know as "Taps" used at military funerals was born. *The words are:*

*Day is done ... Gone the sun...From the lakes ... From the hills ...From the sky....All is well. Safely rest... God is nigh...Fading light... Dims the sight...And a star... Gems the sky...Gleaming bright...From afar...Drawing nigh... Falls the night. Thanks and praise... For our days. Neath the sun... Neath the stars... Neath the sky... As we go...his we know... God is nigh*

I, too, have felt the chills while listening to "Taps" but I have never seen all the words to the song until now. I didn't even know there was more than one verse. I also never knew the story behind the song and I didn't know if you had either so I thought I'd pass it along.

I now have an even deeper respect for the song than I did before.



*"Oh come on honey..just give me one more chance"*



## The Next Monthly Meeting is October 12th @11:00 am



### Cancer Study, Phase one!

*By Deb Belancik*

Cancer study Phase one completed, But stay tuned for phases 2 and 3.

The presentation went well. Phase 2 and 3 will tell more of the history on the cancers.

The graphs showed that cancer was 11% higher in North Haven, but according to Dr. Gary Marsh, it wasn't over the national average. But it was higher in North Haven. The study is not yet completed by any means, they have to work with the job families and also the chemicals that were used in areas of the shop to get a true picture of the study results. If any one would like a copy of the presentation, please see me and I will get you one,

You can also view them on the department of Public Health Web site at; [www.ct.gov/dph/site/default.asp](http://www.ct.gov/dph/site/default.asp) look under the featured link section or you can put in Pratt Whitney cancer study into Google and it should come up as well.

*I will report out at the October Monthly meeting.*

#### EAP Corner

For IAM Local Lodge 1746: P&W in East Hartford and UTC Power in South Windsor

*Please feel free to contact me with any of your issues or concerns and know that it will be in total confidentiality.*

*Cell: 203-444-0267*

*Pager: 860-708-4186*

*Lenny Ward*

#### **WEBSITES:**

[www.iamLL1746.org](http://www.iamLL1746.org)

[www.iamdistrict26.org](http://www.iamdistrict26.org)

[www.goiam.org](http://www.goiam.org)

[www.shopunionmade.org](http://www.shopunionmade.org)



Please email your announcements & messages.

Items for the next issue must emailed by

November 1st, 2008.

[localodge1746@snet.net](mailto:localodge1746@snet.net)

# Don't Forget to Wear RED on Fridays



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